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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION UP SLIGHTLY

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 98 million eggs during December, up 1 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 78 million table eggs and 20 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,303,000 birds, up 1 percent from 4,270,000 a year ago. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,277 eggs, compared with 2,272 in 2010.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 7.93 billion during December 2011, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.89 billion table eggs, and 1.04 billion hatching eggs, of which 973 million were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2011 averaged 338 million, down 1 percent from last year. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,344 eggs, up 1 percent from December 2010.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION DECREASES

During the month of December, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 19.3 million chicks, down 3 percent from last year's 19.9 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during December 2011 totaled 760 million, down 3 percent from December 2010. Eggs in incubators totaled 634 million on January 1, 2012, down slightly from a year earlier.