

POULTRY

CHICKENS

The total number of chickens on hand December 1, 2004 (excluding broilers), was 2.26 million head, up 10 percent from the number of head in 2003. The value per head at \$5.60 was up \$0.90 from the value of 2003. Total inventory value was \$12.7 million, 31 percent above the 2003 total value. Value of sales of chickens (excluding commercial broilers) was \$1.1 million, up 19 percent from 2003.

EGGS

Egg production in West Virginia during the production year (December 1, 2003- November 30, 2004) totaled 273 million eggs. This was 1 percent above the revised 2003 production of 271 million eggs. Layer numbers during 2004 averaged 1.26 million, up 2 percent from the revised average number of layers in 2003. The average annual production per layer was 217 eggs, 3 eggs less than the 2003 average. The average price per dozen was \$1.42, down 9 cents from 2003. The total value of production was \$32.3 million, down 5 percent from the revised \$34.1 million in 2003.

BROILERS

There were 86.4 million broilers produced in West Virginia during 2004, 1 percent below the 2003 production of 87.2 million. Total pounds produced was 354.2 million pounds, down from the 357.5 million pounds in 2003. Value of production totaled \$155.8 million, up 28 percent from the \$121.6 million in 2003. The average live weight equivalent price of \$0.44 per pound was up \$0.10 from the \$0.34 per pound in 2003.

TURKEYS

Turkeys raised in West Virginia totaled 3.2 million birds, down 26 percent from the 2003 total. Total pounds produced was 70.7 million pounds, down 23 percent from the 92.0 million pounds produced in 2003. Value of production totaled \$29.7 million, down 10 percent from the \$33.1 million in 2003. The average live weight equivalent price of \$0.42 per pound was up \$0.06 from the \$0.36 per pound in 2003.

VALUE OF PRODUCTION AND SALES

The combined value of production from eggs, broilers and turkeys and the value of sales from chickens in 2004 was \$219.0 million, up 15 percent from the revised combined value of \$189.7 million in 2003.

EGGS: Production, Disposition and Income, 1995-2004

Year	Layers ^{1/}	Eggs Produced Per Layer ^{2/}	Total Eggs Produced	Price Per Dozen	Value of Production
	(000) Birds	Number	Million Eggs	Dollars	(000) Dollars
1995	1,100	217	239	1.18	23,502
1996	1,046	217	227	1.19	22,511
1997	1,081	227	245	1.21	24,704
1998	1,147	213	244	1.24	25,179
1999	1,099	218	240	1.25	25,037
2000	1,051	240	252	1.45	30,379
2001	1,092	215	235	1.41	27,575
2002	1,223	214	262	1.40	30,602
2003	1,231*	220	271*	1.51	34,128*
2004	1,259	217	273	1.42	32,325

^{1/} Average number during the year. ^{2/} Eggs produced during year divided by average layers on hand during year. *Revised.