**No Hay in Poultry runs**

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I can not recommend using hay as bedding for your chickens and ducks etc

It gives them a nice comfy bed but

1. Does not absorb moisture
2. Attracts mice and rats to your poultry yards( they like to make nests out of it)
3. Mice and rats carry a lot of the viruses that make our poultry sick.
4. When wet it heats up, giving great growing conditions for bacteria that cause botuslism etc in your yards
5. Even if the bales you buy do not have mice in them, I don’t know a hay stack that hasn’t mice and they leave behind viruses that can make your poultry sick. Before bales even leave the paddock.
6. Hay grows great weeds in your garden when cleaned out into vegie patches etc.

**What to use for bedding**

Personally I like dust extracted pine shavings in nest boxes and brooder boxes etc

In your outside runs plain sand does a great job and poultry love to sand bath.

Easy to clean out and easy to see mice holes etc developing so you can refill bait stations etc before they get bad.

Coarse sawdust also does a great job in nest boxes and brooder boxes. Or newspaper in your brooder boxes so you can change every day. Brooder boxes must be kept dry and clean to stop coccidiosis from growing and to keep your chicks healthy.