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Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 5 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 198 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 18, 2010. This was up 5 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Up 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 169 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 18, 2010. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 3, 2010 through September 18, 2010 were 6.30 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2010

	Week ending					
State	August 14, 2010	August 21, 2010	August 28, 2010	September 4, 2010	September 11, 2010	September 18, 2010
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	29,958	30,014	30,373	30,514	29,912	29,850
Arkansas	23,631	23,867	24,310	22,983	23,679	23,043
Delaware	3,916	3,911	3,919	3,916	3,801	3,874
Florida	1,358	1,360	1,358	1,357	1,344	1,099
Georgia	31,922	32,567	32,007	32,136	31,403	30,459
Kentucky	7,705	7,730	7,782	7,818	8,073	7,534
Louisiana	3,440	3,364	3,423	3,409	3,394	3,440
Maryland	7,755	7,696	7,375	6,998	7,008	6,876
Mississippi	19,029	18,999	18,545	18,336	19,017	18,701
North Carolina	19,893	19,963	19,688	18,813	18,787	18,842
Oklahoma	6,404	6,393	6,422	6,274	6,332	6,639
Pennsylvania	3,975	3,904	3,836	3,808	3,843	3,638
South Carolina	6,017	5,655	5,876	5,754	5,444	5,777
Texas	15,674	15,976	15,788	15,804	16,143	13,735
Virginia	6,081	6,088	6,094	6,158	6,176	6,286
California, Missouri,						
Tennessee, and West Virginia	19,515	19,413	19,303	19,539	19,476	18,032
19 State total	206,273	206,900	206,099	203,617	203,832	197,825
Previous year total	201,307	200,665	200,648	195,627	193,228	187,892
Percent of previous year	102	103	103	104	105	105

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2010

	Week ending						
State	August 14,	August 21,	August 28,	September 4,	September 11,	September 18,	
	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	
	(1,000 chicks)						
Alabama	21,679	21,609	21,336	20,939	21,512	21,402	
Arkansas	19,860	21,705	21,244	20,964	20,718	20,534	
Delaware	4,826	4,742	5,095	5,281	4,960	4,780	
Florida	1,057	1,012	1,017	1,015	1,082	1,084	
Georgia	27,694	26,333	27,529	27,425	27,164	26,655	
Kentucky	6,397	5,872	6,498	6,366	5,973	5,568	
Louisiana	3,183	3,007	3,028	2,978	2,927	2,969	
Maryland	6,577	6,179	5,714	5,905	6,058	5,810	
Mississippi	16,714	16,823	16,466	16,305	16,383	16,134	
North Carolina	15,871	15,990	15,092	15,839	15,818	15,745	
Oklahoma	4,827	4,364	3,934	4,887	5,348	4,355	
Pennsylvania	3,063	2,925	3,076	3,223	3,170	3,120	
South Carolina	4,325	5,356	5,085	4,793	4,652	4,810	
Texas	13,307	13,583	13,519	13,164	13,445	14,121	
Virginia	5,098	5,083	5,106	4,653	4,540	4,964	
California, Missouri,							
Tennessee, and West Virginia	17,379	17,017	16,868	16,126	16,642	17,273	
19 State total	171,857	171,600	170,607	169,863	170,392	169,324	
Previous year total	167,559	166,917	166,236	167,105	166,413	166,623	
Percent of previous year	103	103	103	102	102	102	

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected from all known chicken hatcheries within the 19 States. The 19 States account for approximately 97 percent of the broilers produced on an annual basis. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All known hatcheries within the 19 States respond via fax. Those that do not respond are contacted by telephone.

Estimating Procedures: All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. All hatcheries are accounted for in the estimates. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State and 19 State totals.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions made to the previous five-week's data during the current week are published in this report. Final estimates are published in the annual *Hatchery Production Summary* released in April.

Reliability: Hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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