

Alabama **broiler** producers marketed 1,007.6 million birds during the 2001 marketing year, an increase of 3 percent from 2000. Cullman was the leading broiler county, followed by DeKalb, Marshall, Blount, and Coffee. Cash receipts amounted to \$2.00 billion, up 15 percent from the previous year. Alabama ranked third in broiler production behind Georgia and Arkansas. **Commercial broiler hatcheries** in Alabama hatched 1.22 billion chicks in 2001, up 2 percent from the previous year. Alabama hatcheries shipped 160.6 million broiler-type chicks to other states, including 48.6 million to Mississippi and 58.2 million to Georgia. Chicks shipped into Alabama numbered 7.5 million. Egg-type hatchery data are not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

During 2001, Alabama's laying flocks produced 2.36 billion **eggs**, down slightly from the previous year. Cash receipts from eggs were \$265.4 million, up 3 percent from 2000. Alabama ranked 13th nationally in egg production. There were 10.4 million **layers** 20 weeks old and older on hand December 1, 2001 compared with 10.2 million in 2000. Cullman County had the largest layer inventory, followed by DeKalb, Marshall, Baldwin, and Blount counties.

Poultry Facts :

- ✘ A cockerel is a male chicken under one year of age; cock or a rooster is a male more than one year old; pullet is a female under one year, and a hen is a female over one year of age
- ✘ A broiler or fryer is a young meat-type chicken that can be cooked tender by broiling or frying and usually weighing between 2 ½ and 3 ½ pounds
- ✘ A roaster is a young meat type chicken that can be cooked tender by roasting and usually weighing 4 pounds or more
- ✘ Laying hens will start to lay eggs at about 20 weeks of age

Annual Egg Production			
Year	Total	Table	Hatching
	Million		
1992	2,512	1,202	1,310
1993	2,538	1,222	1,316
1994	2,733	1,341	1,392
1995	2,703	1,230	1,473
1996	2,481	1,085	1,396
1997	2,499	1,091	1,408
1998	2,507	1,092	1,415
1999	2,450	959	1,491
2000	2,371	791	1,580
2001	2,359	730	1,629

