

# The “Dead Turkey Observation and Examination Quiz”

## ANSWERS

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**Answer 1:** “C” 7 to 8 inches.....The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> are too short to touch the ground. I mostly see 8 worn primaries although the 8<sup>th</sup> may have just a very little amount of wear. I have seen a few gobblers with no wear on the 8<sup>th</sup> primary.



**Q1:** How many of those primary wing tips show any wear on each wing?

- A. 3 to 4
- B. 5 to 6
- C. 7 to 8**
- D. 9 to 10

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**Answer 2:** Yes...The tips are worn. Hens strut too, mostly when competing for dominance among the flock.



**Q2:** Does a hen wear the tips of her primary feathers like a gobbler?

- A. Yes**
- B. No

Special thanks to charlie elk for picture of a mature fall hen

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**Answer 3:** C...5 by 7 inches.....I filled this crop with compressed air. I did not over fill it or stretch it. Just enough air to take all the wrinkles out.



**Q3:** Approximately how big will a gobbler's crop be when it is stuffed completely full?

- A. 3 by 5 inches
- B. 4 by 6 inches

**C. 5 by 7 inches**



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**Answer 4:** B There are appendages..... I assume a turkey can maneuver these appendages on top of its mouth to help get the food back in its throat.



**Q4:** Is the top of a turkey's mouth smooth or are there also appendages there.

- A. Smooth

**B. There are  
appendages**

**Answer 5: A Yes...**The speculum feathers are black tipped, Sometimes, when other options are not available, the speculum can be used to identify whether the gobbler is a tom or a jake by how well developed the speculum is.



**Q5:** Are these speculum feathers tipped black?

**A. Yes**

B. No

**Answer 6: A...**The outer toe. Its about ½ inch longer.



**Q6:** Which toe is the second longest?

**A. The outer toe**

B. The inner toe

C. The inner and outer toes are the same length



**Answer 7** B...The bottom eyelid comes up over the eye.



**Q7:** When a turkey does close its eye, how do the eyelids close?

- A. The top eyelid comes down over the eye
- B. The bottom eyelid comes up over the eye**
- C. Both eyelids meet in the middle



**Answer 8:** B...They point slightly inward.

I am sure some of you have shot gobblers whose spurs clicked together as they walked.



**Q8:** Which way are the spurs on a gobbler oriented?

- A. They point straight back
- B. They point back and slightly inward**
- C. They point back and slightly outward

**Answer 9:** C...That is where the limb rubs him on the roost.

It is a callous. Every turkey that I have killed and bothered to look there has had this. No biologist has told me and I have not read it anywhere, but I strongly believe that a limb rubbing there while on the roost is what causes this callous. I have also seen it on a few ruffed grouse, but it is much less pronounced.

**Q9:** What caused the mark on this gobbler?

- A. It is a scar from fighting
- B. He has been doing all the breeding

**C. That is where the limb rubs him on the roost**

- D. It is an old wound from being shot

**Answer 10:** A...Yes There are small feathers that cover the opening.



**Q10:** Is there any type of covering over a turkey's ear?

**A. Yes**

B. No

**Extra Credit Question:** Turkeys are very good at locating sound.

With no pinnae to help them, what can turkeys do to help them locate where a sound is coming from.

(This is a written answer, no multiple choice (hey it IS EXTRA credit) and hint there are TWO POINTS awarded for the correct answer.)

**Extra Credit ANSWER:** A turkey can turn or cock its head AND manipulate the feathers covering the ear to help it locate the origin of a sound.

A turkey has two ears and while the separation helps locate sound by the slight difference in the way each ear hears the sound (timing and loudness), a turkey can't actually DO anything about how far its ears are apart.