

# Effect of nest boxes closure and setting time on Brown Tsaiya duck's nesting location preferences <sup>(1)</sup>

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## Abstract

The aims of this experiment was to investigate effects of degree of nest boxes closure and setting time on Brown Tsaiya ducks' nesting location preferences. In this experiment, we respectively used nest boxes with two different degrees of closure, and set the nest boxes before 4 weeks or after the starting of laying period to investigate the effects of floor laying rate and ducks' preference of nest boxes cubicles. The results indicated that setting nest boxes before 4 weeks of the starting of laying period could decrease the floor laying rate in the early laying period. Nest boxes setting time did not have any influence on the cubicle choice of the ducks. Even in the groups of lower degree closure of the nest boxes, ducks still preferred to the cubicles with relatively higher closure. In the early laying period, ducks preferred to lay in some cubicles with higher closure. With increasing of laying experience, the proportion of eggs laid in the cubicles with higher closure significantly decreased after 21 weeks of age.

Key words: Brown Tsaiya duck, Floor egg, Nest box.

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