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National Agricultural Statistics Service**

10800 Financial Centre Parkway
Suite 110
Little Rock, AR 72211
Phone: (501) 228-9926
www.nass.usda.gov/ar

Arkansas Chick Placements Down 5 Percent From Last Year

Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 23.0 million during the week ending April 15, 2006. Placements were down 5 percent both from the comparable week in 2005, and from the previous week, and included 2.2 million chicks shipped in from other states.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 24.8 million, down 2 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and down 3 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.8 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83 percent.

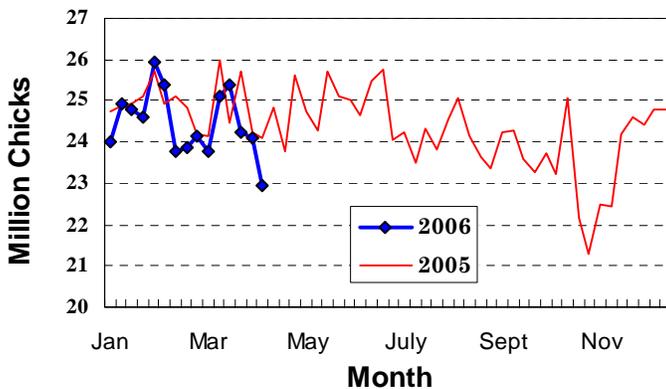
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.4 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending April 15, 2006, down 2 percent from both the same period last year and from the previous week.

Week Ending 1/	Chicks Placed			Chicks Hatched			Eggs Set		
	2005	2006	% of Prev. Year	2005	2006	% of Prev. Year	2005	2006	% of Prev. Year
	<i>Thousand</i>			<i>Thousand</i>			<i>Thousand</i>		
Mar. 11	24,126	23,761	98	26,142	25,821	99	30,893	31,376	102
Mar. 18	26,004	25,114	97	26,406	25,709	97	30,683	30,561	100
Mar. 25	24,483	25,367	104	26,218	25,556	97	30,196	29,754*	100
Apr. 1	25,689	24,238	94	26,122	26,005	100	30,537	30,034	98
Apr. 8	24,245	24,090	99	25,690	25,456	99	31,153	31,066*	99
Apr. 15	24,090	22,954	95	25,330	24,784	98	30,997	30,364	98

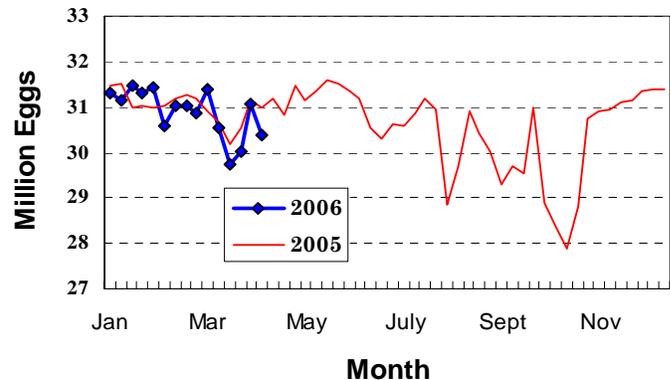
1/ For previous year, it is the comparable week.

* Revised in current week

Chicks Placed In Arkansas, 2005-2006



Eggs Set In Arkansas, 2005 - 2006



Broiler Eggs Set and Chicks Placed in 19 Major States by Weeks, March 18 - April 15, 2006

State	Eggs Set						Chicks Placed					
	Week Ending						Week Ending					
	18-Mar	25-Mar	1-Apr	8-Apr	15-Apr	% 1/	18-Mar	25-Mar	1-Apr	8-Apr	15-Apr	% 1/
	<i>Thousand</i>						<i>Thousand</i>					
Alabama	31,629	31,906 *	30,835 *	31,781 *	31,147	101	22,039	21,700	21,811 *	21,367 *	21,426	101
Arkansas	30,561	29,754 *	30,034	31,066 *	30,364	99	25,114	25,367	24,238	24,090	22,954	89
Delaware	3,781	3,620	3,519	3,583	3,466	88	5,319	6,002	6,235	5,680	4,681	94
Florida	1,344	1,364	1,366	1,344	1,344	99	1,541	1,536	1,471	1,304	1,531	98
Georgia	34,004	34,822	35,004	34,747	35,257	111	27,986	28,485 *	27,909 *	26,625 *	27,919	102
Kentucky	6,715 *	7,160 *	7,262 *	7,436 *	7,339	104	5,815	5,862 *	6,011 *	5,640 *	6,263	99
Louisiana	4,136	3,756	4,058	4,136	4,136	99	3,830	3,831	4,149	3,912	3,811	99
Maryland	8,964	8,632	8,870	8,924	8,842	103	5,091	4,852	4,820	5,414	5,560	97
Mississippi	18,326	18,528	18,393	18,285	18,004	92	16,514	16,428	16,490	16,414	16,394	93
N. Carolina	18,366	18,010 *	18,684	18,633	18,619	99	15,839	15,323	15,606	15,030	14,815	98
Oklahoma	6,698	6,659	6,367	6,666	6,650	106	4,186	5,095	5,319	5,313	5,683	110
Pennsylvania	4,191 *	3,809 *	4,186 *	4,271 *	4,349	107	2,992 *	2,913 *	2,963 *	2,980 *	2,668	86
S. Carolina	5,171	5,382	5,027	5,120	4,959	95	4,721	4,849	4,497	5,378 *	4,582	108
Texas	15,192	13,466	15,074	15,073	15,059	98	13,073	13,103	13,058	12,971	11,458	89
Virginia	6,607	6,561	6,563	6,503	6,552	98	5,646	5,098	4,916	4,916	5,462	103
CA,MO,TN & WV	17,870	17,785	18,283	18,328 *	18,167	100	17,690	16,549	17,518	17,037 *	16,611	98
19 State Total	213,555 *	211,214 *	213,525 *	215,896 *	214,254		177,396 *	176,993 *	177,011 *	174,071 *	171,818	
Prev. Year Total	213,135	212,819	212,425	217,024	215,452		176,235	176,843	176,671	176,774	176,765	
% of Prev. Year	100	99	101	99	99		101	100	100	98	97	
Approximate Marketing Date 2006 2/.....							6-May	13-May	20-May	27-May	3-Jun	

* Revised in current week. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year. 2/ Industry average; seven weeks from placement.

Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Down 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 214 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 15, 2006. This was down 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 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 172 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 15, 2006. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2006 through April 15, 2006 were 2.62 billion, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.