



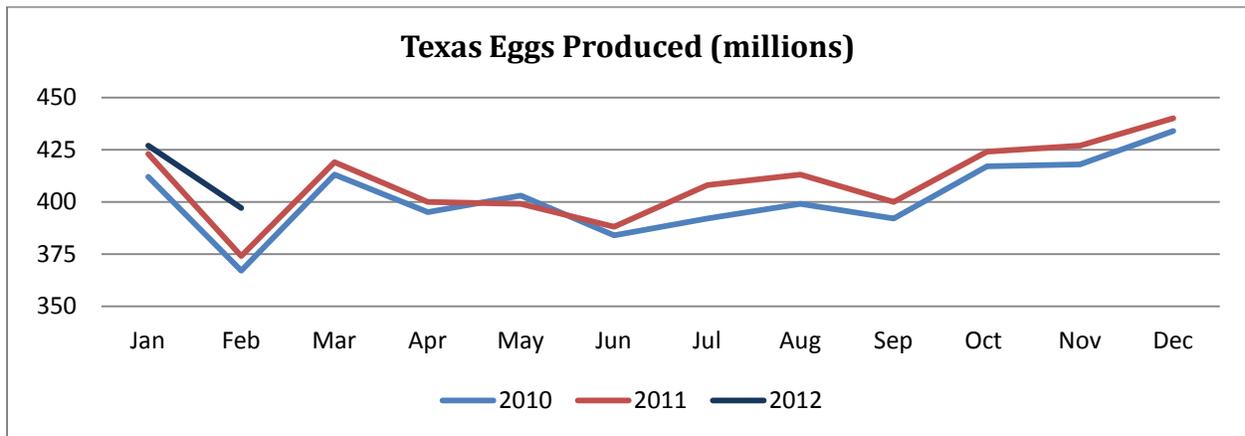
Chicken and Egg Report

Issue No.: PR-115-12, March 22, 2012

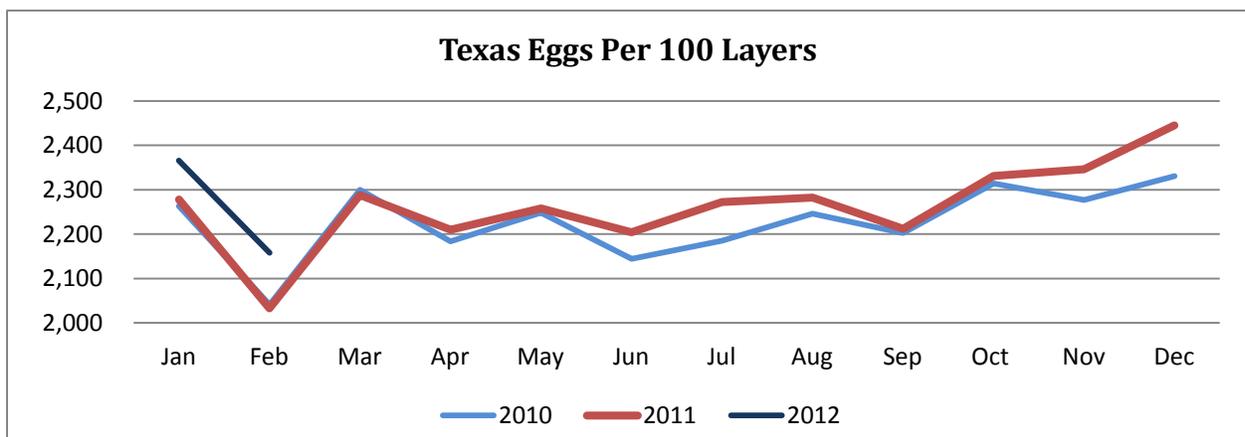
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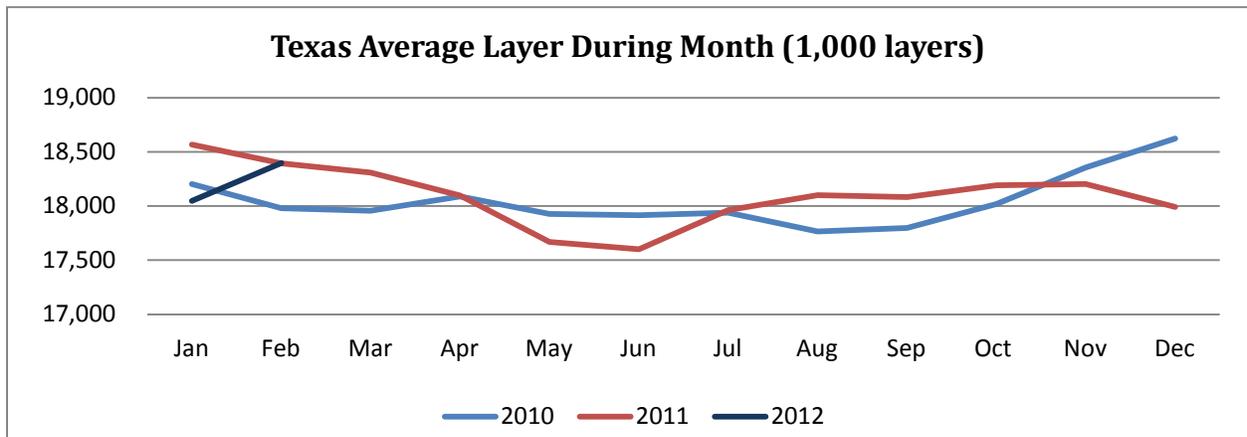
February 2012 egg production in Texas totaled 397 million eggs, up 6 percent from February 2011 but down 7 percent from January 2012, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.



The number of layers during February averaged 18.4 million, virtually unchanged from last year and up 2 percent from January 2012. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2,158 eggs, up from last year's 2,033 eggs, but down from last month's 2,366 eggs.



(Continued)



Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks totaled 51.1 million in February, up 4 percent from last year.

U.S. Highlights: United States egg production totaled 7.24 billion during February 2012, up 3 percent from last year. Production included 6.25 billion table eggs, 914 million broiler-type hatching eggs and 73 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers totaled 339 million on March 1, down slightly from last year. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2012, averaged 74.0 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from March 1, 2011.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 39.3 million during February 2012, up 5 percent from February 2011. The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 705 million, was down 1 percent from February of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 7.03 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2012, down 1 percent from February 2011.

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Link to U.S. Report: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1028>