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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 103 million eggs during October, down 5 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 80 million table eggs and 23 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,697,000 birds, down 3 percent from 4,829,000 a year ago. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,193 eggs, compared with 2,236 in 2006.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 7.70 billion during October 2007, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.57 billion table eggs, and 1.13 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.06 billion were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during October 2007 averaged 341 million, down 1 percent from last year. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,253 eggs, up 1 percent from October 2006.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION INCREASES

During the month of September, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 19.9 million chicks, up 2 percent from last year's 19.4 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during October 2007 totaled 795 million, up 3 percent from October 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 634 million on November 1, 2007 up 4 percent from a year earlier.