**Writing a method**

Your method must contain:

1. Your sample size
2. What your dependent (including the unit) and independent variable was (and the range of this)
3. Your controlled variables – and both how these were controlled, and why they needed to be controlled to produce a fair test.
4. A clear outline of the steps you took so someone else could follow them.

Explaining controlled variables in your method.

Eg: Our sample size was made up of 30, day old Hyline Brown chicks that were collected from the Tegal Hatchey in New Plymouth.

These chicks were all female (*a controlled variable- how it was controlled*). Male animals grow faster than females so having a mixture of both male and female chicks would have skewed our results, and made them less reliable (*why it needed to be controlled)*.

Throughout the trial all chicks were fed ad-lib which meant they had constant access to food that was topped up when needed (*controlled variable – and how it was controlled).*

As some of the varieties may have been more palatable than others, this prevented groups running out of feed, and allowed the chicks to eat as much as they needed to over the day (*why it needed to be controlled).*