



News Release

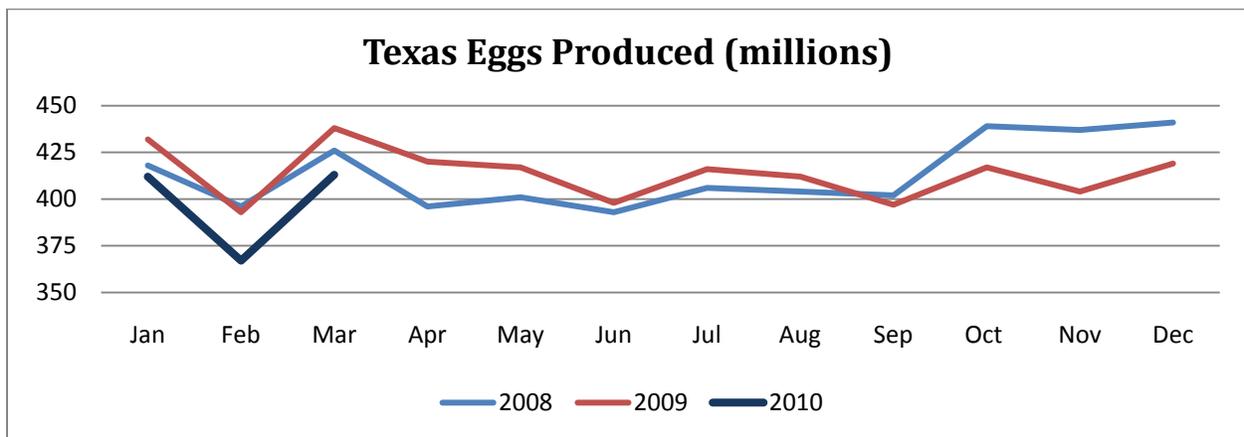
Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture
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Issue No.: PR-129-10, April 23, 2010

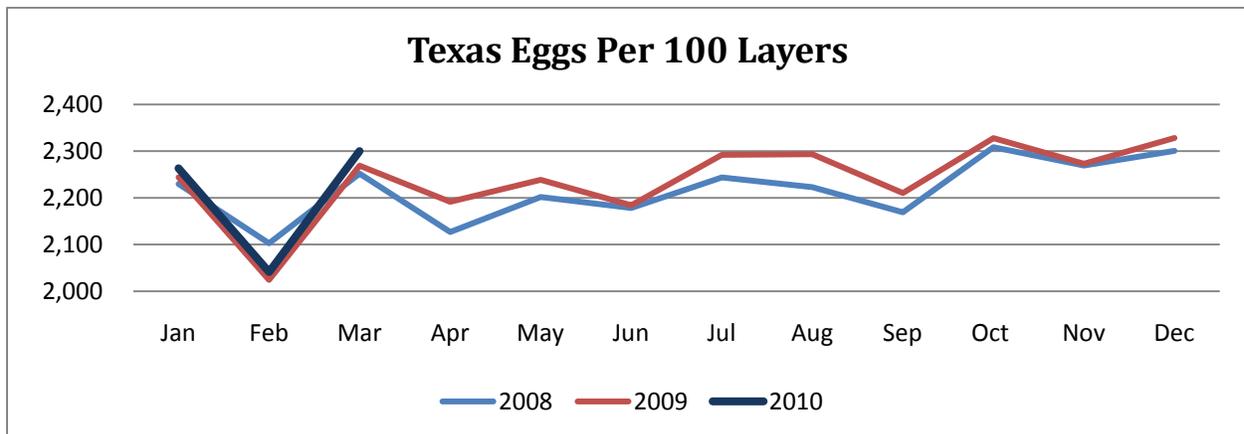
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March Egg Production Down 6 Percent from A Year Ago

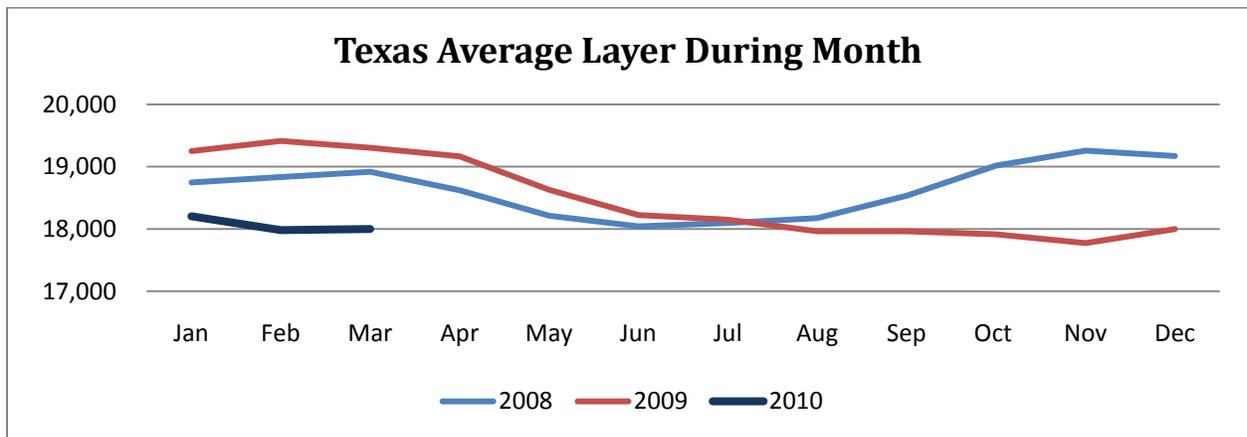
March 2010 egg production in Texas totaled 413 million eggs, down 6 percent from March 2009 and up 13 percent from February 2010, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.



The number of layers during March averaged 18 million, down 7 percent from last year and down slightly from February 2010. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2,300 eggs, up from last year's 2,269 eggs and up from last month's 2,041 eggs.



(Continued)



Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks totaled 58.4 million, down 3 percent from last year.

U.S. Highlights: United States egg production totaled 7.81 billion eggs during March 2010, up 1 percent from a year ago. Production included 6.71 billion table eggs, 1.03 billion broiler-type hatching eggs and 76 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers averaged 341 million during March 2010, up slightly from a year ago. Production per 100 layers was 2,292 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2009.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 45.2 million, up 8 percent from March 2009. The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 787 million, was up slightly from March of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 6.61 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2010, down 2 percent from March 2009.

Link to U.S. Report: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/ChicEggs//2010s/2010/ChicEggs-04-23-2010.pdf>

Link to USDA-NASS website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/index.asp>