

## Management of Game Fowl at Bob Oke Game Farm



Chris White  
Game Farm Superintendent



www.wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/pheasants/western

## Western Washington Program Goals

- Release 38,000 to 40,000 pheasants in designated areas
- Provide pheasant hunting opportunities for adult and youth hunters
- 25 release sites



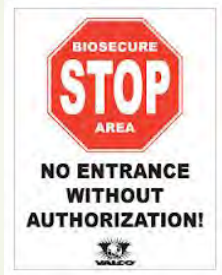
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## Bob Oke Game Farm



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## Biosecurity Measures



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## General Biosecurity

- Minimizing risk to flock
  - Foot baths (Virkon®)
  - Clean and sanitize hatching equipment, feeders and waters, brood houses (Tek Trol & bleach)
  - Farm closed; check in at office
  - Rodent control
  - Feed waste management
  - Routine disease monitoring
  - WSU Poultry Lab (Rocio Crespo, DVM, MS, DVSc, Dip ACPV)
- Employees
  - No backyard flocks
  - Limit attendance at fairs & exhibits
  - Provided appropriate boots & clothing
  - Continual education & training

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## Minimizing Avian Influenza Risk


- Swab breeders weekly
- Waterfowl awareness
- Work closely with USDA & WSU Poultry Lab for updates on AI
- Feed control (rodents and starlings)



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## Which Came First?


- Breeders
  - 2,300 hens, 230 roosters
- Egg collection
  - Hand collected twice a day, disinfecting boots before & after entering pens
  - Collect 68,000 – 70,000 eggs
  - Wash at 110 degrees for 3 min. with mild egg soap



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## The Hatchery


- Incubation
  - NatureForm™ incubator
  - Multi-stage incubation
  - Full capacity 21,528 eggs
  - Incubate 50,000 eggs
  - Heat at 99.5 degrees
  - Humidity at 55% RH
  - Turned every 60 minutes
  - Candle at Day 13
  - Transfer 1<sup>st</sup> set at Day 21



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## The Hatchery


- Hatcher
  - Days 21 - 24
  - 99.5 degrees
  - 85 degrees wet bulb
- 4,000 – 5,000 every Monday
- Clean & disinfect hatcher



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## Hatch Day

- Day 24
  - Counting chicks
  - Visual evaluation of chicks
  - Fluff sample taken



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## Feed


- Contract for feed
- Five 14-ton hoppers
- Feed mixtures
  - Breeder
  - Starter
  - Grower
  - Wheat
- No preventative antibiotics



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## Brood Houses

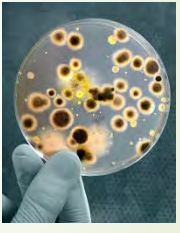
- Chicks
  - Temp at 99.5 degrees
  - In ring for 5 days
- Specifications
  - 22 brood houses
  - 3 150-foot barns
  - Cleaned and sanitized



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### Most Common Diseases

- Coccidiosis
  - Oocyte
  - 10- to 14-day-old chicks
- Salmonella
  - Bacterial infection
  - Group B - Typhimurium
  - Group D - Enteritidis
  - High mortality within 14 days
- Gape Worm



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### Transition to Flight Pens

- 3 weeks
- 4 weeks
- 5 weeks
- 6 weeks



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### Flight Pens

- 45 acres under net
- 100- x 300-foot flight pens
- Feed once a week
- Flight pen check 3 times a week for bird health



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### Moving to Catch House


- 16-foot alley ways
- Green tarps
- Herding birds



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### Catch House


- Crates
- Catch box
- Loading area



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### Distribution

- Distribute about 4,000 birds per week
- Driving north/south
- Staff and volunteer plantings



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## Questions

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