

# OKLAHOMA POULTRY

## 2003 POULTRY REVIEW

Burt Bartlett

Total chickens (excluding broilers) in Oklahoma on December 1, 2003 climbed to 5.65 million birds, down 1 percent from last year. Hens and pullets of laying age, at 4.14 million head, were down 1 percent from 2002's record high. Pullets not yet of laying age increased 1 percent from one year ago. The number of other chickens (mostly roosters) decreased 16 percent from last year. The average value per bird was down 90 cents from the previous year. Total inventory value of all chickens, excluding broilers, was \$22.62 million, down 20 percent.

Total egg production for the year ending November 30, 2003, was 933 million eggs, 2 percent below last year. The annual average number of laying hens was 4.13 million head with an average number of eggs per 100 layers of 226, down 1 percent from a year ago. The price per dozen eggs increased 9.5 cents from last year to 92.7 cents per dozen. The total value of eggs produced in 2003 totaled \$72.07 million, up 9 percent from 2002.

The State's broiler production, concentrated mostly in the eastern part of the state, was 223 million birds, down 4 percent from 2002's record-high production. The total liveweight pounds produced was 1.12 billion, 2 percent below last year's record-high production. The average price per pound for broilers, at 34 cents, was up 4 cents from a year ago. The total value of broiler production increased 11 percent to \$379 million, due largely to the increase in the price of broilers. Oklahoma was ranked number 11 in the nation in the number of broilers produced in 2003.