

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



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**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 4 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

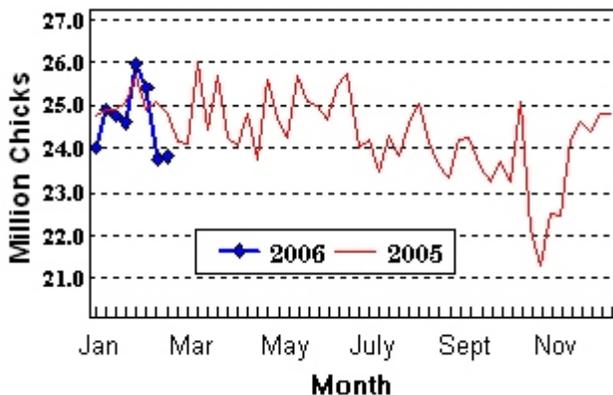
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 23.8 million during the week ending February 25, 2006. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week in 2005, but up fractionally from the previous week, and included 2.5 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2005 through February 25, 2006 were 197.3 million, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 26.1 million, up 1 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 4.4 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.0 percent.

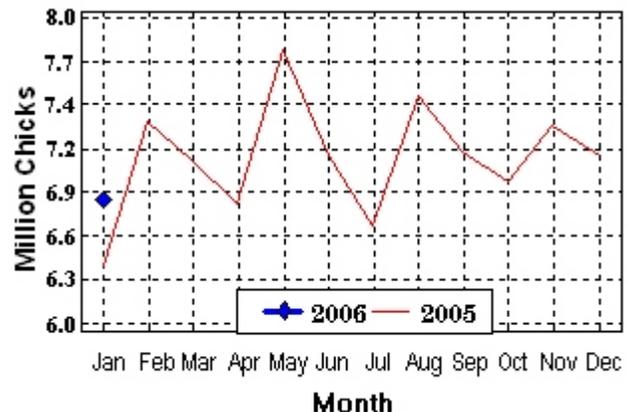
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 31.1 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending February 25, 2006, down 1 percent from the same period last year, and down fractionally from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 6.83 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during January 2006, up 20 percent from January 2005.

**ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS
BY WEEK, 2005- 2006**



**U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED
FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS**



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS

Week Ending	Year		% Change
	2004-2005	2005-2006	
	<i>1,000</i>		
Jan. 21	24,907	24,773	99
Jan. 28	25,119	24,597	98
Feb. 4	25,702	25,961	101
Feb. 11	24,929	25,383	102
Feb. 18	25,110	23,786	95
Feb. 25	24,831	23,832	96

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED

Month	Year		% Change
	2004-2005	2005-2006	
	<i>1,000</i>		
Aug.	7,280	7,484	103
Sep.	7,758	7,132	92
Oct.	6,457	6,944	108
Nov.	7,128	7,298	102
Dec.	6,772	7,112	105
Jan.	6,409	6,825	106

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2006

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending					Week Ending						
	04-Feb	11-Feb	18-Feb	25-Feb	%1/	21-Jan	28-Jan	04-Feb	11-Feb	18-Feb	25-Feb	%1/
Alabama	31,655 *	31,668	31,713	31,868	105	20,890	21,340	21,631	21,412	20,803	21,468	99
ARKANSAS	31,442	30,728	31,127	31,122	99	24,773	24,597	25,961	25,383	23,786	23,832	96
Delaware	3,700	3,713 *	3,987	3,920	100	5,365	5,908	5,088	5,267 *	5,874	5,648	84
Florida	1,374 *	1,343	1,354	1,373	101	1,429	1,631	1,641	1,843	1,496	1,498	104
Georgia	33,622 *	33,762 *	34,226 *	34,816	104	27,998	27,061	27,312	27,662	28,147 *	27,124	100
Kentucky	7,205 *	7,440	7,210	7,062	97	5,620	5,815	6,147	6,354	6,063 *	5,858	93
Louisiana	4,136	4,136	4,166	4,166	103	3,843	3,937	3,977	3,950	4,229	4,174	111
Maryland	8,888	8,622	8,901	8,871	99	5,632	5,267	5,667	6,022 *	4,960	5,022	119
Mississippi	18,188	18,082	18,108	18,392	95	16,502	16,511	16,617	16,244	16,547	16,428	91
N. Carolina	18,431 *	19,063	19,438	19,225	104	15,715	15,465	14,630	14,471	14,951	15,241	105
Oklahoma	6,566	6,665	6,759 *	6,617	103	5,262	5,447	4,467	4,781	5,948	5,392	97
Pennsylvania	3,721	4,063 *	3,333 *	4,174	107	2,958	2,949	2,921	2,936 *	2,989 *	2,787	89
S. Carolina	5,194	5,345	5,369	5,339	101	4,001	4,390	4,570	5,239	4,562	4,338	98
Texas	14,632	15,121	15,147	15,197	100	12,804	12,936	13,067	13,002	13,151	12,625	99
Virginia	6,246	6,360	6,296	6,410	98	5,213	4,990	5,260 *	4,952 *	4,996	5,182	96
CA,MO,TN,WV	17,550 *	17,464	17,987 *	18,189	102	16,205	16,490	15,498	16,498 *	15,907 *	16,391	96
Total 2005	212,550 *	213,575 *	215,121 *	216,741		174,210	174,734	174,454 *	176,016 *	174,409 *	173,008	
Total 2004	213,234	213,830	213,897	213,989		172,679	171,340	172,928	175,504	175,869	176,799	
%of Prev. Year	100	100	101	101		101	102	101	100	99	98	
Approximate Marketing Date 2006.....						11-Mar	18-Mar	25-Mar	01-Apr	08-Apr	15-Apr	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 217 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 25, 2006. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 173 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 25, 2006. Placements were down 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2006 through February 25, 2006 were 1.39 billion, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.