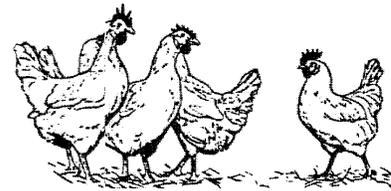


California Poultry Report



Frequency: Monthly
Released: June 30, 1998

(USPS 598-310)
VOL. 19 NO. 6



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

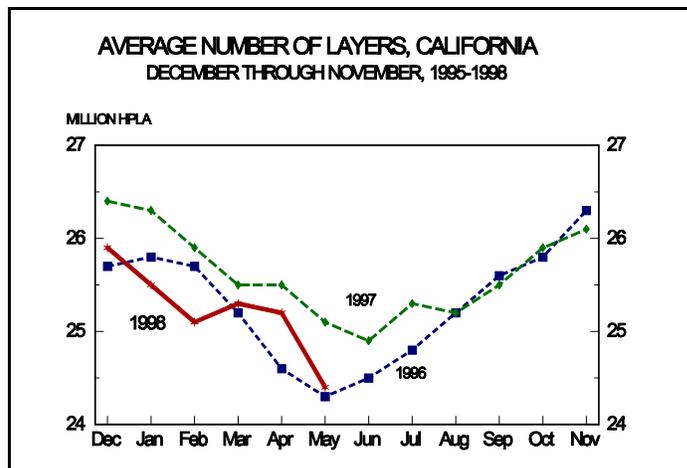
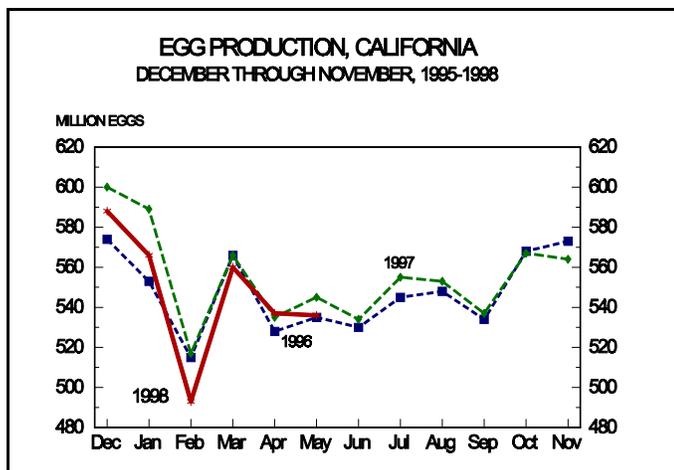
Layer & Egg Production	1 & 3
Chick Hatch & Eggs in Incubators	2
Turkey Poults Hatched & Placed	3
Poultry and Egg Prices	3
Cold Storage Holdings	4

U.S. MAY EGG PRODUCTION

U.S. egg production totaled 6.63 billion during May 1998, up 2 percent from the 6.51 billion produced in 1997. Production included 5.56 billion table eggs and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 62.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 1998 averaged 308 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during May 1997. May egg production per 100 layers was 2,150 eggs, down slightly from May 1997. All layers in the U.S. on June 1, 1998 totaled 308 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 308 million layers consisted of 251 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 54.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on June 1, 1998 averaged 69.1 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from the 70.0 a year ago.

CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during May totaled 536 million, 1.00 million less than last month, and 9.00 million less than last May. Average number of layers during the month averaged 24.4 million, 3 percent below last month and 3 percent below May 1997. Eggs per 100 layers during the month averaged 2,198, compared to 2,134 last month and 2,172 in May 1997.



LAYER NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION DURING MAY, FORCED MOLTING AS OF JUNE 1

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	-- Thousands --		-- Number --		-- Millions --		---- Percent ----			
Alabama	11,092	10,520	1,983	1,939	220	204	2.0	3.0	8.0	12.0
Arkansas	14,469	14,652	1,901	1,904	275	279	1.0	4.5	10.5	7.5
California	26,096	24,382	2,172	2,198	545	536	11.0	9.5	38.0	31.0
Georgia	19,623	20,964	2,033	2,051	399	430	3.0	9.5	20.5	14.0
Indiana	21,094	21,544	2,233	2,293	471	494	4.5	1.0	18.5	25.5
Iowa	21,539	22,997	2,280	2,205	491	507	2.5	5.0	26.0	33.5
North Carolina	12,356	11,278	1,942	1,933	240	218	3.5	1.0	9.5	11.0
Ohio	25,706	27,705	2,287	2,231	588	618	2.0	2.0	12.0	14.5
Pennsylvania	21,308	21,292	2,314	2,283	493	486	4.5	5.0	17.0	16.5
Texas	16,795	17,040	2,078	1,972	349	336	3.5	6.0	19.5	23.5
United States	301,754	308,442	2,156	2,150	6,507	6,632	4.4	4.7	20.9	20.9

U.S. BROILER HATCH

The May 1998 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 740 million, was up 2 percent from May of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 617 million on June 1, 1998, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.06 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during May 1998. This was equal to May 1997.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, MAY

State	1997	1998	1998
			1997
	- Thousands -		Percent
Alabama	94,894	96,057	101
Arkansas	108,185	107,748	100
Delaware	16,820	16,478	98
Florida	9,367	10,184	109
Georgia	107,858	111,552	103
Maryland	31,733	32,229	102
Mississippi	65,266	65,139	100
North Carolina	63,423	63,157	100
Pennsylvania	13,258	13,269	100
South Carolina	15,615	15,460	99
Texas	46,277	45,666	99
Virginia	24,700	24,826	101
California, Tennessee & West Virginia	37,949	40,668	107
Other States 1/	89,390	97,519	109
UNITED STATES	724,735	739,952	102

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

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED

Egg-type chicks hatched during May totaled 39.6 million, up 1 percent from May 1997. Eggs in incubators totaled 36.4 million on June 1, 1998, up 10 percent from a year ago.

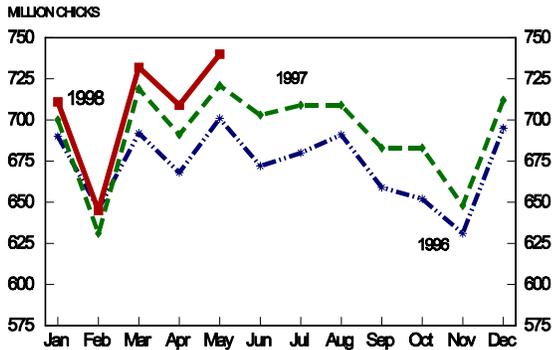
Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 192 thousand during May 1998. This was down 30 percent from the 273 thousand of May 1997.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, MAY

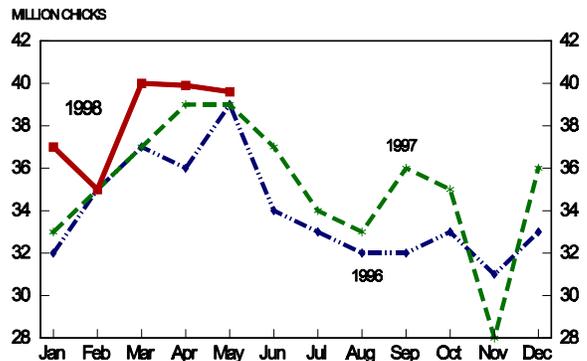
State	1997	1998	1998
			1997
	- Thousands -		Percent
Arkansas	934	819	88
Florida	1,372	1,190	87
Georgia	2,068	2,088	101
Indiana	7,667	6,949	91
Iowa	4,169	4,498	108
Kansas	250	323	129
Minnesota	2,234	2,068	93
Missouri	407	467	115
Pennsylvania	4,967	4,967	100
Other States 1/	15,010	16,233	108
UNITED STATES	39,078	39,602	101

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

**BROILER CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES
JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996-1998**



**EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES
JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996-1998**



EGGS IN INCUBATORS, JUNE 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1997	1998	1998/1997	1997	1998	1998/1997
	-- Thousands --		Percent	-- Thousands --		Percent
North Atlantic	12,252	12,524	102	5,838	6,684	114
East No. Central	7,346	9,509	129	8,458	9,170	108
West No. Central	22,812	23,316	102	6,362	7,021	110
South Atlantic	232,482	233,549	100	4,548	5,111	112
South Central	302,683	314,255	104	2,987	3,488	117
West	22,772	23,969	105	5,036	4,970	99
UNITED STATES	600,347	617,122	103	33,229	36,444	110

QUARTERLY LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- MARCH THROUGH MAY

Geographic Division	Average Number of Layers on Hand:			Total Eggs Produced		
	1997	1998	1998/1997	1997	1998	1998/1997
	-- Thousands --		Percent	-- Thousands --		Percent
Alabama	10,864	10,556	97	642	612	95
Arkansas	14,663	14,836	101	822	839	102
California	25,349	24,941	98	1,646	1,633	99
Georgia	19,839	21,115	106	1,218	1,322	109
Indiana	21,042	21,581	103	1,403	1,453	104
Iowa	21,312	22,991	108	1,413	1,507	107
North Carolina	12,525	11,258	90	727	646	89
Ohio	26,030	27,870	107	1,768	1,867	106
Pennsylvania	21,120	21,628	102	1,465	1,483	101
Texas	16,704	17,189	103	1,040	1,076	103
United States	303,106	310,648	102	19,478	20,034	103

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

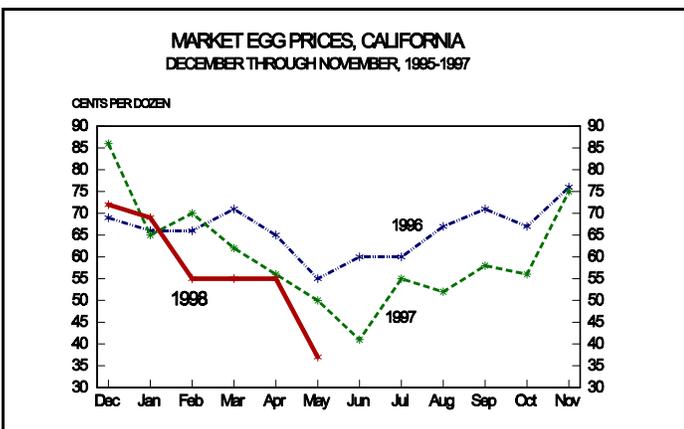
The May average prices received by California producers, when compared to April average prices, remained the same for broilers. Prices for live turkeys also remained the same. Prices for market eggs decreased 17.5 cents per dozen.

Nationally, the May average prices received by producers increased less than one cent per pound for broilers, but decreased less than one cent per pound for live turkeys. Market eggs decreased 10.6 cents per dozen.

POULTRY AND EGG AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY PRODUCERS, COMPARISONS 1/

Commodity	Unit	May 15, 1997	Apr. 15, 1998	May 15, 1998
--- Cents ---				
CALIFORNIA				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	37.5	37.0	37.0
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	50.0	54.5	37.0
Turkeys	Lb.	39.0	37.0	37.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	36.4	36.5	36.9
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	51.1	49.6	39.0
Turkeys	Lb.	41.2	35.7	35.4

- 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.



U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

Turkey eggs in incubators on June 1, 1998 in the United States totaled 33.3 million, down 10 percent from a year ago, but up slightly from May 1, 1998. Regional percentage changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, down 2; W N Central, down 7; N & S Atlantic, down 15; S Central, down 14; West, down 8.

The 25.8 million poult placed during May 1998 in the United States were down 11 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago. Placements were up slightly from the April 1998 total of 25.7 million. Regional percentage changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, down 10; W N Central, down 7; N & S Atlantic, down 17; S Central, down 14; West, down 4.

ALL TURKEYS

Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators June 1		1998 1997	Poult Placed during May 1/		1998 1997
	1997	1998		1997	1998	
	Thousands		Pct.	Thousands		Pct.
E N Central	5,021	4,938	98	3,978	3,569	90
W N Central	11,534	10,780	93	8,688	8,063	93
N&S Atlantic	12,308	10,514	85	9,749	8,090	83
S Central	3,951	3,398	86	3,496	2,998	86
West	4,045	3,707	92	3,200	3,072	96
U.S.	36,859	33,337	90	29,111	25,792	89

- 1/ Excludes exported poult.

TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES 1/

Month	Total All Breeds		97-98	Cumulative Total		97-98
	1996-97	1997-98	96-97	1996-97	1997-98	96-97
	Thousands		Percent	Thousands		Percent
Sept.	24,154	23,907	99	24,154	23,907	99
Oct.	25,354	24,587	97	49,508	48,494	98
Nov.	23,830	23,281	98	73,338	71,775	98
Dec.	27,119	25,711	95	100,457	97,486	97
Jan.	27,121	26,240	97	127,578	123,726	97
Feb.	27,145	25,093	92	154,723	148,819	96
Mar.	27,610	26,362	95	182,333	175,181	96
Apr.	28,220	25,747	91	210,553	200,928	95
May	29,111	25,792	89	239,664	226,720	95
June	28,381			268,045		
July	30,092			298,137		
Aug.	26,321			324,458		

- 1/ Excludes exported poult.

PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	May 1997	April 1998 <u>a/</u>	May 1998	<u>May 1998</u> May 1997	<u>May 1998</u> Apr. 1998
PACIFIC COAST			---- Thousands ----		-- Percent --	
Turkeys	Lbs.	73,639	84,451	92,606	126	110
Chickens	Lbs.	49,329	36,937	30,821	62	83
Ducks	Lbs.	125	382	565	452	148
Total Frozen Poultry	Lbs.	123,093	121,770	123,992	101	102
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	611,775	580,210	616,260	101	106
Chickens	Lbs.	731,490	688,550	666,257	91	97
Ducks	Lbs.	3,225	4,313	5,430	168	126
Total Frozen Poultry	Lbs.	1,346,490	1,273,073	1,287,947	96	101
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	8,154	9,222	12,970	159	141

a/ Revised.