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Cayuga ducks are an unusual and endangered breed, with a rich history that spans centuries. Originating from either Lancashire, UK, or the Finger Lakes region of New York, their unique appearance has captivated breeders and enthusiasts alike. The Cayuga's striking beetle-green-black plumage makes it one of the most distinctive breeds, yet its dwindling numbers have raised concerns about its future. As for their origins, various stories abound, with Teebay of Fulwood in Lancashire believing that the Cayugas descended from English black duck breed, which had since disappeared. Another local legend suggests that a miller in the Finger Lakes region bred two wild ducks together, resulting in the Cayuga's unique characteristics. The American Poultry Association recognized the breed in 1874, and it remains one of only a few duck breeds to have originated in the US. The Cayuga's appearance is equally impressive, with its black bill and striking coloration changing slightly as they age. When molting, some ducks may develop white feathers, which does not indicate illness. The breed's eggs are also noteworthy, with their unique shell turning from black to white over time. Producing around 160 eggs per year, Cayuga ducks can be a great choice for those seeking both beautiful and functional birds. In the past, Cayuga ducks were bred primarily for meat, but they have since become more popular as ornamental birds due to their stunning appearance. As such, breeders focus on maintaining the breed's unique characteristics while ensuring its long-term survival. Unfortunately, the Cayuga duck is currently listed as endangered, with efforts underway to protect this remarkable breed. Cayuga ducks are gaining popularity as a comeback breed due to their widespread presence in hatcheries and duck farms globally. Their ability to thrive in various environments makes them an excellent choice for backyard breeding. This duck breed is known for its quiet nature, making it an ideal option for city dwellers. The Cayuga duck's friendly demeanor allows people to easily hand-feed them, even as adults, although initial interaction may take time. Cayugas are suitable for individuals living in urban areas due to their minimal quacking and flight capabilities. As a larger breed, controlling their food intake is necessary, especially when providing opportunities for foraging. Compared to other breeds, Cayuga ducks have relatively high egg production and fertilization rates, making them a great addition to any backyard flock. Prolapsed Phallus in Male Ducks: Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment The purpose of this thread is to collect information on the subject and eventually turn it into an article. We want to know how people have treated their drakes and what the outcomes were. A prolapsed phallus is a condition where a male duck's phallus remains outside of the body and cannot retract back inside. This can be caused by trauma or venereal disease, leading to secondary bacterial contamination and damage to the important body part. The longer the phallus remains outside, the greater the risk of complications. Symptoms of prolapsed phallus include abnormal behavior, depression, isolation, and a lack of desire to eat, mate, or socialize with other ducks. In severe cases, the duck may show signs of necrosis, swelling, and ulcers. Treatment for prolapsed phallus typically involves separating the drake from females to reduce temptation, allowing the tissue to heal. Gently cleaning the phallus and applying a hypertonic sugar solution can also help shrink the swollen tissue. In some cases, temporary sutures may be applied by an avian vet to hold the phallus in place while it heals. However, it is essential to seek veterinary attention immediately if the phallus has devitalized or become injured. In rare cases, amputation may be necessary. Some important notes include: - Incorrect vent sexing can lead to this condition. - Excessive use of lubricants, such as Vaseline, can cause infection and other complications. - Duck plague is a common cause of prolapsed phallus. We recommend consulting credible sources, such as the Duck DVM website, for more information on this topic. A myth persists that a male's penis falls off each year due to hormonal fluctuations during mating season, only to return to its normal size once the cycle ends. This notion may stem from observations that men experience temporary enlargement and reduced testosterone levels outside of mating season. Many people have reported personal experiences with this phenomenon, including one individual who noticed his drake duck's penis prolapse after a prolonged dry-land breeding session. To address this issue, the owner attempted various treatments, such as cooling baths, Vaseline massages, and trimming dead tissue. Eventually, consulting with multiple experts led to the successful retraction of the penis through a combination of medical care and patience. The concept of broodiness in ducks provides insight into the intricate balance between fertility and protective instincts. During this period, females become fiercely dedicated to incubating their eggs, while males play a vital role in ensuring fertility. For individuals caring for broody ducks, it is essential to consider their unique needs and behaviors. A female duck's nesting period can be intense, with minimal movement outside of her nesting site. Providing easy access to fresh water and monitoring overall health are critical aspects of brood care. The miraculous journey of egg development during a broody phase is marked by fascinating physiological changes. As the yolk begins to develop tiny veins, oxygen supply is crucial for the growing duckling's development. By day 21, the duckling has almost fully formed, with its vital components taking shape through nutrient absorption from the egg. Looking forward to the moment when they start to get into position and gear up for hatching. This is where things get really exciting, as you can expect a lot of action between days 26 and 29. During this time, the duckling begins its internal pip, carefully breaking through the membrane that separates it from the air cell in the egg's wider end. This crucial step allows it to take its very first breaths. As the action ramps up again with the external pip, you'll witness the duckling crack a small, star-shaped opening in the shell. It's also at this moment when you can hear the delightful peeps signaling its transition into the world of air, all while it continues to soak up the remaining yolk via its umbilical connection. The yolk absorption process takes about 24 hours, and once that's complete, the duckling begins the zipping process. This means it will gradually crack a ring around the shell, paving the way for its big debut. And voila! You are now ready to welcome a beautiful new duckling into the world. However, some people may face challenges with their DIY duck pond solution. For instance, rigid plastic wading pools can be tricky to drain, especially if you try to lift them to dump the last of the water out. One creative fix is to install a simple drain using the standpipe idea, which requires some basic materials like black plastic ABS DWV adapters, rubber bath shoe gaskets, and metal kitchen sink strainer nuts. By following these steps, you can create a functional and leak-proof drainage system for your duck pond pool. The process may require some patience and attention to detail, but the end result is well worth it. With the right materials and some handy know-how, you can ensure that your ducklings have access to clean water and a safe place to swim. I made some changes to the instructions, so you might want me to just post the revised version here instead of sending them to a friend in SoCal. UPDATE on the HOW-TO: First, get a Duck Pond Drain (1 each) Black plastic ABS DWV ADAPTER 1.5" from somewhere like Home Depot (\$1.49 - see . You'll also need a metal Kitchen Sink Strainer Nut..... about \$4 (don't bother with the washers, though; I got mine as one piece) from . Then there's Black rubber bath shoe gasket, #4 About \$2 (. You'll also need a small roll of gray, claylike, non-hardening plumber's putty. About \$3 (. Get yourself some black 2" diameter ABS plastic pipe, cut about 4" longer than the height of the wading pool - it's easier to work with if you can bend over easily, but you can make it higher if you need to. Some hardware stores will even cut it for you if you ask nicely. Just MAKE SURE the metal nut fits correctly on the DWV adapter and that your drain pipe fits into the adapter before you leave the store. Place the pipe near the edge of the pool; 5 ducks in a small pool don't need something sticking out in the middle, and it's easier to work on the edge anyway. Cutting the hole without cracking the plastic is probably going to be the hardest part - do it carefully, or just use one of those fancy hole saws (if you have them. If the pool does crack a bit while putting the hole in, just work some plumber's putty into it and you'll be golden. The tallest part of the adaptor (the end that holds the pipe) goes inside the pool; the shorter end goes through the hole to the outside. It might be easier to put the pipe in place if you have something to hold onto while working on it - see what works best for you. If the bottom of the pool has an embossed pattern, you can't use hard rubber gaskets, so form some plumber's putty into 2 rolls about ¼" thick and press them gently into place onto the adaptor where the top of the adaptor sets against the inside of the pool. Underneath, press the second roll of clay putty around the adapter and against the bottom of the pool. Force the gasket over the end of the adapter and press it against the putty. Now, screw the metal nut onto the bottom of the adapter and up against the gasket - you want it pretty snug, but NOT so tight that you squeeze the putty so thin that movement will break the seal. Stick the pipe into the hole, fill 'er up, and voila! Just be gentle when moving the pool; pick it up by the side away from the drain, and don't let it bump along the ground. And for goodness' sake, ladies, if your guy is doing this for you, make sure he understands the basic concept - DON'T CEMENT THE PIPE IN PLACE or crank down the metal nut like a caveman would. If the pool starts leaking, just check the gray putty part; if it looks like tissue paper, there's the problem.

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