

# Chicken Digestion



# Definition of Digestion

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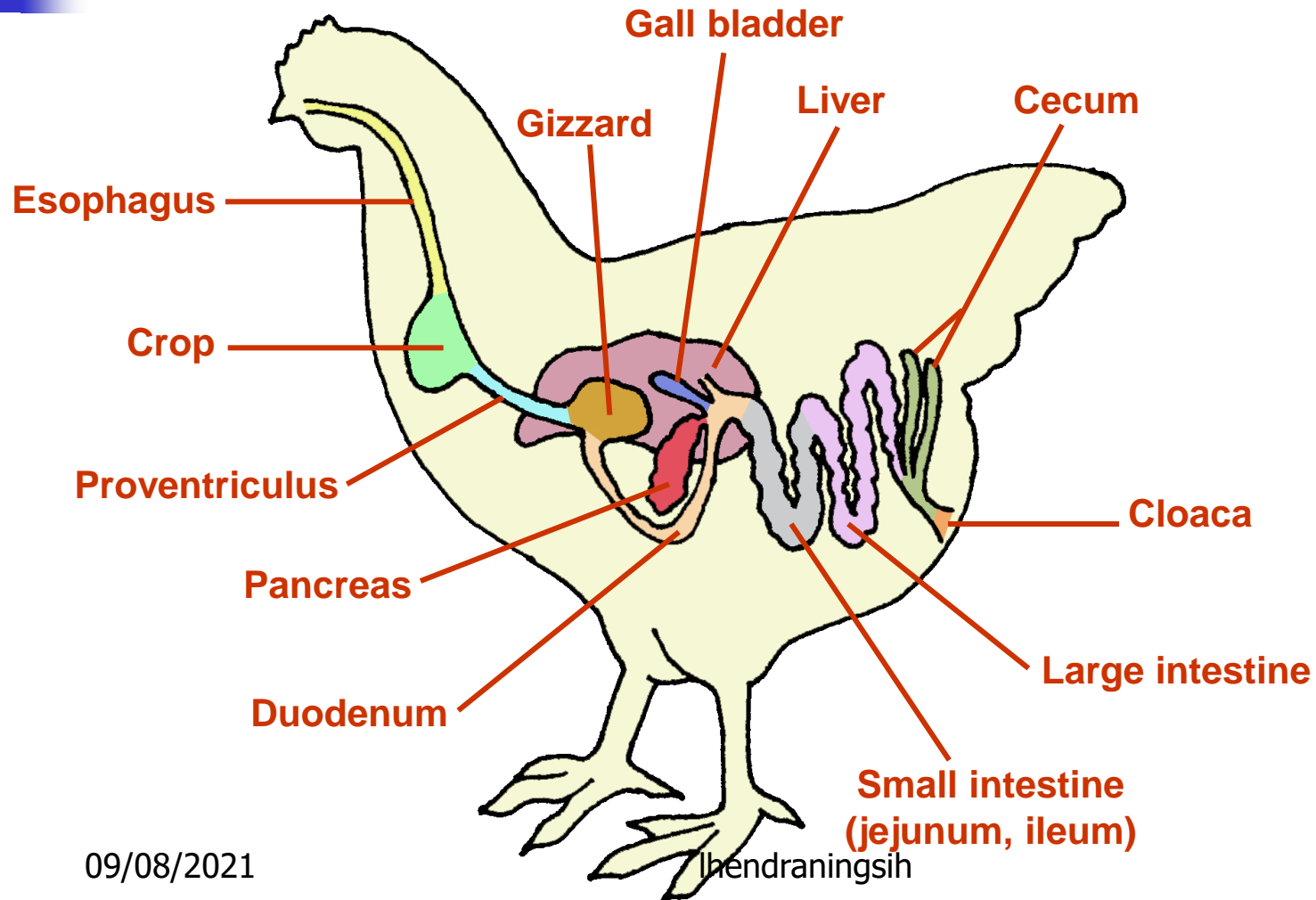
- The breakdown of feed (food) by the digestive system (tract) in preparation for absorption and utilization by the animal.
- The breakdown of complex materials into their constituent parts so the nutrients can be absorbed and metabolized in the body.



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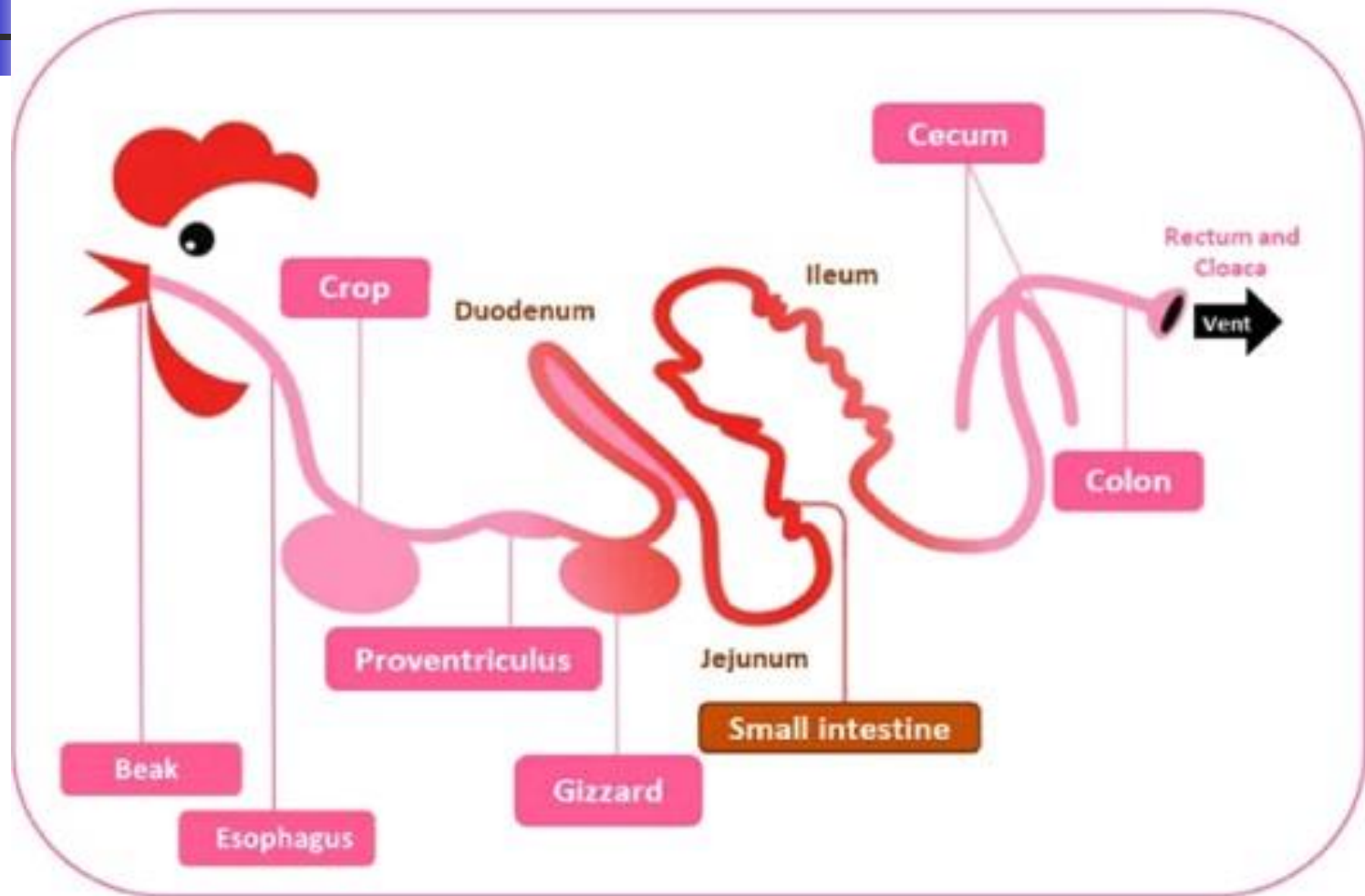
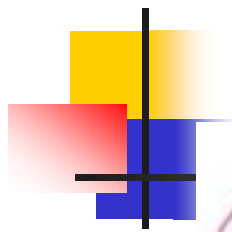
# The Functional Anatomy of the Monogastric Digestive Tract

# Digestive Tract - Poultry



09/08/2021

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# Organs of the Digestive System

## – *Monogastrics* –

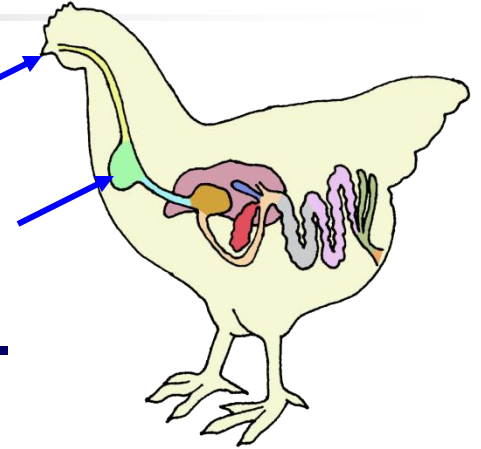
### Specialized Organs in Poultry

- Beak

- ▶ No lips, no teeth, and no chewing.

- Crop

- ▶ Out-pocketing of the esophagus that provides storage for consumed food.
- ▶ Foodstuffs moistened and softened (little if any digestion).



# Organs of the Digestive System

## – *Monogastrics* –

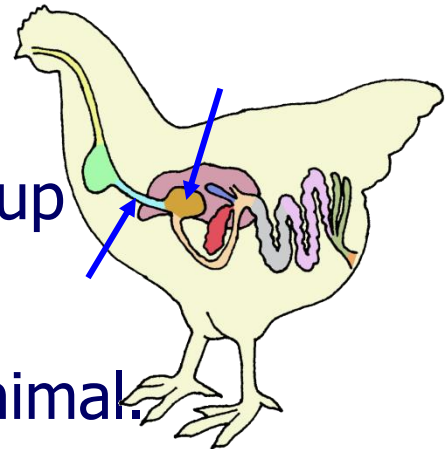
### Specialized Organs in Poultry (*continued*)

#### ■ Proventriculus

- ▶ Glandular stomach where the first significant amount of digestive juices are added.

#### ■ Gizzard

- ▶ A muscular organ used to grind and break up food.
- ▶ May contain grit (small stones) eaten by animal.



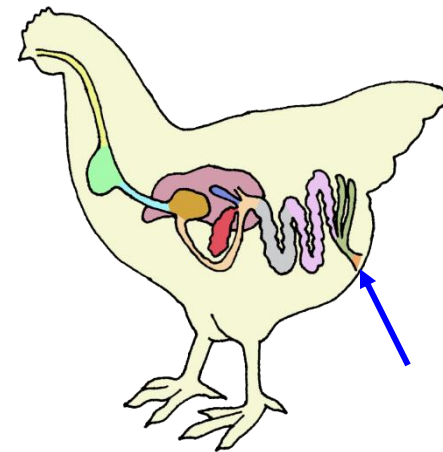
# Organs of the Digestive System

## – *Monogastrics* –

### Specialized Organs in Poultry (*continued*)

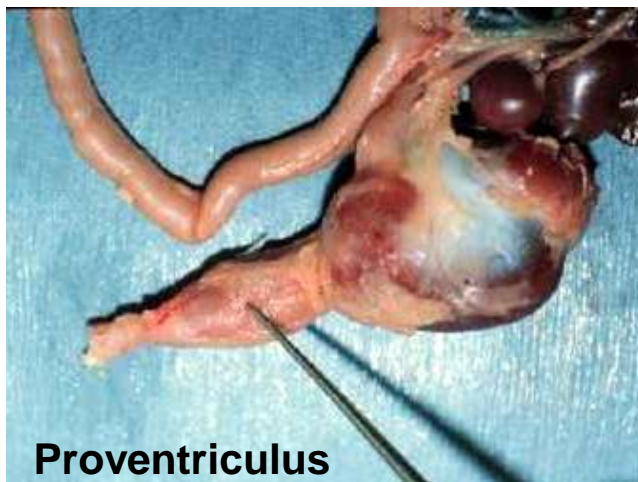
#### ■ Cloaca

- ▶ Common chamber into which the digestive, urinary, and reproductive tracts open.
  - ✓ When fecal material is excreted, the cloaca folds back at the vent allowing the rectal opening of the large intestine to push out, closing the reproductive tract opening.





# Specialized Poultry Organs



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