



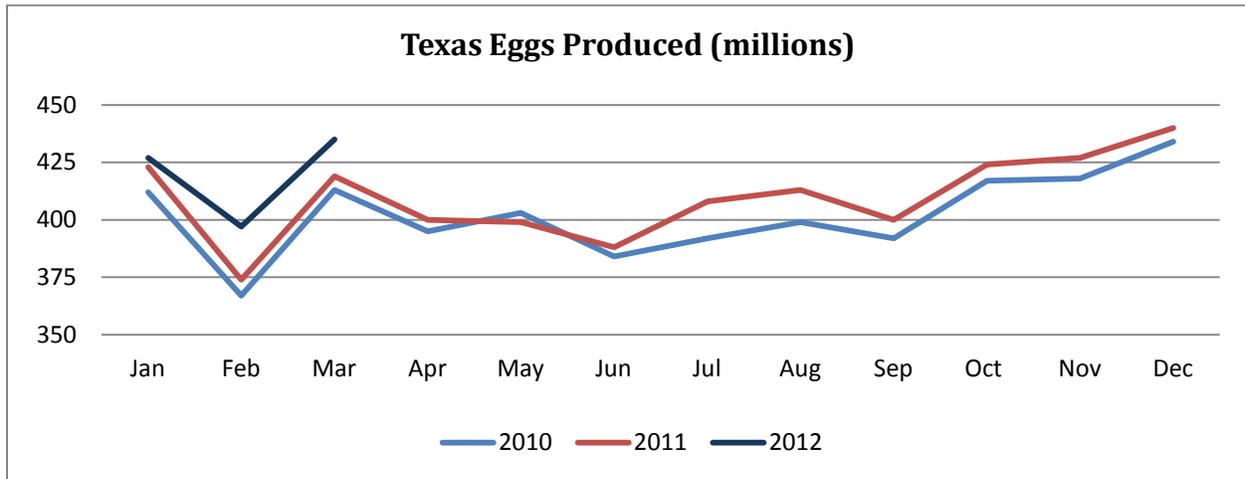
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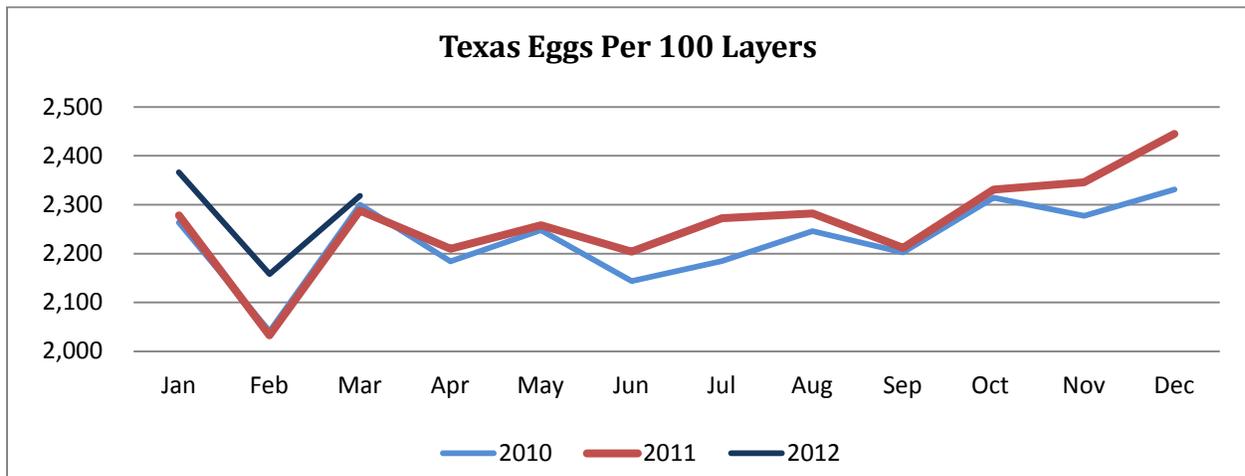
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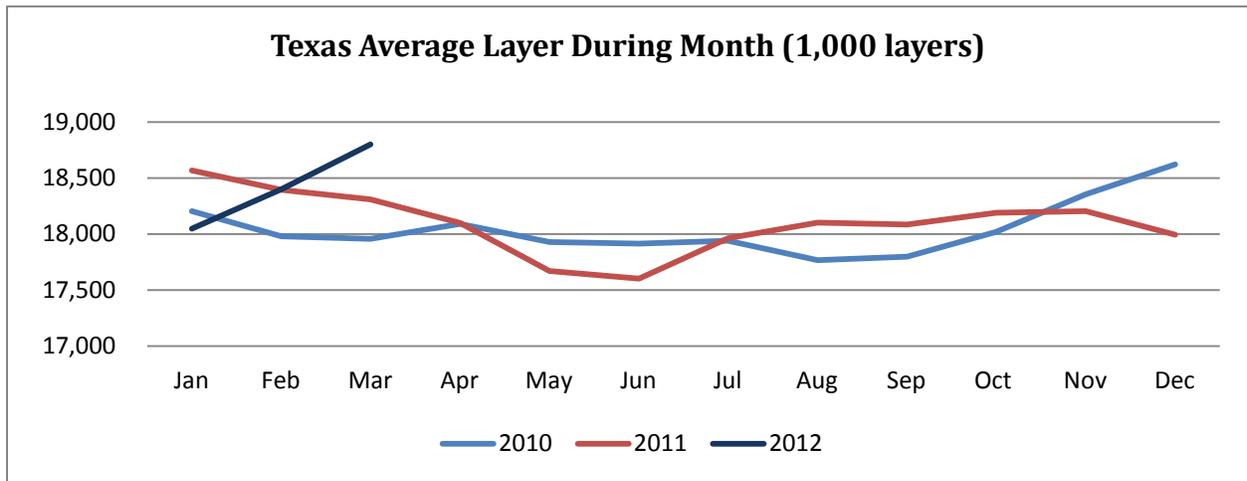
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March 2012 egg production in Texas totaled 435 million eggs, up 4 percent from March 2011 and up 10 percent from February 2012, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.



The number of layers during March averaged 18.8 million, up 3 percent from last year and up 2 percent from February 2012. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2,318 eggs, up from last year's 2,288 eggs and up from last month's 2,158 eggs. Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks totaled 56.3 million, virtually unchanged from last year.





U.S. Highlights: United States egg production totaled 7.86 billion eggs during March 2012, up slightly from a year ago. Production included 6.80 billion table eggs, 981 million broiler-type hatching eggs and 78 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers averaged 340 million during March 2012, down slightly from a year ago. Production per 100 layers was 2,313 eggs during March, up 1 percent from last year.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 40.6 million, down 7 percent from March 2011. The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 764 million, was down 4 percent from March of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 6.73 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2012, down 5 percent from March 2011.

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