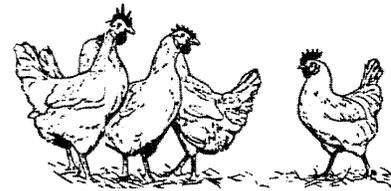


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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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

U.S. APRIL EGG PRODUCTION

U.S. egg production totaled 7.01 billion during April 2000, up 3 percent from the 6.78 billion produced in 1999. Production included 5.91 billion table eggs and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.04 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 2000 averaged 329 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during April 1999. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,130 eggs, up 1 percent from the 2,110 eggs in April 1999.

All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 2000 totaled 328 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 328 million layers consisted of 267 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 58.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.94 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 2000 averaged 70.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from the 70.0 a year ago.

CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during April totaled 516 million, 30.0 million less than last month, and 9.00 million less than last April. Average number of layers during the month totaled 24.0 million, 5 percent below last month and 7 percent below April 1999. Eggs per 100 layers during the month were 2,152 compared to 2,252 last month and 2,089 in April 1999.

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

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Thousands		Number		Millions		Percent			
Alabama	10,656	10,556	1,914	1,895	204	200	4.0	2.5	11.0	10.0
Arkansas	15,069	15,654	1,891	1,885	285	295	2.5	2.0	9.0	6.0
California	25,129	23,973	2,089	2,152	525	516	11.0	7.5	37.5	38.0
Georgia	20,913	20,946	2,018	2,077	422	435	5.5	7.0	17.5	15.5
Indiana	21,934	23,071	2,156	2,224	473	513	4.0	3.5	30.0	33.5
Iowa	25,398	27,685	2,205	2,236	560	619	5.5	1.5	31.5	32.0
North Carolina	11,504	11,042	1,878	1,829	216	202	2.5	0.5	7.5	8.0
Ohio	30,829	31,633	2,271	2,165	700	685	3.0	4.0	12.5	13.5
Pennsylvania	22,590	23,116	2,249	2,241	508	518	6.0	5.0	17.0	19.5
Texas	17,477	17,172	2,031	2,137	355	367	6.5	4.5	21.0	19.0
U.S. TOTAL	321,515	329,271	2,110	2,130	6,784	7,014	5.6	4.0	21.7	22.3

PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	April 1999	March 2000 ^{a/}	April 2000	Apr. 2000 Apr. 1999	Apr. 2000 Mar. 2000
		Thousands			Percent	
PACIFIC COAST						
Turkeys	Lbs.	74,887	46,053	48,176	64	105
Chickens	Lbs.	51,668	50,722	54,978	106	108
Ducks	Lbs.	146	166	159	109	96
Total Frozen Poultry	Lbs.	126,701	96,941	103,313	82	107
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	455,411	387,545	412,940	91	107
Chickens	Lbs.	819,612	810,871	836,102	102	103
Ducks	Lbs.	6,010	3,924	4,277	71	109
Total Frozen Poultry	Lbs.	1,281,033	1,202,340	1,253,319	98	104
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	9,356	8,091	7,119	76	88

^{a/} Revised.

U.S. BROILER HATCH

The April 2000 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 744 million, was up 1 percent from April of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 637 million on May 1, 2000, up slightly from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.76 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 2000. This was down 4 percent from April 1999.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, APRIL

State	1999	2000	2000/1999
	Thousands		Percent
Alabama	95,221	102,460	108
Arkansas	105,621	106,328	101
Delaware	16,288	14,905	92
Florida	10,224	9,843	96
Georgia	110,313	111,153	101
Maryland	30,996	31,529	102
Mississippi	64,211	65,821	103
North Carolina	63,137	63,093	100
Pennsylvania	12,782	12,983	102
South Carolina	16,232	16,665	103
Texas	48,902	52,328	107
Virginia	23,845	24,096	101
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	40,267	41,202	102
Other States ^{1/}	96,695	91,110	94
United States	734,734	743,516	101

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

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED

Egg-type chicks hatched during April totaled 36.6 million, down 13 percent from April 1999. Eggs in incubators totaled 36.9 million on May 1, 2000, up 5 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 309 thousand during April 2000. This was up 8 percent from April 1999.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, APRIL

State	1999	2000	2000/1999
	Thousands		Percent
Arkansas	764	848	111
Florida	1,226	966	79
Georgia	2,033	1,708	84
Indiana	8,260	5,859	71
Iowa	5,254	5,389	103
Kansas	463	417	90
Minnesota	2,012	1,801	90
Missouri	388	388	100
Pennsylvania	6,527	5,148	79
Other States ^{1/}	15,023	14,097	94
United States	41,950	36,621	87

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

EGGS IN INCUBATORS, MAY 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1999	2000	2000/1999	1999	2000	2000/1999
	Thousands		Percent	Thousands		Percent
N Atlantic	11,549	11,694	101	5,691	6,213	109
E N Central	8,995	7,766	86	8,906	7,647	86
W N Central	23,900	21,343	89	7,157	8,299	116
S Atlantic	239,842	238,639	99	4,746	4,111	87
S Central	325,043	331,775	102	3,815	5,473	143
West	26,468	25,502	96	4,769	5,200	109
United States	635,797	636,719	100	35,084	36,943	105

U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

Turkey eggs in incubators on May 1, 2000 in the United States totaled 31.2 million, down 7 percent from May 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were down 5 percent from the April 1 total of 32.8 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: East North Central, down 6 percent; West North Central, down 14 percent; North and South Atlantic, up 6 percent; South Central, down 6 percent; and West, down 16 percent.

The 24.9 million poults placed during April 2000 in the United States were down 7 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 3 percent from the March total of 25.7 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: East North Central, down 14 percent; West North Central, down 16 percent; North and South Atlantic, up 5 percent; South Central, down 4 percent; and West, down 2 percent.

ALL TURKEYS

Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators May 1			Poults Placed during April 1/		
	1999	2000	²⁰⁰⁰ 1999	1999	2000	²⁰⁰⁰ 1999
	Thousands		Pct.	Thousands		Pct.
E N Central	4,985	4,677	94	3,827	3,282	86
W N Central	11,108	9,578	86	9,228	7,718	84
N & S Atlantic	9,531	10,068	106	7,712	8,082	105
S Central	3,540	3,336	94	3,051	2,925	96
West	4,232	3,549	84	2,999	2,925	98
U.S.	33,396	31,208	93	26,817	24,932	93

^{1/} Excludes exported poults.

TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES ^{1/}

Month	Total All Breeds		99-00	Cumulative Total		99-00
	1998-99	1999-00	98-99	1998-99	1999-00	98-99
	Thousands		Percent	Thousands		Percent
Sept.	21,124	21,794	103	21,124	21,794	103
Oct.	22,749	22,313	98	43,873	44,107	101
Nov.	22,167	23,379	105	66,040	67,486	102
Dec.	24,985	25,518	102	91,025	93,004	102
Jan.	24,590	24,676	100	115,615	117,680	102
Feb.	23,722	24,197	102	139,337	141,877	102
Mar.	25,917	25,741	99	165,254	167,618	101
Apr.	26,817	24,932	93	192,071	192,550	100
May	26,085			218,156		
June	25,621			243,777		
July	26,755			270,532		
Aug.	24,755			295,287		

^{1/} Excludes exported poults.

EGG PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Egg producers in California produced 6.61 billion eggs in 1999, virtually the same as last year. The value of eggs produced totaled \$264 million, down 15 percent from the previous year's value of \$309 million.

Nationally, the value of egg production in 1999 was \$4.32 billion, down 3 percent from the \$4.44 billion in 1998. Egg production totaled 82.7 billion eggs, up 4 percent from the 79.8 billion eggs produced in 1998. In 1999, eggs averaged 62.7 cents per dozen, compared with 66.8 cents in 1998.

EGG PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Year	Eggs Produced	Price Per Dozen	Value of Production
	Millions	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA			
1990	7,711	63.3	406,755
1991	7,721	58.4	375,755
1992	7,224	47.6	286,552
1993	7,029	49.1	287,603
1994	6,602	46.4	255,277
1995	6,444	53.7	288,869
1996	6,569	67.1	367,317
1997	6,663	62.1	344,810
1998	6,608	56.1	308,924
1999	6,606	47.9	263,690
UNITED STATES			
1998	79,754	66.8	4,439,446
1999	82,711	62.7	4,322,589

BROILER PRODUCTION AND VALUE

This year and last year, broiler production for California was combined with six other states (IA, IN, LA, ME, OR, and WA) to avoid disclosing production of individual operations. These seven states produced 519 million birds totaling 2.50 billion pounds. The average price per pound was 38.9 cents for a total production value of \$970 million.

Nationally, the value of broilers produced during 1999 was \$15.1 billion, down slightly from 1998. The total number of broilers produced in 1999 was 8.15 billion, up 3 percent from 1998. Broiler production in 1999 totaled 40.8 billion pounds (live weight), up 6 percent from 1998. The 1999 average price per pound (live weight equivalent basis) was 37.1 cents, compared to 39.3 cents in 1998.

BROILER PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Year	Number Produced	Pounds Produced	Price Per Pound 1/	Value of Production 2/
	Thousand Head	Thousand Pounds	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA				
1990	231,100	1,109,280	30.5	252,628
1991	240,200	1,152,960	29.0	296,894
1992	233,000	1,188,300	29.5	274,495
1993	216,000	1,101,600	32.0	312,736
1994	226,200	1,131,000	33.0	341,053
1995	235,800	1,179,000	32.5	339,094
1996	234,200	1,171,000	39.0	361,805
1997	237,300	1,210,200	39.0	338,330
1998	506,100	2,437,500	39.3	958,714
1999 3/	518,760	2,493,900	38.9	970,213
UNITED STATES				
1998	7,934,280	38,553,600	39.3	15,144,551
1999	8,146,010	40,829,800	37.1	15,128,840

1/ Live weight equivalent price.

2/ Gross income including home consumption.

3/ Data for CA, IA, IN, LA, ME, OR, and WA were combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

TURKEY PRODUCTION AND VALUE

California turkey production totaled 429 million pounds (live weight) in 1999, slightly less than the 443 million pounds raised in 1998. Value of production, at \$193 million, was 6 percent above the \$182 million realized in 1998. The annual average of 45 cents per pound was 4 cents above the 1998 average of 41 cents per pound.

Nationally, the value of turkeys produced during 1999 was \$2.84 billion, up 6 percent from the \$2.68 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 1999 totaled 6.95 billion pounds (live weight), compared with 7.05 billion pounds in 1998. The average price received by producers during 1999 was 40.8 cents per pound, compared with 38.0 cents in 1998.

TURKEY PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Year	Number Raised	Pounds Produced 1/	Price Per Pound 2/	Value of Production
	Thousand Head	Thousand Pounds	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA				
1990	31,500	711,900	38.0	270,522
1991	29,000	652,500	37.0	241,425
1992	24,000	508,800	39.0	198,432
1993	22,500	486,000	43.0	208,980
1994	21,000	449,400	43.0	193,242
1995	22,000	462,000	46.0	212,520
1996	22,500	492,750	45.0	221,738
1997	21,000	480,900	42.0	201,978
1998	19,000	442,700	41.0	181,507
1999	17,500	428,750	45.0	192,938
UNITED STATES				
1998	285,204	7,050,944	38.0	2,679,301
1999	272,994	6,947,156	41.0	2,835,389

1/ Includes home consumption.

2/ Live weight equivalent price.

CHICKEN VALUE OF SALES

California's total value of other chickens (excluding broilers) sold in 1999 was \$1.80 million, 10 percent greater than the value of a year earlier. Average price for other chickens was 4.0 cents per pound, compared to 3.4 cents per pound last year.

Nationally, the value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 1999 was \$67.7 million, down 1 percent from the \$75.5 million a year ago. Prices averaged 7 cents per pound, compared with 8 cents in 1998.

CHICKEN PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1/

Year	Number Sold	Price Per Pound	Value
	Thousand Head	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA			
1990	20,000	6.0	4,920
1991	19,600	3.1	2,430
1992	20,000	2.0	1,520
1993	18,100	2.4	1,651
1994	14,300	2.0	1,058
1995	13,300	1.9	910
1996	11,600	2.0	812
1997	15,300	2.3	1,232
1998	13,749	3.4	1,636
1999	12,530	4.0	1,804
UNITED STATES			
1998	193,768	8.1	75,542
1999	204,620	7.0	67,724

1/ Excludes commercial broilers.

PRICES PAID FOR POULTRY FEED

Region	Unit	April 1999	Apr. 15, 2000
		Dollars	
PACIFIC REGION			
Chick Starter Feed	Ton	234	237
Broiler Grower Feed	Ton	237	201
Turkey Grower Feed	Ton	287	264
Laying Feed	Ton	217	212
UNITED STATES			
Chick Starter Feed	Ton	242	249
Broiler Grower Feed	Ton	242	226
Turkey Grower Feed	Ton	261	255
Laying Feed	Ton	208	206

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

The average April prices received by California producers, when compared to March average prices, increased 3 cents per pound for turkeys. Market eggs increased 12 cents per dozen from last month.

Nationally, the April average prices received by producers increased 1.6 cents per pound for broilers and 1.6 cents per pound for turkeys. Market eggs increased 9.5 cents per dozen.

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

Commodity	Unit	April 1999	Mar. 15, 2000	Apr. 15, 2000
		Cents		
CALIFORNIA				
Chickens-Broilers 2/	Lb.	36.4	---	---
Market Eggs 3/	Doz.	45.9	31.8	43.8
Turkeys	Lb.	41.0	45.0	48.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers 2/	Lb.	35.4	34.9	36.5
Market Eggs 3/	Doz.	42.8	38.2	47.7
Turkeys	Lb.	38.7	38.2	39.8

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/ Published annually starting in May 1999.

3/ Average for market (table) eggs including eggs sold retail by producers.