



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

22 Bridge St, Third Floor
PO Box 1444
Concord, NH 03302

Aubrey R. Davis, Director
www.usda.gov/nass

603-224-9639
Fax: 603-225-1434
nass-nh@nass.usda.gov



September 14, 2004 - For Immediate Release - Please Inform Others

USDA TO MEASURE NEW ENGLAND TURKEY INDUSTRY

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2004 is 263 million head, down four percent from 2003. Massachusetts is expected to decrease production from last year, while Connecticut, Vermont, and New Hampshire productions are projected to be similar to the 2003 outputs. The preliminary turkeys raised estimate is based on data collected from turkey hatcheries nationwide regarding poults placed. A more complete and up-to-date count is taken when turkeys are about to be slaughtered each fall.

Over 500 New England turkey growers will be mailed a form in mid-October asking for information about turkeys raised in 2004. Growers who have not returned their form by November 1 will be called early to avoid conflict with the busy Thanksgiving period. This effort is a census of all known turkey operations regardless of size. If you have not received a questionnaire as of November 1, please call 1-800-642-9571 so you can be counted in this annual census of your industry.

USDA's annual Fall Turkey Inquiry is the only chance to officially measure final turkey production in 2004. Along with flock sizes, information on weights, average prices received, and mortality will be requested. As with all surveys conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, individual information is kept strictly confidential and is even exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports are only used in combination to establish State and National estimates.

National survey results will be released in the **Turkeys Report** from Washington, D.C. in mid-January, 2005. All reports are available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/ within minutes of the scheduled release time. Statistics specific to the New England States will be reprinted in the January issue of the **Ag Review**. The monthly New England **Ag Review** is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.

[The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, it is responsible for agricultural statistics in all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at nass-nh@nass.usda.gov. All National statistics and State-level newsletters are available through free e-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/.]

For More Information Contact: John Miyares at 1-800-642-9571 x122.