



Ag Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Volume 03-07

Released: April 28, 2003

Featured Statistics:

Soybean County Estimates	2
Wheat Average Yields	4
Poultry Slaughtered	5
Red Meat Production	6
Farming Sector Balance Sheet	6
Catfish Processed	7
Chicken Hatcheries	8

Mississippi Egg Production

Mississippi egg production totaled 140 million during March 2003, up 2 percent from a year ago. Production included 47.0 million table eggs and 93 million hatching eggs. The total number of layers during March 2003 averaged 6.84 million, up slightly from a year ago. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,046 eggs, up 2 percent from March 2002.

Data Sources: Primary data for the “Chickens and Eggs” report are from weekly and/or monthly questionnaires sent to producers. An attempt is made to collect information for layer and egg estimates from each known

contractor and independent producer who has over 30,000 table egg layers. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers is estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 900 contractors, independent egg producers, and starter pullet operators are contacted each month. All known hatcheries, approximately 330, are contacted for information on a weekly and/or monthly basis.

March Egg Production, Selected States and United States, 2002 - 2003

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Million Eggs						
Alabama	199	190	57	54	142	136
Arkansas	289	298	109	107	180	191
Florida	230	244	217	235	13	9
Georgia	433	433	255	259	178	174
Illinois	78	83	74	79	4	4
Indiana	498	521	485	508	13	13
Maryland	74	67	70	64	4	3
Minnesota	275	258	265	249	10	9
Mississippi	137	140	45	47	92	93
North Carolina	216	215	78	78	138	137
Oklahoma	82	81	47	47	35	34
Pennsylvania	552	578	535	562	17	16
South Carolina	118	121	99	101	19	20
Virginia	69	62	32	23	37	39
United States	7,417	7,363	6,312	6,256	1,104	1,107

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

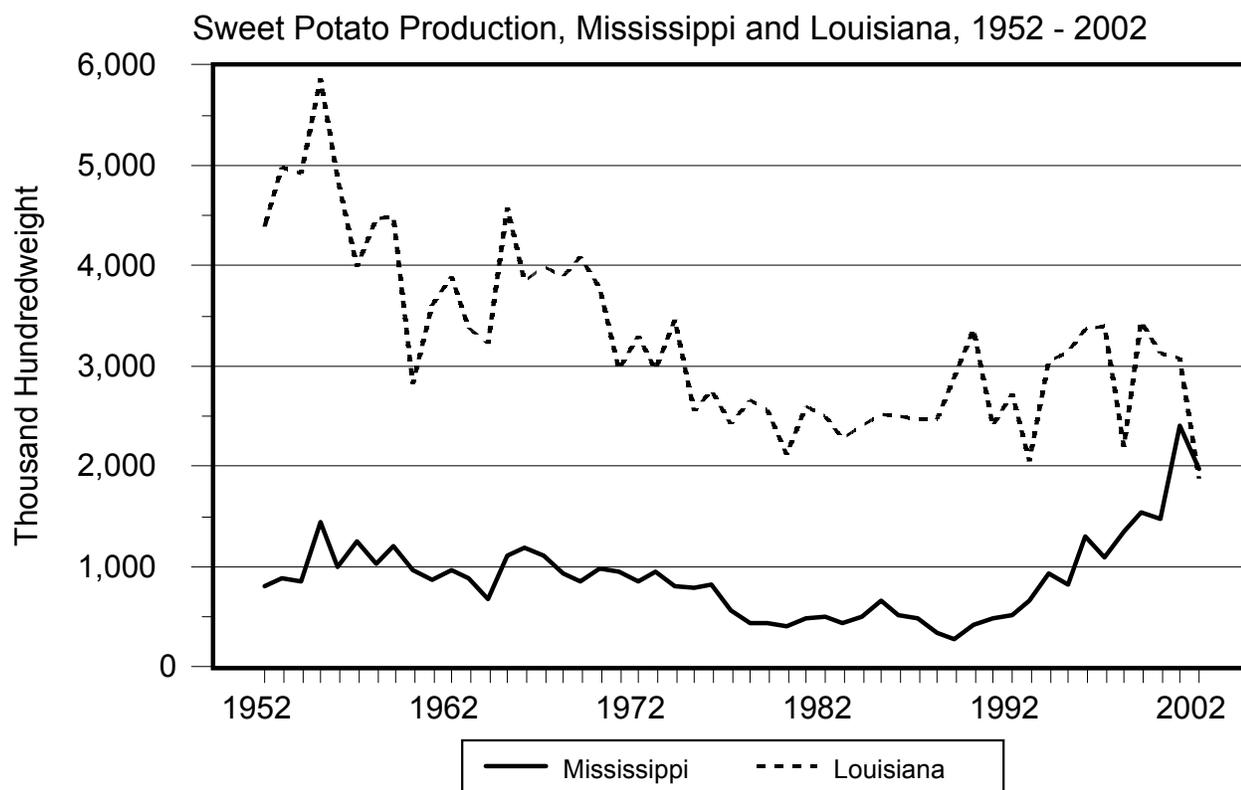
Mississippi Soybean County Estimates, 2001-2002

County	Planted		Harvested for Beans		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres				Bushels			
Bolivar	161,000	181,900	157,600	177,200	37.0	38.6	5,828,000	6,848,000
Coahoma	74,400	92,600	72,100	87,100	35.4	37.7	2,550,000	3,280,000
Quitman	53,400	72,700	51,300	66,100	29.6	27.5	1,521,000	1,819,000
Tallahatchie	69,200	96,700	67,200	87,300	34.6	29.0	2,323,000	2,535,000
Tunica	71,300	74,500	69,600	73,300	29.4	30.9	2,043,000	2,267,000
District 10	429,300	518,400	417,800	491,000	34.1	34.1	14,265,000	16,749,000
Benton	7,600	9,200	6,700	8,800	28.5	28.6	191,000	252,000
Calhoun	8,900	8,200	8,500	6,900	30.7	28.8	261,000	199,000
DeSoto	35,800	32,000	35,400	30,800	31.0	27.7	1,097,000	852,000
Grenada	5,400	5,700	5,100	5,600	32.2	28.4	164,000	159,000
Lafayette	5,200	4,500	4,900	4,300	28.8	29.8	141,000	128,000
Marshall	21,200	20,800	20,800	20,300	29.2	29.5	607,000	599,000
Panola	28,500	31,800	27,800	30,300	30.6	27.5	852,000	834,000
Tate	20,900	19,100	20,300	18,600	32.9	27.4	667,000	510,000
Yalobusha	2,300	2,400	2,000	2,300	33.0	30.9	66,000	71,000
District 20	135,800	133,700	131,500	127,900	30.8	28.2	4,046,000	3,604,000
Alcorn	11,400	10,900	10,900	10,600	31.7	23.3	346,000	247,000
Itawamba	8,600	9,200	8,300	8,500	25.7	20.8	213,000	177,000
Lee	40,400	39,000	40,000	38,400	26.7	20.1	1,067,000	773,000
Pontotoc	22,000	20,000	21,400	19,700	26.0	21.1	556,000	416,000
Prentiss	18,900	18,600	18,200	18,000	28.0	20.0	510,000	360,000
Tippah	8,700	9,100	8,300	8,800	27.7	35.1	230,000	309,000
Tishomingo	2,600	2,800	2,400	2,700	30.0	20.7	72,000	56,000
Union	22,600	21,600	22,300	21,300	30.0	27.1	670,000	577,000
District 30	135,200	131,200	131,800	128,000	27.8	22.8	3,664,000	2,915,000
Humphreys	15,800	39,900	14,200	36,500	32.7	26.4	464,000	963,000
Issaquena	32,000	36,600	30,800	34,800	30.9	25.1	952,000	874,000
Leflore	58,100	90,700	56,500	87,100	35.9	36.6	2,029,000	3,184,000
Sharkey	25,300	50,800	24,800	48,300	34.8	34.1	863,000	1,645,000
Sunflower	99,000	131,200	95,900	128,300	34.3	33.6	3,290,000	4,306,000
Washington	88,200	123,400	85,700	118,800	36.8	41.1	3,152,000	4,881,000
Yazoo	10,600	24,700	10,000	22,600	29.5	29.2	295,000	659,000
District 40	329,000	497,300	317,900	476,400	34.7	34.7	11,045,000	16,512,000
Carroll	3,300	4,200	3,000	4,000	34.3	27.3	103,000	109,000
Holmes	3,700	14,900	3,500	14,100	36.3	30.6	127,000	431,000
Madison	1,200	1,900	1,000	1,700	34.0	26.5	34,000	45,000
Montgomery	---	1,400	---	1,300	---	32.3	---	42,000
Rankin	1,900	---	1,700	---	35.9	---	61,000	---
Other Counties	3,500	3,800	2,500	2,600	36.0	32.7	90,000	85,000
District 50	13,600	26,200	11,700	23,700	35.5	30.0	415,000	712,000

Mississippi Soybean County Estimates, 2001-2002—Cont.

County	Planted		Harvested for Beans		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres				Bushels			
Chickasaw	12,000	14,800	11,400	14,100	32.3	25.5	368,000	359,000
Clay	9,200	8,100	8,800	7,400	33.4	26.2	294,000	194,000
Lowndes	13,900	15,300	12,900	13,500	36.9	22.4	476,000	302,000
Monroe	26,100	28,500	24,900	27,400	29.4	22.9	732,000	627,000
Noxubee	19,400	19,900	18,800	18,900	32.0	32.3	601,000	610,000
Oktibbeha	2,800	---	1,900	---	32.6	---	62,000	---
Other Counties	800	2,400	600	1,200	28.3	28.3	17,000	34,000
District 60	84,200	89,000	79,300	82,500	32.2	25.8	2,550,000	2,126,000
Hinds	3,300	2,000	3,200	1,900	26.9	30.5	86,000	58,000
Warren	12,800	17,000	12,300	16,000	33.0	30.6	406,000	489,000
Other Counties	11,100	19,000	10,100	17,400	34.6	31.0	349,000	539,000
District 70	27,200	38,000	25,600	35,300	32.9	30.8	841,000	1,086,000
District 80	---	4,000	---	3,500	---	24.3	---	85,000
District 90	---	2,200	---	1,700	---	30.0	---	51,000
Other Districts	5,700	---	4,400	---	30.5	---	134,000	---
State Total	1,160,000	1,440,000	1,120,000	1,370,000	33.0	32.0	36,960,000	43,840,000

--- Included in Other Counties.



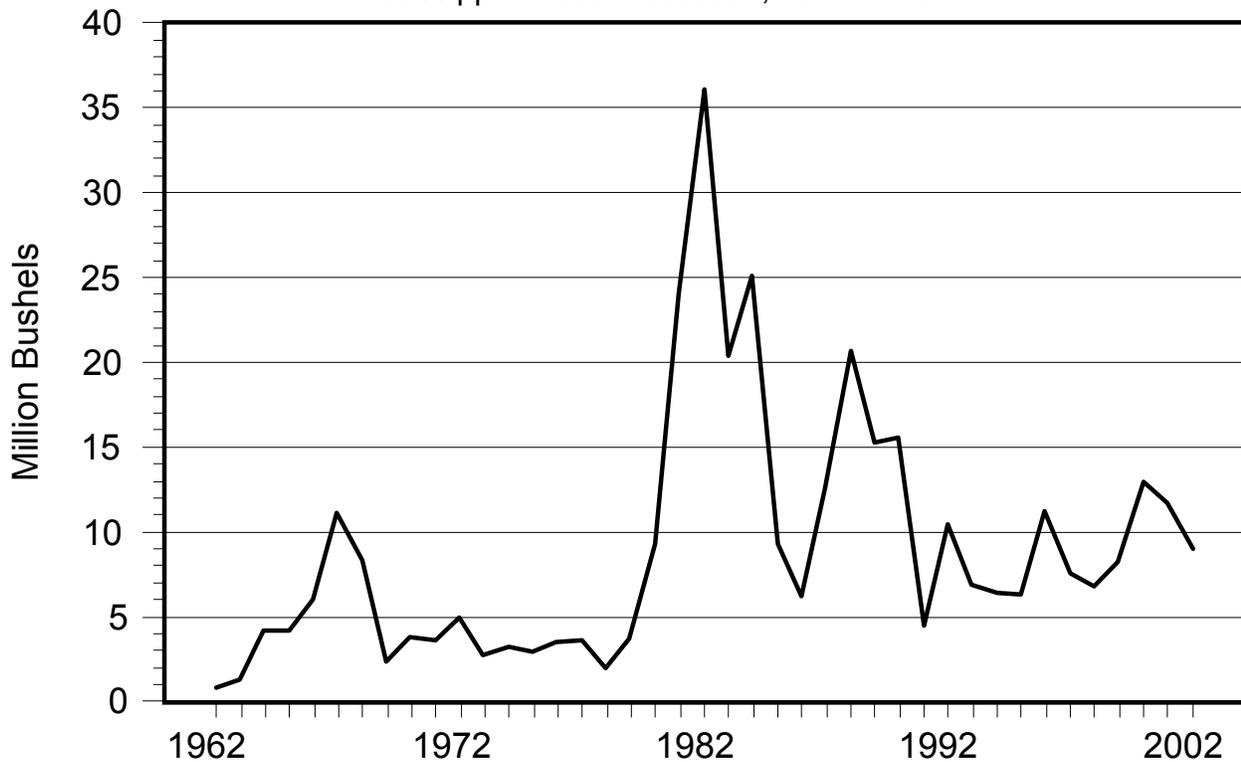
Wheat Average Yields, 1998-2002

County	Number of Years	Average Yield
Bolivar	5	52.6
Coahoma	5	50.8
Quitman	5	51.0
Tallahatchie	5	50.0
Tunica	5	49.7
District 10	5	51.4
Benton	1	41.2
DeSoto	5	50.2
Marshall	5	45.9
Panola	5	48.2
Tate	5	46.4
District 20	5	48.1
District 30	5	41.8
Humphreys	5	50.4
Issaquena	5	50.0
Leflore	5	51.8
Sharkey	5	51.9
Sunflower	5	49.7
Washington	5	51.9
Yazoo	5	49.4
District 40	5	50.7

County	Number of Years	Average Yield
Carroll	1	40.3
Holmes	1	43.0
District 50	5	44.3
Chickasaw	5	40.4
Lowndes	5	45.5
Noxubee	4	47.4
District 60	5	43.5
Claiborne	2	43.9
Warren	1	47.8
District 70	5	47.3
District 80	5	45.8
District 90	5	40.9
State Average	5	49.6

The Agency did not publish a yield for every county each year. Whenever publication of county yields would reveal individual data, publication was suspended.

Mississippi Wheat Production, 1962 - 2002



**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, February 2001 - 2002**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	72,598	76,478	364,535	388,063	5.02	5.07
Arkansas	88,464	91,639	431,990	451,814	4.88	4.93
Florida	8,954	9,885	48,239	55,466	5.39	5.61
Georgia	89,693	94,304	442,868	469,085	4.94	4.97
Kentucky	18,208	18,896	90,891	95,752	4.99	5.07
Louisiana	12,688	13,618	58,731	69,603	4.63	5.11
Mississippi	53,352	58,397	259,531	297,547	4.86	5.10
Missouri	27,202	28,969	123,538	138,865	4.54	4.79
North Carolina	52,350	53,403	307,409	317,831	5.87	5.95
South Carolina	16,862	18,838	89,725	104,834	5.32	5.57
Tennessee	18,211	18,683	84,618	87,172	4.65	4.67
Texas	44,506	47,114	217,453	230,468	4.89	4.89
Virginia	25,791	27,163	125,236	128,159	4.86	4.72
United States	8,406,313	8,546,240	42,335,507	43,715,247	5.04	5.12

¹ Average weight based on unrounded data.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and
Post-Mortem Condemnations, February 2001 - 2002**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N. Y. Dressed Weight		Percent ²	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Percent	
Alabama	268,768	286,048	4,975	3,822	1.52	1.09
Arkansas	310,005	325,724	5,959	5,550	1.53	1.36
Florida	34,599	38,997	794	606	1.83	1.21
Georgia	328,041	333,081	4,968	3,922	1.25	0.93
Kentucky	67,958	71,311	432	654	0.53	0.76
Louisiana	41,505	46,832	498	418	0.94	0.67
Mississippi	199,615	226,890	2,368	1,967	1.01	0.73
Missouri	90,098	100,868	1,656	1,425	1.49	1.14
North Carolina	227,078	246,301	4,447	3,985	1.61	1.39
South Carolina	65,904	76,420	1,196	880	1.48	0.93
Tennessee	60,268	62,568	785	649	1.03	0.83
Texas	167,626	179,970	2,529	1,842	1.29	0.89
Virginia	90,799	93,125	1,518	1,204	1.35	1.04
United States	31,265,809	32,239,722	464,846	381,610	1.22	0.97

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Commercial Red Meat Production: by Selected States and United States
March 2003 with Comparisons ¹

State	March 2002	February 2003	March 2003	March 2003 as Percent of ²	
				March 2002	February 2003
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Alabama	4.6	3.4	3.6	78	103
Arkansas	5.6	3.9	6.2	111	157
Florida	5.4	5.1	5.6	103	109
Georgia	22.8	19.2	20.7	91	108
Kentucky	35.2	33.2	36.0	102	108
Louisiana	1.4	1.4	1.3	89	90
Mississippi	23.7	22.1	24.0	101	109
Missouri	35.0	33.0	35.2	100	107
North Carolina	167.3	168.0	172.5	103	103
Oklahoma	78.5	72.8	78.5	100	108
South Carolina	20.4	18.5	19.8	97	107
Tennessee	16.2	16.2	19.6	121	121
Texas	366.8	335.5	369.2	101	110
United States	3,677.7	3,496.5	3,701.1	101	106

¹ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

² Percentages based on unrounded data.

Balance Sheet of the United States Farming Sector, 1998 - 2002

Item	1998	1999	2000	2001 ¹	2002 ¹
	Billion Dollars				
Farm Assets	1,085.3	1,140.8	1,188.3	1,230.4	1,239.5
Real Estate	840.4	886.4	929.5	971.3	981.0
Livestock & Poultry ²	63.4	73.2	76.8	76.3	75.9
Machinery & Motor Vehicles	91.7	92.3	92.0	92.5	93.6
Crops Stored ^{3,4}	29.9	28.3	27.9	28.5	28.4
Purchased Inputs	5.0	4.0	4.9	4.6	4.6
Financial Assets	54.8	56.6	57.1	57.1	56.0
Total Farm Debt	172.9	176.4	184.0	192.8	196.5
Real Estate Debt ⁴	89.6	94.2	97.5	103.1	104.6
Non-Real Estate Debt ⁵	83.2	82.2	86.5	89.8	91.9
Total Farm Equity	912.4	964.4	1,004.3	1,037.5	1,042.9
Selected Ratios	Percent				
Debt to Equity	18.9	18.3	18.3	18.6	18.8
Debt to Assets	15.9	15.5	15.5	15.7	15.9

¹ Forecast.

² As of December 31.

³ Non-CCC crops held on farms plus value above loan rates for crops held under CCC.

⁴ Includes CCC storage and drying facilities loans, but excludes debt on operator dwellings.

⁵ Excludes debt for nonfarm purposes.

United States Catfish: Sales, Average Price and Ending Inventory, March 2002-2003

Item	Sales Volume		Average Price		Ending Inventory	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Pounds		Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
Fresh						
Whole Fish	3,862	4,339	1.30	1.35	225	211
Fillets ¹	6,010	6,715	2.49	2.44	474	495
Other ²	1,375	1,599	1.54	1.51	83	120
Total Fresh	11,247	12,653	1.96	1.95	782	826
Frozen						
Whole Fish	1,472	1,500	1.81	1.84	997	1,794
Fillets ¹	11,783	11,494	2.37	2.43	7,317	5,194
Other ²	4,143	4,838	1.56	1.60	2,138	2,245
Total Frozen	17,398	17,832	2.13	2.16	10,452	9,233
Total Fresh & Frozen	28,645	30,485	2.06	2.07	11,234	10,059

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Includes all products not already reported including weight of breading and added ingredients.

² Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.

United States Farm-Raised Catfish: Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers by Major Processors, and United States Imports, 2002-2003

Month	Round Weight Processed				Average Price Paid to Producers ¹		Imports of Catfish ²	
	Monthly		Cumulative		2002	2003	2002	2003
	2002	2003	2002	2003				
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars Per Pound		(000) Pounds	
January	52,551	55,523	52,551	55,523	.549	.529	1,037	1,322
February	52,856	55,461	105,407	110,984	.555	.544	1,048	260
March	58,340	65,007	163,747	175,991	.565	.585	414	
April	50,694		214,441		.561		618	
May	52,902		267,343		.574		1,491	
June	49,450		316,793		.588		982	
July	52,363		369,156		.590		957	
August	54,383		423,539		.582		632	
September	53,366		476,905		.576		670	
October	56,576		533,481		.568		572	
November	50,072		583,553		.560		874	
December	47,048		630,601		.544		906	

¹ Price for fish delivered to processing plant door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements.

² Pounds of frozen boneless fillets. Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

**Chicken Hatcheries: Number and Incubator Egg Capacity
by Region and United States, January 1, 2002 and 2003 ¹**

Geographic Region	Hatcheries		Incubator Egg Capacity	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Number		1,000	
	Chicken Hatcheries			
North Atlantic	24	24	26,986	26,256
East North Central	25	24	25,399	24,615
West North Central	39	35	47,572	52,419
South Atlantic	94	93	305,888	301,274
South Central	117	116	426,358	417,114
West	23	25	42,479	39,438
United States	322	317	874,682	861,116

¹ Hatchery capacity is defined as the number of eggs the machines can hold in a controlled environment favorable for hatching. All setter, hatcher, and inactive capacities are included.