



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 of 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 down her back or under the wings. No cuddling. No playing under blankets or towels. 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 excess 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 seed and non-peanut based diet. Weaning avian patients to a pelleted based diet is preferred, as this provides her with the optimum nutrition in the case of egg laying.
6. **Have blood chemistry panels performed on all egg laying birds** to assess their calcium levels, organ function, and metabolic status.
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 for 24 hours is deemed an EMERGENCY CONDITION.**

*We recommend Harrison Bird Diet, Zupreem Avian Diets, and Lafeber bird food and treats*

*We strongly recommend annual health examinations and routine blood work on all exotics!*

