

A case of ostrich (*Struthio camelus*) twins developing from a double-yolked egg

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Abstract :

On July 4, 2002 at a Polish ostrich farm, Ożarów, a case of ostrich (*Struthio camelus*) twins developing from a double-yolked egg was reported. On the day of laying the weight of egg was 2221 g, whereas its shape index was 73.7, resembling the chicken egg. On day 43 of incubation the egg was opened. Each embryo was fully formed with complete feathers. Both embryos died in the last stage of incubation, on day 33 or 34. The embryos were lying with their ventral surfaces opposed with the yolk sacs positioned between them. The embryos weighed 245.2 g (twin 1) and 259.3 g (twin 2). This case report is unique and it is hoped that it will provide a valuable contribution to the current literature on ostrich eggs.

Key Word :

double-yolked egg / embryo / ostrich / twins

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