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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 196 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 16, 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 6 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 169 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 16, 2010. Placements were up 6 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 3, 2010 through October 16, 2010 were 6.97 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2010

	Week ending					
State	September 11,	September 18,	September 25,	October 2,	October 9,	October 16,
	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	29,419	29,442	30,292	28,574	29,445	28,620
Arkansas	24,046	23,158	24,039	23,294	23,216	23,350
Delaware	3,801	3,874	4,044	3,952	3,862	3,336
Florida	1,344	1,099	1,360	1,358	1,358	1,095
Georgia	32,258	29,626	32,314	30,648	30,319	30,223
Kentucky	7,869	7,315	8,145	7,306	7,510	7,427
Louisiana	3,394	3,440	3,456	3,098	3,440	3,424
Maryland	7,008	6,876	7,232	7,450	7,514	7,145
Mississippi	19,017	18,701	18,049	17,709	17,605	18,527
North Carolina	18,671	18,433	19,762	19,116	17,523	18,831
Oklahoma	6,332	6,639	6,583	6,336	6,533	6,306
Pennsylvania	3,843	3,697	3,763	3,694	3,622	3,829
South Carolina	5,444	5,777	6,021	5,288	5,127	5,313
Texas	16,149	14,074	15,184	15,474	15,771	14,343
Virginia	6,176	6,286	6,195	5,769	6,461	6,229
California, Missouri,	10 427	17 020	10 600	10 404	10 104	10.007
Tennessee, and West Virginia	19,437	17,930	18,629	18,424	19,124	18,097
19 State total	204,208	196,367	205,068	197,490	198,430	196,095
Previous year total	193,228	187,892	193,476	183,016	190,600	186,101
Percent of previous year	106	105	106	108	104	105

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2010

	Week ending					
State	September 11,	September 18,	September 25,	October 2,	October 9,	October 16,
	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010
	(1,000 chicks)					
Alabama	21,520	21,402	21,250	20,019	19,989	20,902
Arkansas	20,693	20,527	21,175	20,861	21,101	20,825
Delaware	4,960	4,780	5,136	4,565	4,668	4,709
Florida	1,082	1,084	1,092	1,172	1,105	1,149
Georgia	27,164	26,654	27,731	27,586	24,744	28,139
Kentucky	5,976	5,572	6,767	6,984	5,899	7,101
Louisiana	2,927	2,969	2,974	2,775	3,039	3,053
Maryland	6,058	5,606	5,237	6,244	5,542	6,761
Mississippi	16,383	16,134	15,031	16,424	16,017	15,492
North Carolina	15,721	15,745	14,320	14,315	14,585	14,715
Oklahoma	5,348	4,355	3,321	4,993	4,016	4,488
Pennsylvania	3,170	3,143	3,119	3,048	2,908	3,054
South Carolina	4,610	4,810	4,885	5,040	4,705	4,803
Texas	13,450	14,125	13,508	13,838	11,942	12,916
Virginia	4,618	5,183	5,149	4,863	5,436	4,698
California, Missouri,						
Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,649	17,282	16,652	16,619	16,551	16,403
19 State total	170,329	169,371	167,347	169,346	162,247	169,208
Previous year total	166,413	166,623	162,040	160,413	155,860	160,297
Percent of previous year	102	102	103	106	104	106

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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