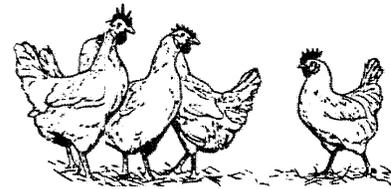


California Poultry Report



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Layer & Egg Production	1
Chick Hatch and Eggs in Incubators	2
Turkey Production	3
Poultry & Egg Prices and Cold Storage Holdings	4

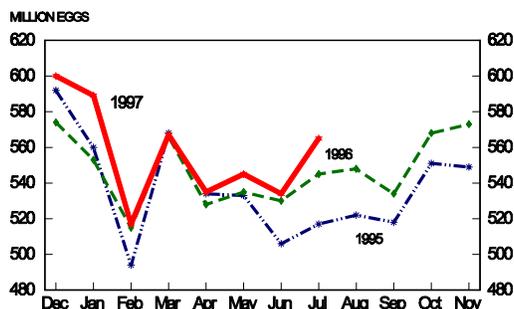
U.S. JULY EGG PRODUCTION UP SLIGHTLY

U.S. egg production totaled 6.45 billion during July 1997, up slightly from the 6.44 billion produced in 1996. Production included 5.40 billion table eggs and 1.05 billion hatching eggs, of which 989 million were broiler-type and 58.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 1997 averaged 299 million, up 1 percent from July 1996. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,155 eggs, compared with 2,180 in July 1996. On August 1, 1997, all layers in the U.S. totaled 300 million, up 1 percent from a year ago. The 300 million layers consisted of 243 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 54.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.46 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day averaged 69.6 eggs per 100 layers on August 1, 1997, down 1 percent from the 70.2 a year ago.

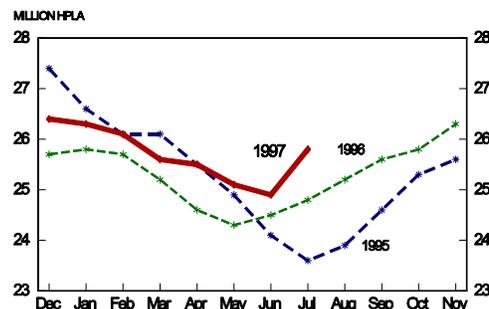
CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during July totaled 565 million, 31.0 million more than last month and 20.0 million more than last July. Average number of layers during the month totaled 25.8 million, 4 percent above July 1996. Eggs per 100 layers during the month were 2,186, compared to 2,142 last month and 2,197 in July 1997.

EGG PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1994-1997



AVERAGE NUMBER OF LAYERS, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1994-1997



LAYER NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION DURING JULY, FORCED MOLTING AS OF AUGUST 1

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-- Thousands --		-- Number --		-- Millions --		---- Percent ----			
Alabama	10,349	10,853	2,029	1,963	210	213	2.5	3.0	15.5	14.0
Arkansas	14,431	14,266	1,933	1,837	279	262	3.0	3.0	8.5	9.5
California	24,810	25,845	2,197	2,186	545	565	6.5	10.5	41.0	36.0
Georgia	18,447	19,568	2,103	2,090	388	409	5.0	1.5	22.0	22.5
Indiana	21,329	21,108	2,246	2,293	479	484	4.5	1.0	19.5	20.5
Iowa	19,459	21,186	2,261	2,214	440	469	7.0	2.0	27.5	23.5
North Carolina	12,680	12,477	1,940	1,916	246	239	2.0	3.0	16.0	11.5
Ohio	24,326	25,152	2,302	2,242	560	564	3.5	3.0	8.5	12.5
Pennsylvania	20,640	20,675	2,277	2,268	470	469	3.5	3.5	21.5	13.5
Texas	15,549	16,737	2,116	2,127	329	356	3.5	3.5	19.5	27.0
United States	295,349	299,153	2,180	2,155	6,440	6,447	4.7	3.5	22.0	21.9

U.S. BROILER HATCH UP 4 PERCENT

The July 1997 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 709 million, was up 4 percent from July of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 589 million on August 1, 1997, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

During July 1997, leading breeders placed 7.33 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks. This was up 22 percent from July 1996.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, JULY

State	1996	1997	1997/1996
	- Thousands -		Percent
Alabama	88,418	92,756	105
Arkansas	104,117	106,277	102
Delaware	16,122	16,807	104
Florida	10,352	9,431	91
Georgia	103,548	109,436	106
Maryland	29,994	31,279	104
Mississippi	58,397	62,892	108
North Carolina	62,836	62,098	99
Pennsylvania	12,294	12,958	105
South Carolina	15,539	15,587	100
Texas	40,668	46,168	114
Virginia	23,077	24,224	105
California, West Virginia & Tennessee	34,064	34,658	102
Washington & Oregon	5,956	6,190	104
Other States ^{1/}	74,384	78,389	105
UNITED STATES	679,766	709,150	104

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED UP 2 PERCENT

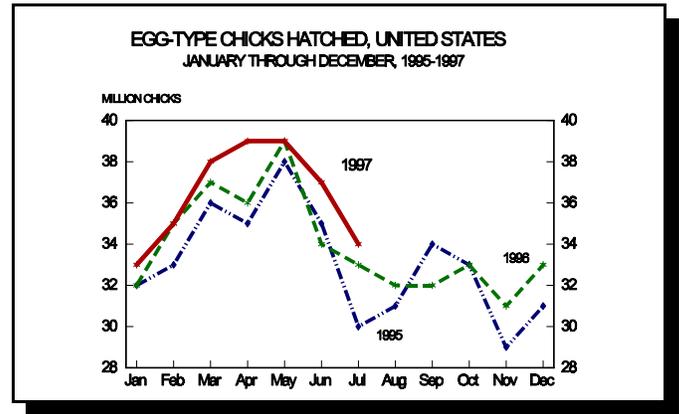
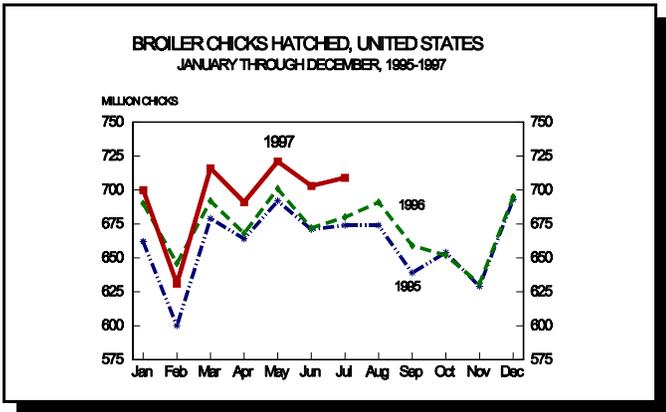
Egg-type chicks hatched during July totaled 34.0 million, up 2 percent from July 1996. Eggs in incubators totaled 28.1 million on August 1, 1997, down 3 percent from a year ago.

During July 1997, domestic placements by leading breeders totaled 199 thousand egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks. This was down 25 percent from the 266 thousand of July 1996.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, JULY

State	1996	1997	1997/1996
	- Thousands -		Percent
Arkansas	898	807	90
Florida	745	1,128	151
Georgia	1,960	1,960	100
Indiana	6,371	6,270	98
Iowa	4,353	4,823	111
Kansas	213	285	134
Minnesota	1,991	1,794	90
Missouri	382	402	105
Pennsylvania	4,540	4,670	103
Other States ^{1/}	11,878	11,815	99
UNITED STATES	33,331	33,954	102

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.



EGGS IN INCUBATORS, AUGUST 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1996	1997	1997/1996	1996	1997	1997/1996
	-- Thousands --		Percent	-- Thousands --		Percent
North Atlantic	11,809	12,609	107	4,824	5,231	108
East North Central	8,197	7,737	94	8,449	7,391	87
West North Central	21,798	22,201	102	4,608	5,112	111
South Atlantic	225,900	229,032	101	4,584	4,272	93
South Central	281,799	295,357	105	3,273	3,153	96
West	21,450	21,667	101	3,141	2,987	95
UNITED STATES	570,953	588,603	103	28,879	28,146	97

U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

On August 1, turkey eggs in incubators in the United States totaled 35.0 million, down 3 percent from August 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were down 9 percent from the revised July 1 total of 38.6 million. Regional percent changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, down 3; W N Central, up 8; N & S Atlantic, down 11; S Central, down 2; West, down 8. The 30.1 million poult placed during July 1997 in the United States were up 4 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago. Placements were up 6 percent from the revised June 1997 total of 28.4 million. Regional percent changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, up 1; W N Central, up 12; N & S Atlantic, down 1; S Central, up 2; West, up 4.

ALL TURKEYS

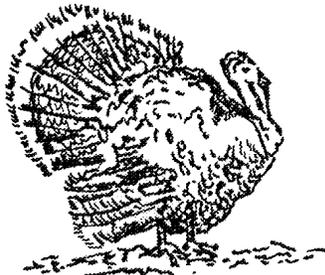
Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators August 1		1997 1996	Poults Placed during July 1/		1997 1996
	1996	1997		1996	1997	
	- Thousands -		Pct.	- Thousands -		Pct.
E.N. Central	5,059	4,885	97	3,850	3,893	101
W.N. Central	9,883	10,716	108	8,121	9,104	112
N.&S. Atlantic	12,937	11,526	89	10,065	10,005	99
S. Central	4,066	3,974	98	3,242	3,320	102
West	4,212	3,858	92	3,635	3,770	104
U.S.	36,157	34,959	97	28,913	30,092	104

1/ Excludes exported poults.

TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES 1/

Month	Total All Breeds		96-97 95-96	Cumulative Total		96-97 95-96
	1995-96	1996-97		1995-96	1996-97	
	- Thousands -		Percent	- Thousands -		Percent
Sept.	23,371	24,154	103	23,371	24,154	103
Oct.	25,158	25,354	101	48,529	49,508	102
Nov.	24,619	23,830	97	73,148	73,338	100
Dec.	25,269	27,119	107	98,417	100,457	102
Jan.	27,391	27,121	99	125,808	127,578	101
Feb.	27,596	27,145	98	153,404	154,723	101
Mar.	27,932	27,610	99	181,336	182,333	101
Apr.	29,725	28,220	95	211,061	210,553	100
May	29,668	29,120	98	240,729	239,673	100
June	27,987	28,380	101	268,716	268,053	100
July	28,913	30,092	104	297,629	298,145	100
Aug.	27,496			325,125		

1/ Excludes exported poults.



**U.S. TURKEYS RAISED
FRACTIONALLY ABOVE 1996**

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 1997 is 303 million, fractionally above the 303 million raised during 1996. If realized, this total will represent a new record number of turkeys raised, surpassing last year's record.

The following six states are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 1997:

North Carolina is forecast to continue as the nation's leader in turkey production with 55.5 million birds. This is down 2 percent from the January 1997 Intentions and 7 percent less than 1996.

Minnesota ranks second with 46.0 million, 6 percent more than the January Intentions and last year's production.

Arkansas is in third place by producing 29.0 million birds. This is 6 percent less than January Intentions, but 4 percent more than a year ago.

Virginia is now the nation's fourth largest producing state with 25.0 million birds, down 9 percent from January Intentions, but unchanged from a year ago.

Missouri is in fifth place with 22.5 million birds, 4 percent less than the January Intentions, but 2 percent more than last year's production.

California expects to raise 21.5 million turkeys, matching the January Intentions, but 4 percent below a year earlier.

TURKEYS RAISED IN 1996-97 1/

State	Number		1997/1996
	1996	1997	
	-- Thousand Head --		Percent
AR	28,000	29,000	104
CA	22,500	21,500	96
CO	4,800	4,400	92
CT	8	5	63
GA	550	2/	2/
IL	3,300	3,300	100
IN	14,000	14,200	101
IA	8,000	7,500	94
KS	1,750	1,750	100
MD & DE	360	460	128
MA	80	80	100
MN	43,500	46,000	106
MO	22,000	22,500	102
NH	15	10	67
NJ	73	70	96
NY	520	520	100
NC	59,500	55,500	93
ND	2,300	2,500	109
OH	6,800	6,900	101
PA	11,700	12,000	103
SC	9,100	10,500	115
SD	3,100	3,200	103
VT	35	35	100
VA	25,000	25,000	100
WV	4,500	4,600	102
Other States 3/	31,217	31,289	100
U.S.	302,708	302,819	100

1/ Revised 1996 figures.

2/ Other states category includes GA beginning in 1997.

3/ Combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

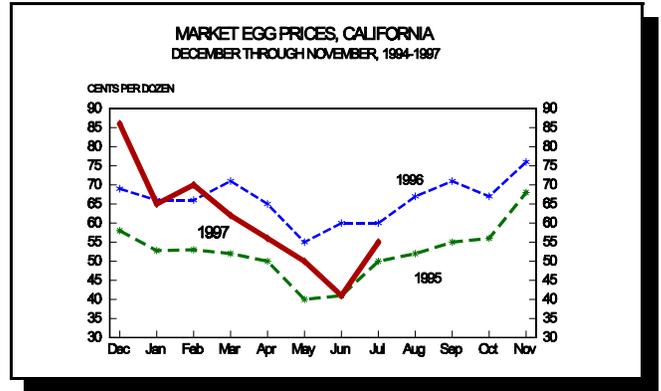
The average July prices received by California producers, when compared to June average prices, increased two cents for broilers. Prices for live turkeys remain unchanged. Prices for market eggs increased 14 cents per dozen.

Nationally, the July average prices received by producers increased 2.7 cents per pound for broilers and 7.1 cents per dozen for market eggs. Turkeys decreased 0.4 cents per pound.

POULTRY AND EGG AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED 1/

Commodity	Unit	July 1996	June 15, 1997	July 15, 1997
--- Cents ---				
CALIFORNIA				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	42.0	38.5	40.5
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	60.0	41.0	55.0
Turkeys	Lb.	45.0	40.0	40.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	40.5	37.4	40.1
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	57.7	45.4	52.5
Turkeys	Lb.	45.0	41.5	41.1

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by producers. They are averages for all grades, classes and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.
 2/ Average for market (table) eggs including eggs sold retail by producers.



PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	July 1996	June 1997 1/	July 1997	July 1997 July 1996	July 1997 June 1997
--- Thousands ---						
PACIFIC COAST						
Turkeys	Lbs.	88,716	81,102	98,791	111	122
Chickens	Lbs.	46,868	45,618	43,065	92	94
Ducks	Lbs.	310	432	396	1285	92
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	135,894	127,152	142,252	105	112
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	718,173	667,721	714,323	99	107
Chickens	Lbs.	623,507	711,658	660,273	106	93
Ducks	Lbs.	1,713	4,305	2,795	163	65
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	1,343,393	1,383,684	1,377,391	103	100
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	13,481	8,582	9,286	69	108

1/ Revised.