

Studies on Egg Laying and Egg Parameters of *Anas platyrhynchos* (Family: Anatidae; Order: Anseriformes) of District Jamshoro Sindh, Pakistan

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Anas platyrhynchos (Mallards) belongs to family: anatidae (vigors1820) order: Anseriformes (wagler 1838) genus *Anas*, species *platyrhynchos*.

Mallard is the most recognized waterfowl in the world with typical duck shaped body. *Anas platyrhynchos* is distributed to these regions of the world: Australian region, Ethiopian region, Nearctic region, Neotropical region, oriental region, pale arctic region and oceanic region –animal diversity web.

These birds are hunted for food, eggs and meat and are good source of protein. They are important ornamental birds and kept for aesthetic purpose also domesticated.

Mallard was found to be an early breeder; egg laying started in the month of march and continued till June. April was found to be peak egg laying month. 15 nests were studied.

Mean egg weight was 48.27gm, while as the average egg size was 56.42 x 40.55mm (± 2.34 x ± 1.19). Average clutch size was found to be 8.27 (± 2.23).