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Effects of all-in-all-out mode of wet-pad laying hen housing system on egg production and mortality in laying hens (1)

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the effects of all-in-all-out mode of wet pad laying hen housing system on egg production and mortality in laying hens. Two housing systems, wet pad housing system with all-in-all-out production mode and non-open housing system with the batch feeding mode, underwent separate feeding in an individual chicken houses in the same farm in southern Taiwan. The data on weekly egg production rates and mortality during the first laying cycle (19 ~ 80 weeks old) were compared. The results showed that the weekly egg production and mortality rate of wet pad housing system (all-in-all-out) were significantly better than non-open housing system ($P < 0.001$). During the whole trial period, the wet pad housing system had a significantly improved weekly egg production rate up by 30.56%, as compared with non-open housing system ($P < 0.001$), despite no differences ($P > 0.05$) in the mean weekly mortality. In summary, the wet pad housing system with all-in-all-out production mode has better egg production rate and lower mortality rate than those of the non-open housing system, particularly in the late stage of laying period, suggesting beneficial outcomes for the egg industry.

Key words: Wet pad housing system, All-in-all-out, Laying hens.

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