Sustainable Poultry Breeding & Production Webinar

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Presented by Jim Adkins of the Sustainable Poultry Network

Hosted by Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)
Introductions
What makes poultry sustainable?

- Standard bred ... birds that were developed for a specific purpose in a specific region
- Able to naturally reproduce
- Able to live outdoors
Commercial/industrialized poultry are not genetically sustainable!

- Terminal birds
- Genetics are controlled
- Best results come in confinement/struggle to live outside
The crisis we face!

- Decline in production - birds are no longer preforming to their original purpose.
- No longer are the breeds being selectively bred.
- The best food (including chicken) takes time. We want quick results & quick gratification.
Where do we go from here? (with breeding)

Begin with the best genetics possible!
Avoid hatchery birds because:

1. Quantity verses quality
2. No selective breeding.
3. No selection of Undesirable traits.
4. Welfare issues - killing males by the thousands!
Select progeny for breeding:

1. Vigor & Vitality
2. Standard qualities
3. Production qualities
Key:
Patiently wait for improvement.

One generation at a time!
Conclusions & Questions

Photo taken at Midnight Sun Farm
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