



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 99 million eggs during July, down 7 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 77 million table eggs and 22 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,644,000 birds, down 7 percent from 5,018,000 a year ago. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,132 eggs, compared with 2,112 in 2006.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 7.57 billion during July 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.44 billion table eggs, and 1.14 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2007 averaged 339 million, down 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,234 eggs, down slightly from July 2006.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION INCREASES

During the month of July, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 19.7 million chicks, up 2 percent from last year's 19.3 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during July 2007 totaled 821 million, up 2 percent from July 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 676 million on August 1, 2007 up 2 percent from a year earlier.