



Practice Limited to Birds, Reptiles and Exotics

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AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES  
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## **Steps to Diminish Potential for Egg Production**

1. Diminish availability for ambient and room light to 8 hours of light per day (maximum). This can be accomplished by placing the cage in an extra bedroom where blinds/curtains are closed during the day and no room lights are turned on after the sun goes down.
2. Remove mirrors, nest boxes, tents, 'Cubby Huts' and any nesting material (tissue paper, shredded paper, packing paper) from the cage permanently.
3. Refrain from petting your bird on its backside. No cuddling. No playing under sheets. Do not allow your bird to create hiding places in and around the house, especially under furniture or behind pillows.
4. During hormonal times, decrease the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables. Do not give high-energy foods such as dried fruit, honey sticks or millet.
5. Convert all birds, especially egg layers, to a non-sunflower and non-peanut based diet. Weaning avian patients to a pelleted based diet is preferred. The enclosed weaning guide will be very helpful.
6. **Have blood chemistry panels performed on all egg laying birds before initiation of a diet change.**
7. **If egg laying does not cease within 1 month of initiation of the above steps, hormone medications or surgery may be required to prevent your bird from becoming egg-bound. Abdominal distension with no egg production within 24 hours is deemed an EMERGENCY CONDITION.**

***\*\*Dr. Rich recommends Harrison Bird Diet and Zupreem Avian Diets***

***We strongly recommend annual health examinations on all exotics!***

