

05/14/2008  
**BC-20-08**

PLACEMENTS UP 3%

For the week ending May 10, 2008, growers placed 12.3 million broiler chicks in Delmarva growing houses, according to the Maryland Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. These placements were 2.6% above the comparable week a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched (11.9 million) increased 0.1% from comparable week in 2007. Eggs set in incubators during the week totaled 13.8 million, a decrease of 2.7% from the same week a year earlier. Federally inspected slaughter on Delmarva was 11.6 million for the week ending May 3, 2008 compared to 11.0 million slaughtered during the same week in 2007.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED ON DELMARVA

| WEEK<br>ENDING        | EGGS SET 1/ |            | CHICKS HATCHED 1/ |            | CHICKS PLACED 2/ |            |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
|                       | PREVIOUS YR | CURRENT YR | PREVIOUS YR       | CURRENT YR | PREVIOUS YR      | CURRENT YR |
| ----- THOUSANDS ----- |             |            |                   |            |                  |            |
| 03/15/2008            | 14,198      | 14,296     | 11,355            | 11,713     | 11,355           | 11,821     |
| 03/22/2008            | 14,193      | 14,058     | 11,459            | 11,916     | 11,754           | 12,024     |
| 03/29/2008            | 14,291      | 14,274     | 11,641            | 11,761     | 11,744           | 11,976     |
| 04/05/2008            | 14,380      | 14,459     | 11,647            | 12,097     | 11,840           | 12,396     |
| 04/12/2008            | 14,499      | 14,077     | 11,715            | 11,882     | 11,948           | 12,099     |
| 04/19/2008            | 14,273      | 14,115     | 11,804            | 11,949     | 12,133           | 12,141     |
| 04/26/2008            | 14,250      | 13,214     | 11,823            | 11,959     | 12,015           | 12,068     |
| 05/03/2008            | 14,143      | 14,077     | 12,029            | 11,784     | 12,121           | 11,987     |
| 05/10/2008            | 14,207      | 13,824     | 11,870            | 11,883     | 12,018           | 12,327     |

1/ For all broiler-type chicks, including those intended for hatchery flocks.

2/ The difference between chicks hatched and placed includes chicks withdrawn for hatchery flocks, inshipments and outshipments. None of those numbers are published to avoid disclosure of proprietary information.

NEGOTIATED PRICE FOR TRUCKLOT OF READY-TO-COOK, ICE-PACK,  
 GRADE A FRYERS (\$ per CWT) 1/

|                       | WEEK ENDING | PREV. | PREV. | PREV. |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                       | 05/17/2008  | WEEK  | MONTH | YEAR  |
| New York Weighted Avg | 82.02       | 78.25 | 74.60 | 77.32 |
| 12-City Composite 2/  | 81.76       | 82.02 | 77.86 | 79.25 |

1/ Source: U.S.D.A., Poultry Market News.

2/ 12-cities: Boston/New England, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco.

**Broiler-Type Eggs Set, 19 Selected States**

| State               | Week Ending     |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                     | Apr 5<br>2008   | Apr 12<br>2008  | Apr 19<br>2008  | Apr 26<br>2008  | May 3<br>2008   | May 10<br>2008  |
|                     | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> |
| AL                  | 31,799          | 31,687          | *31,966         | 32,248          | 31,637          | 31,858          |
| AR                  | 26,966          | 27,171          | *26,532         | 27,071          | 27,317          | 26,670          |
| DE                  | 4,090           | 4,027           | 3,942           | 3,721           | 3,721           | 3,718           |
| FL                  | 1,413           | 1,413           | 1,327           | 1,306           | 1,346           | 1,336           |
| GA                  | 34,911          | 34,137          | 34,651          | 33,997          | 34,630          | 33,949          |
| KY                  | 8,086           | 7,899           | *7,925          | 7,391           | 8,034           | 8,124           |
| LA                  | 3,937           | 3,712           | 3,712           | 3,712           | 3,712           | 3,712           |
| MD                  | 9,106           | 8,779           | 8,995           | 8,223           | 8,812           | 8,840           |
| MS                  | 18,926          | 18,879          | 18,877          | 18,999          | 18,266          | 18,893          |
| NC                  | 19,609          | 19,617          | *19,533         | 19,604          | *19,355         | 19,679          |
| OK                  | 6,368           | 6,580           | 6,682           | 6,252           | 6,655           | 6,822           |
| PA                  | *4,354          | *4,318          | *4,400          | *4,193          | *4,188          | 4,272           |
| SC                  | 5,391           | 5,611           | *5,554          | 5,420           | 5,371           | 5,491           |
| TX                  | 15,697          | 15,588          | 15,076          | 15,346          | 14,656          | 14,846          |
| VA                  | 6,269           | 6,174           | *5,791          | 6,211           | 6,369           | 5,939           |
| CA, MO, TN, & WV    | *20,160         | *20,333         | *19,966         | *19,477         | *19,605         | 19,551          |
| 19 State Total      | *217,082        | *215,925        | *214,929        | *213,171        | *213,674        | 213,700         |
| Previous Year Total | 218,877         | 219,385         | 220,515         | 218,515         | 218,353         | 219,938         |
| Pct. of Prev. Year  | 99              | 98              | 97              | 98              | 98              | 97              |

• Revised

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 214 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 10, 2008. This was down 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

**Broiler Chicks Placed, 19 Selected States**

| State               | Week Ending     |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                     | Apr 5<br>2008   | Apr 12<br>2008  | Apr 19<br>2008  | Apr 26<br>2008  | May 3<br>2008   | May 10<br>2008  |
|                     | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> | <i>Thousand</i> |
| AL                  | 21,853          | 21,303          | 21,674          | 20,738          | *21,475         | 21,111          |
| AR                  | 23,914          | 23,233          | 22,047          | 23,316          | 23,873          | 22,599          |
| DE                  | 4,902           | 4,804           | 4,867           | 4,584           | 4,851           | 5,746           |
| FL                  | 1,291           | 1,333           | 1,191           | 1,255           | 1,145           | 1,271           |
| GA                  | 28,995          | 28,232          | 28,784          | 29,038          | 27,781          | 28,476          |
| KY                  | 6,229           | 6,054           | 6,569           | *6,894          | *6,730          | 6,248           |
| LA                  | 3,715           | 3,726           | 3,607           | 3,344           | 3,784           | 3,147           |
| MD                  | 6,917           | 6,095           | 6,590           | 7,121           | 6,258           | 6,021           |
| MS                  | 17,340          | 17,375          | 17,291          | 17,359          | 17,060          | 17,145          |
| NC                  | 16,072          | 15,997          | 15,649          | 16,128          | *16,510         | 16,008          |
| OK                  | 5,173           | 5,632           | 4,964           | 5,213           | 4,447           | 5,430           |
| PA                  | *3,343          | *3,346          | *3,271          | *3,212          | *3,244          | 3,283           |
| SC                  | 5,159           | 4,776           | 4,418           | 4,434           | 5,151           | 4,812           |
| TX                  | 13,121          | 13,022          | 13,108          | 12,730          | 13,324          | 12,709          |
| VA                  | 5,069           | 5,720           | 5,021           | 4,767           | 4,860           | 4,077           |
| CA, MO, TN, & WV    | *17,914         | *17,060         | *18,201         | *18,143         | *17,051         | 18,447          |
| 19 State Total      | *181,007        | *177,708        | *177,252        | *178,276        | *177,544        | 176,530         |
| Previous Year Total | 177,141         | 177,312         | 177,686         | 180,188         | 180,084         | 180,594         |
| Pct. of Prev. Year  | 102             | 100             | 100             | 99              | 99              | 98              |

• Revised

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 177 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 10, 2008. Placements were down 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2007 through May 10, 2008 were 3.39 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.