



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

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

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USDA TO MEASURE CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION

USDA's Chickens and Eggs survey is the only chance to officially measure the entire layer industry in New England for 2004. This annual survey is part of a National study to establish official USDA estimates for 2004 egg production as well as layer, pullet, and rooster inventories as of December 1. The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is responsible for conducting this survey across all six States in the region. All New England operations with hatchery flocks as well as growers with table egg flocks having more than 3,000 layers will be contacted. As with all surveys conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, individual operator information is kept **strictly confidential** and is exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports are only used in combination with other reports to establish State and National estimates.

In late November, approximately 30 New England poultry operations will receive questionnaires in the mail. In mid-December, non-respondents will be phoned and asked to help with this important project. The results of the survey are used by farmers, grower associations, extension specialists, suppliers, lenders, and lawmakers when reviewing farm practices and policies.

National survey results will be released in the **Layers and Egg Production** report from Washington, D.C. in February, 2005. All reports are available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass within minutes of the scheduled release time. Statistics are also reprinted in the monthly **Ag Review**. This monthly New England newsletter is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh and complimentary copies are also 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 free from E-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.]

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