



**DELMARVA AGRICULTURE DATA
WEEKLY BROILER CHICKS REPORT**

02/04/04
BC-5-04

PLACEMENTS DOWN 5%

For the week ending Jan 31, 2004, growers placed 11.2 million broiler chicks in Delmarva growing houses, according to the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service. These placements were 4.7% below the comparable week a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched (11.2 million) decreased 4.7% from the comparable week in 2003. Eggs set in incubators during the week totaled 13.4 million, a decrease of 8.6% from the same week a year earlier. Federally inspected slaughter on Delmarva was 9.8 million for the week ending Jan 24, 2004 compared to 10.3 million slaughtered during the same week in 2003.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED ON DELMARVA

WEEK ENDING	EGGS SET 1/		CHICKS HATCHED 1/		CHICKS PLACED 2/	
	PREVIOUS YR	CURRENT YR	PREVIOUS YR	CURRENT YR	PREVIOUS YR	CURRENT YR
----- THOUSANDS -----						
12/06/03	14,436	13,695	11,299	10,958	11,299	11,048
12/13/03	14,403	13,762	11,369	11,250	11,369	11,250
12/20/03	14,322	13,719	12,011	11,507	12,011	11,507
12/27/03	14,316	13,621	11,830	11,278	11,830	11,278
01/03/04	14,357	13,595	11,810	11,385	11,810	11,385
01/10/04	14,432	13,634	11,692	11,233	11,694	11,233
01/17/04	14,339	13,755	11,592	11,151	11,593	11,151
01/24/04	14,404	13,656	11,741	11,217	11,743	11,217
01/31/04	14,662	13,401	11,744	11,191	11,744	11,191

1/ For all broiler-type chicks, including those intended for hatchery flocks.

2/ The difference between chicks hatched and placed includes chicks withdrawn for hatchery flocks, inshipments and outshipments. None of those numbers are published to avoid disclosure of proprietary information.

* Revised.

**NEGOTIATED PRICE FOR TRUCKLOT OF READY-TO-COOK, ICE-PACK,
GRADE A FRYERS (\$ per CWT) 1/**

	WEEK ENDING	PREV.	PREV.	PREV.
	02/07/04	WEEK	MONTH	YEAR
New York Weighted Avg	77.17	73.58	62.57	56.39
12-City Composite 2/	74.90	72.54	65.57	60.13

1/ Source: U.S.D.A., Poultry Market News.

2/ 12-cities: Boston/New England, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco.