

The effect of season on the hatchability of domestic

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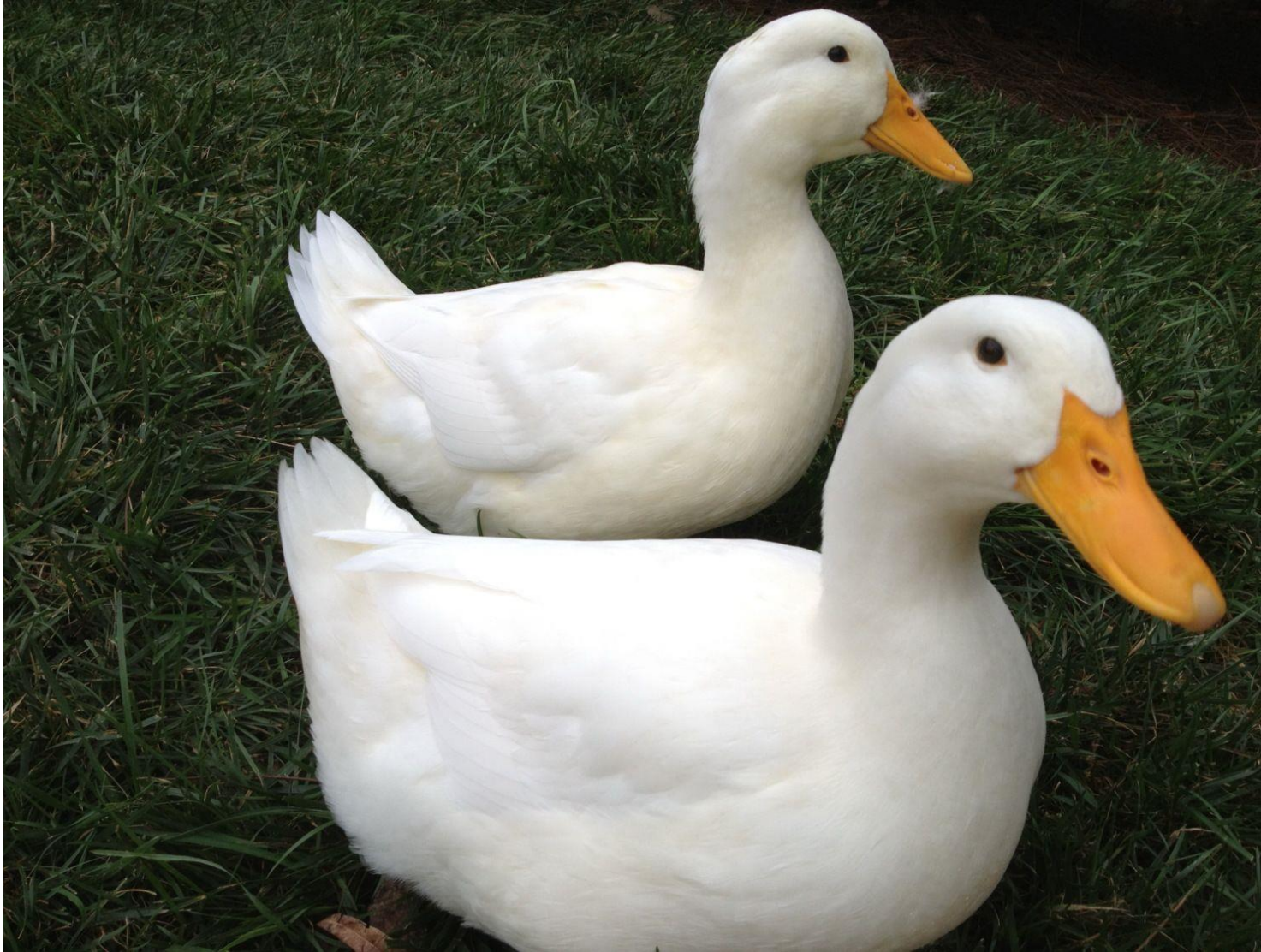
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Domestic ducks of the
Pekin breed are
descended from the wild
mallard, which is the
most common species
of wild animals







The modern line of Pekin ducks belongs to the general utility group and is characterized by high laying performance and good meat quality

The body weight of this
breed is:
3.0 to 3.5 kg for females
4.0 to 4.5 kg for males,
while the annual laying
yield exceeds 200 eggs



These birds reach full maturity around 25 weeks of age. However, in order to use the full genetic potential of the flock, it is necessary to ensure appropriate conditions in the breeding hall





The optimal temperature during the production period is considered to be between 15 and 25 ° with a relative humidity of 60 to 70%, air movement should not exceed 0.3 m per second



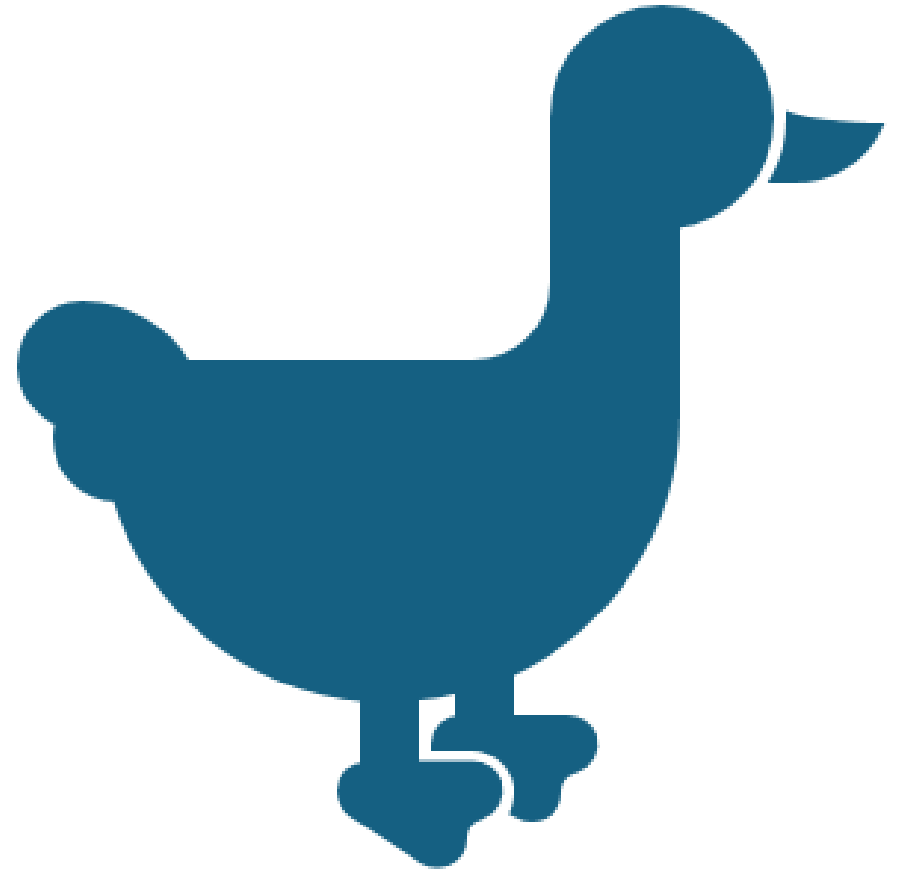
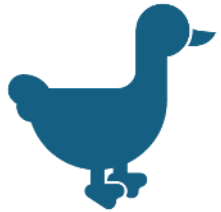
The key system is the ventilation system

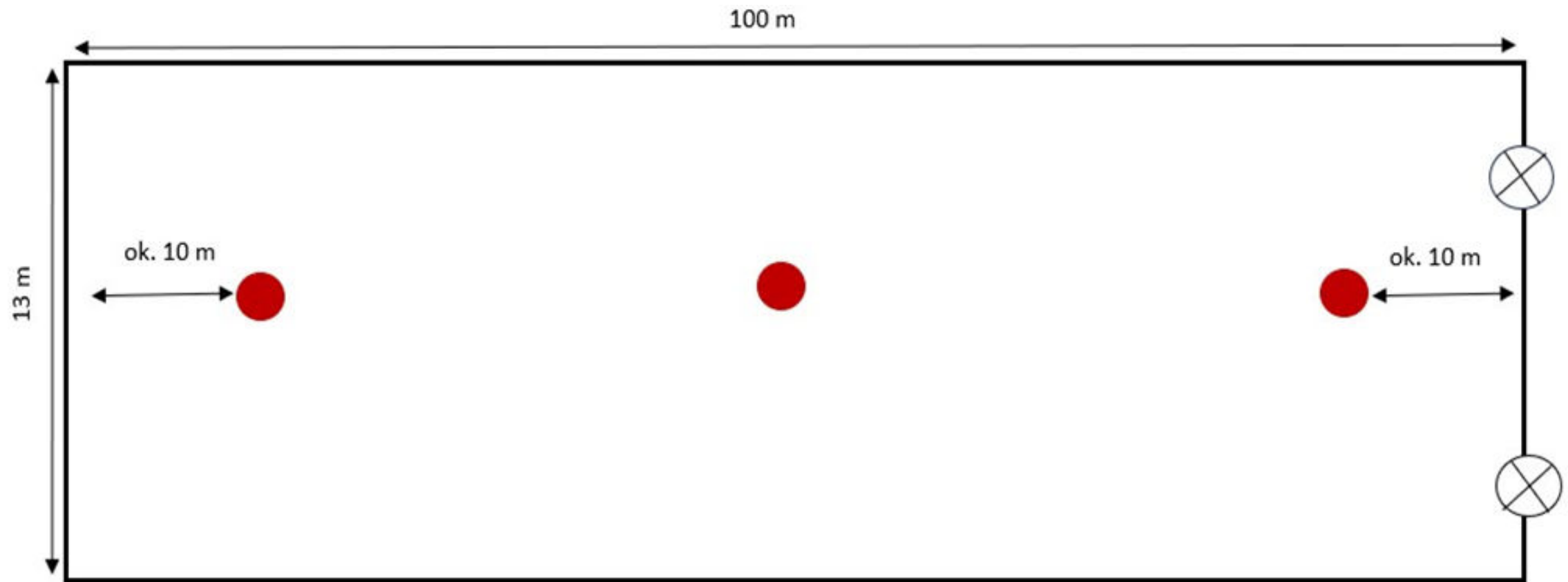
The lighting system is very important it is responsible for better living comfort, which stimulates the development, sexual maturity, laying and growth of birds



Object:

The aim of the study was to check how the conditions in the buildings where ducks are kept, as well as the storage of eggs and the incubation process, affect the hatching process during the year





microclimatic measurements
Diagrams of drakes with marked measuring points and
the location of exhaust fans

Formation of microclimatic parameters in duckhouses of parental flock on 23rd may 2023

Parameters	Outdoor	Duckhouse 1	Duckhouse 2
T [°C]	17.0 ± 0.38	18.6 ± 1.50	17.5±0.36
RH [%]	56.0 ± 1.73	63.7 ± 11.47	68.7 ±4.36
Wind speed [m/s]	0.62 ± 0.49	0.5 ± 0.07	0.25 ±0.16
WBGT [°C]	14.2 ± 0.17	15.3 ± 0.24	15.1 ±0.79
CO ₂	0.03	0.08	0.07
NH ₃	b.s.	b.s.	7.0
Light [lx]	7,400 ± 4,590	12.1 ± 6.81	11.9± 6.74

b.s. -below measurement sensitivity

Formation of microclimatic parameters in duckhouses of parental flock on 29 th june 2023

Parameters	Outdoor	Duckhouse 1	Duckhouse 2
T [°C]	26.6 ± 2.0	25.3 ± 0.55	25.0±0.55
RH [%]	42.8 ± 4.25	55.1 ± 0.55	52.7 ±1.4
Wind speed [m/s]	0.85 ± 0.41	0.43 ± 0.25	0.26 ±0.25
WBGT [°C]	21.7 ± 2.75	20.7 ± 0.21	20.0 ±0.59
CO ₂	0.037	0.028	0.023
NH ₃	b.s.	7	b.s.
Light [lx]	20300 ± 19,42	11.67 ± 11.49	15.02± 10.09

The measurements were taken in the spring and summer, were made inside according to the scheme and outside.

Thermal comfort, air quality and lighting were measured at all points.



Data from 859 sets of
Hatchery E.G.G. „Wieszowa”
from eight parental flocks in
subsequent months of the
year (2019-2023)

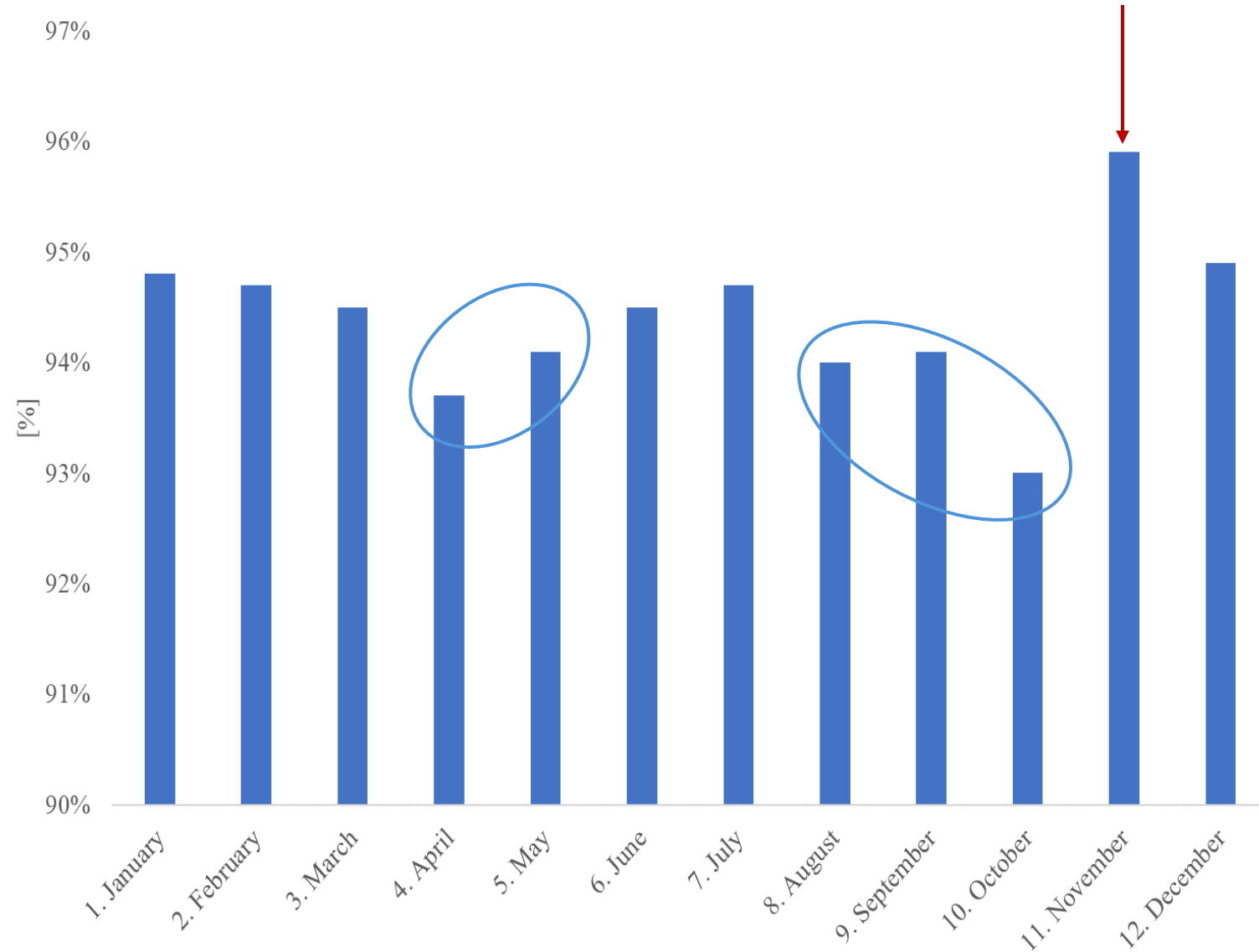


The **fertilization** of eggs in the analyzed period (mean \pm SD): $94.5 \pm 2.92\%$.

Effect of the month of egg collection
($P=0.05$)

The highest fertilization:
November ($95.9 \pm 1.66\%$)

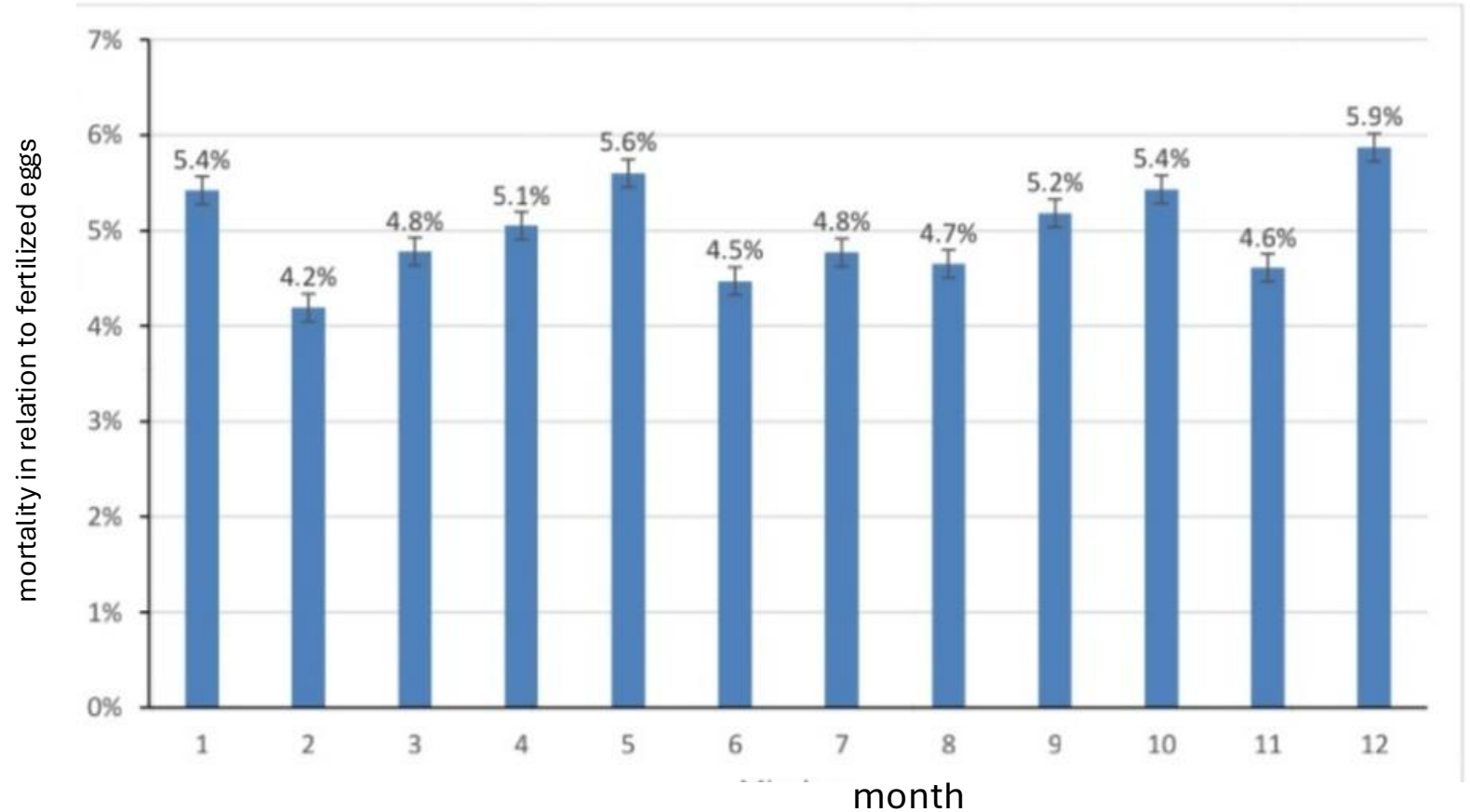
The lowest:
April ($93.7 \pm 3.64\%$; $P=0.025$),
May ($94.1 \pm 3.15\%$, $P=0.070$);
August ($94.0 \pm 2.91\%$; $P=0.002$)
September ($94.1 \pm 3.53\%$; $P=0.010$)
October $93.7 \pm 13.60\%$ ($P=0.05$)



The early mortality of duck embryos (E1-E7) depended on the month of egg collection , $P=0.007$)

The highest:
December ($5.9 \pm 2.23\%$)

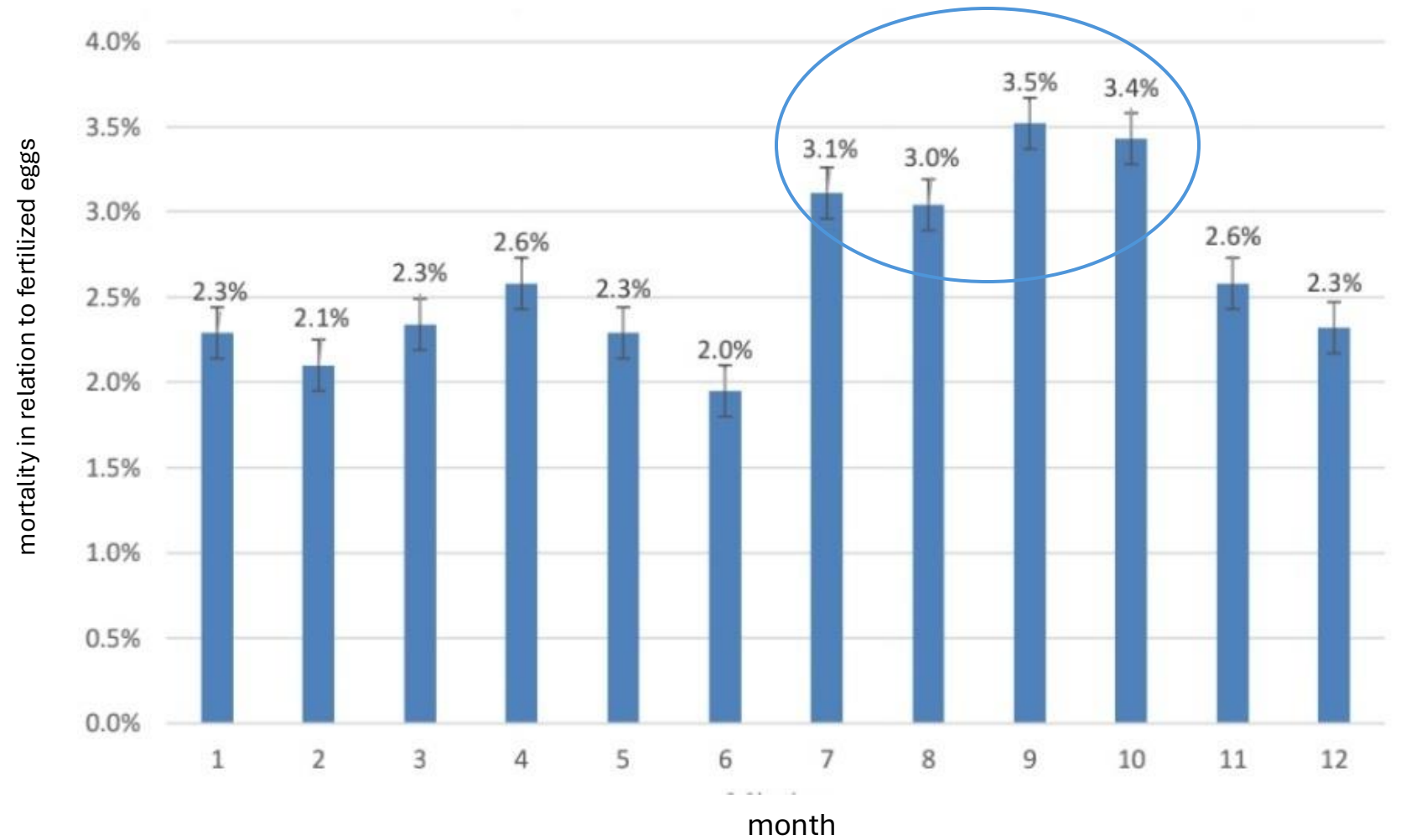
The lowest:
February ($4.2 \pm 2.68\%$)



The mortality of duck embryos E8-E24 depended on the month of egg collection, $P < 0.001$)

The highest:
September ($3.5 \pm 3.01\%$)
October ($3.4 \pm 4.30\%$)

The lowest:
December-June ($2.0 - 2.3\%$)



The **late mortality (E25-E2)** depended on the month of egg collection , $P < 0.001$)

The highest:

Summer!!!!

June ($13.8 \pm 7.20\%$)

July ($14.6 \pm 7.68\%$)

August ($15.2 \pm 4.99\%$)

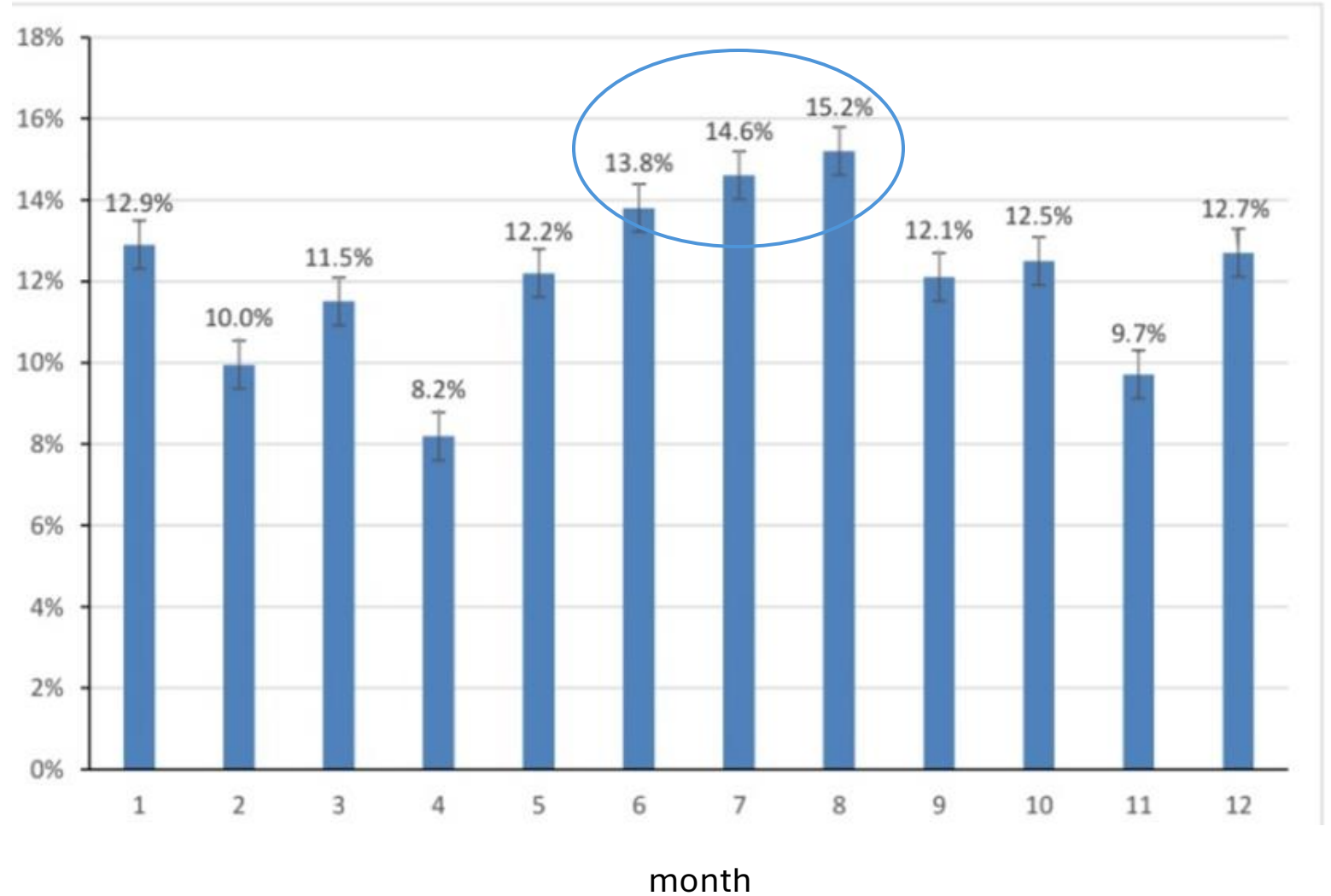
The lowest:

April ($8.2 \pm 2.58\%$),

November ($9.7 \pm 3.24\%$)

February ($10.0 \pm 4.43\%$)

mortality in relation to fertilized eggs

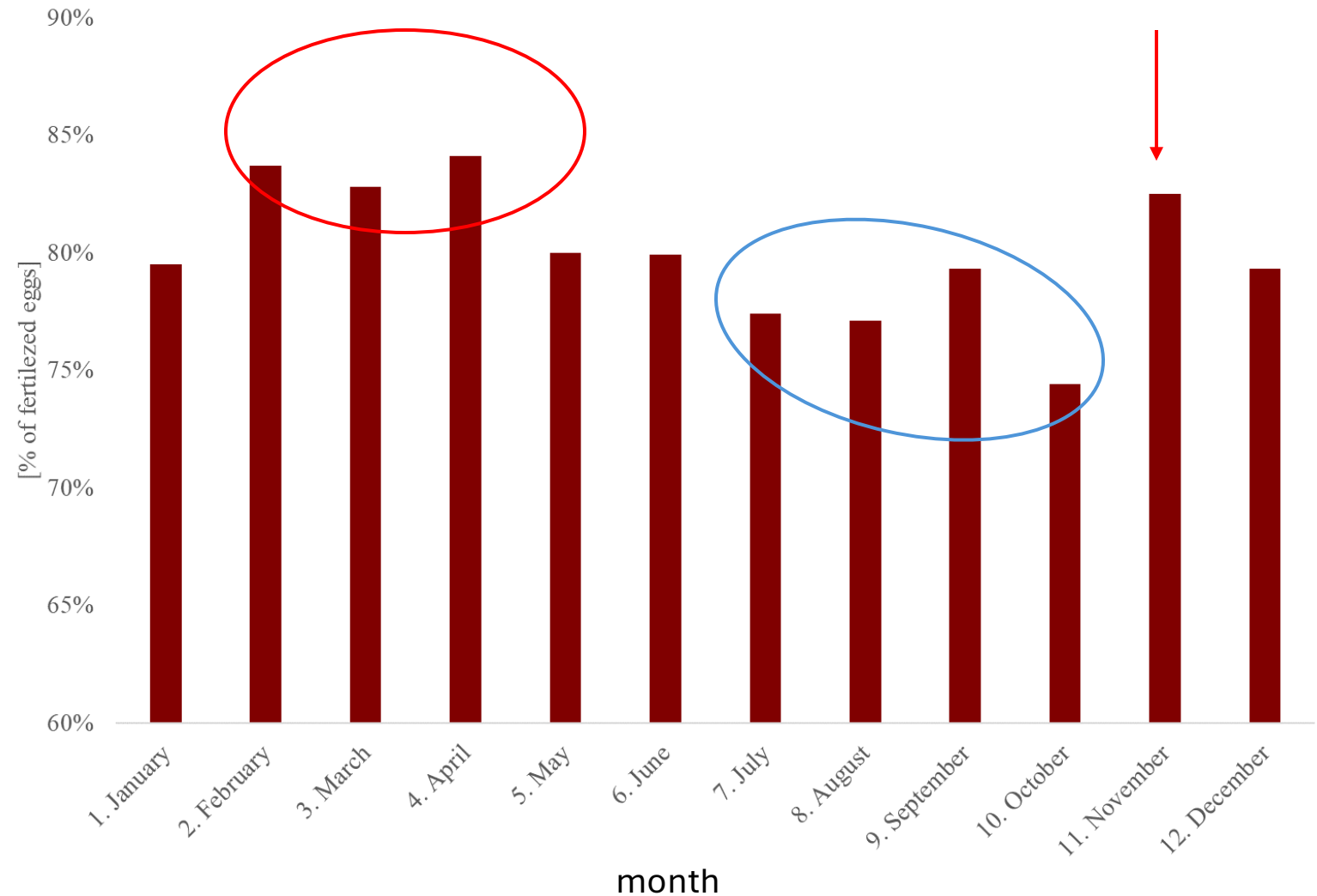


The **total hatchability of fertilized eggs** depended on the month of egg collection , $P < 0.001$)

The highest:
February to April (82.8% - 84.1%), as well as in November ($82.5 \pm 7.0\%$),

The lowest:
October ($74.4 \pm 27.70\%$)
July ($77.4 \pm 8.92\%$)
August, ($77.1\% \pm 6.41\%$)

mortality in relation to fertilized eggs



The highest hatchability of set eggs

decreased during summer month (June $85.1 \pm 8.12\%$; July $84.0 \pm 8.69\%$, and August $83.5 \pm 5.57\%$)

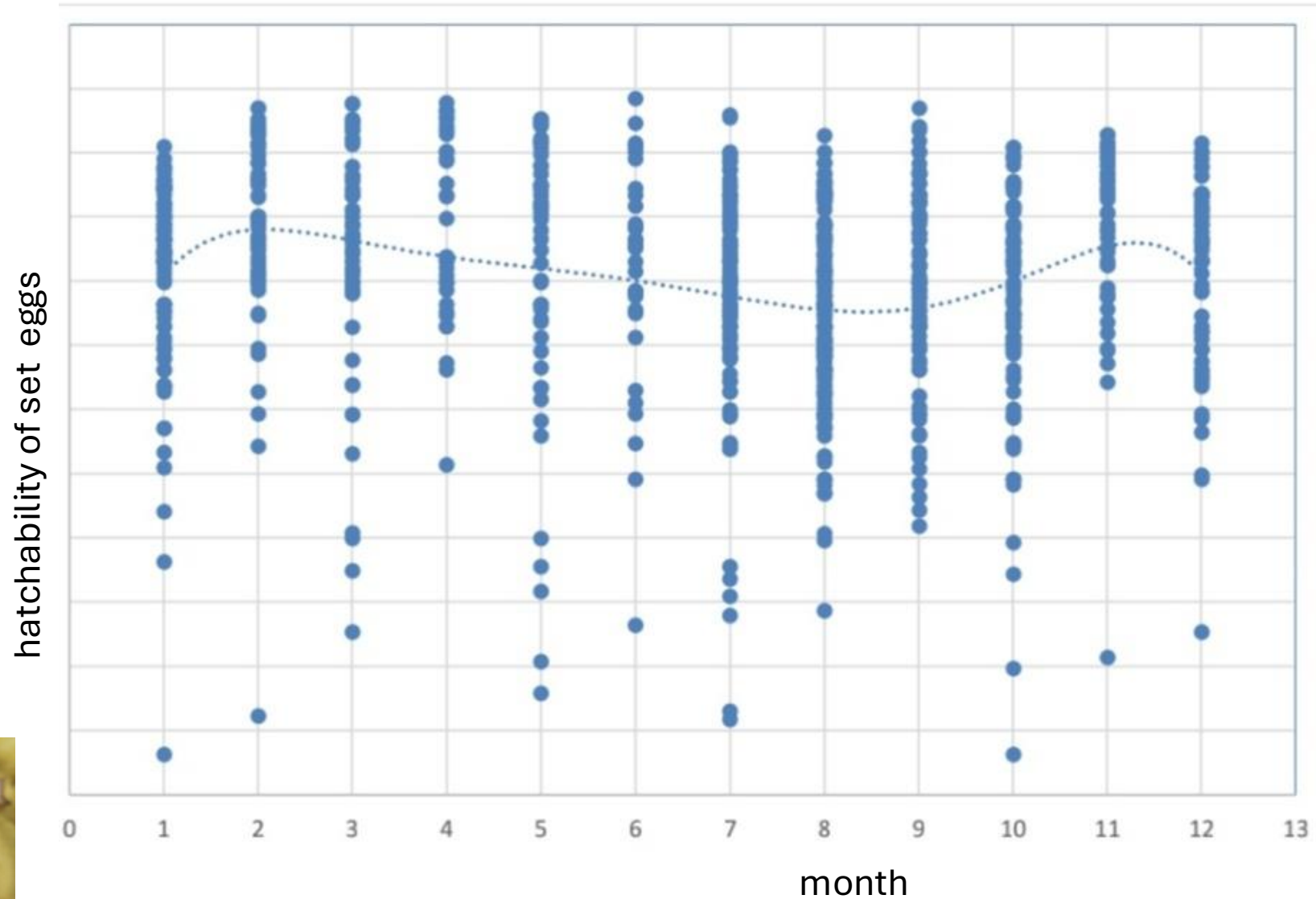
increased on cold months:

November ($89.3 \pm 3.32\%$)

February ($89.2 \pm 5.48\%$)

March ($87.8 \pm 7.37\%$)

April ($91.1 \pm 2.82\%$)



As a result, the highest hatchability from fertilized eggs was obtained from February to April (82.8% - 84.1%), as well as in November ($82.5 \pm 7.0\%$), while the lowest and at the same time very diverse in October ($74.4 \pm 27.70\%$) and summer months (July $77.4 \pm 8.92\%$; August, $77.1\% \pm 6.41\%$)





In conclusion, the hatchability results of a domestic duck in artificial broods depend on the month laying. The highest hatchability is observed in February-April, while it decreases in the summer months (June-August). The decrease in hatchability in the summer is mainly due to the increased mortality of embryos during the hatching period.

Thank you for
your attention

