

Poultry Production Summary, 1999 *By J. Scott Lemmons*

The combined value of Pennsylvania's poultry production from broilers, eggs and turkeys, plus the value of chicken sales in 1999, was \$634.0 million, a 4 percent decrease from 1998. Of the combined total, 44 percent was from egg production, 41 percent from broiler production, 15 percent from turkey production, and less than 1 percent was from the sale of other chickens.

Inventory of all chickens, excluding broilers, on December 1, 1999, was 27.9 million. Hens and pullets of laying age numbered 22.8 million, 1 percent above the previous year. Hens and pullets of laying age included 11.1 million hens one year old and over and 11.7 million pullets of laying age. Pullets not of laying age totaled 5.0 million on December 1. Pullets not of laying age included 2.5 million pullets, 3 months old and older, and 2.5 million under 3 months of age. Other chickens numbered 115,000. Total value of chicken inventory on December 1, 1999, was \$50.2 million. Pennsylvania ranked 6th in the United States for all chicken inventory on December 1, 1999.

Pennsylvania laying flocks produced 6.14 billion eggs from December 1, 1998, through November 30, 1999, up 3 percent from the previous year. Total value of egg production based on an average price received by producers during the year of 39.0 cents per dozen for all eggs was \$276.6 million, down 10 percent from the previous year. An average of 22.6 million hens in Commonwealth flocks layed an average of 271 eggs each during the year. Pennsylvania ranked 4th in egg production in 1999.

Broiler production from December 1, 1998, through November 30, 1999, was valued at \$260,332,000, down 2

percent from 1998. A total of 135.3 million broilers were produced during the year.

Average live weight of broilers produced was 5.2 pounds per bird, for a total production of 703,600,000 pounds. The average price received per pound for live broilers was 37.0 cents. Pennsylvania ranked 15th in number of broilers produced in 1999.

Turkey producers raised 9.8 million poults during 1999, compared with 10.5 million produced in 1998. Producers received an average of 42.0 cents per pound live weight for turkeys in 1999. Total value of turkey production from December 1, 1998, through November 30, 1999, was \$93.4 million. Pennsylvania ranked 8th in number of turkeys produced in 1999.

Commercial hatcheries hatched nearly 151.4 million broiler-type chicks during 1999, up less than 1 percent from the previous year. Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 64.6 million for 1999, slightly more than in 1998. Pennsylvania ranked 2nd in egg-type chickens hatched and 11th in broiler-type chicks hatched.

Data in the following tables result from voluntary responses from Pennsylvania poultry producers and agri-businesses. Primary surveys used for these tables include the Weekly & Monthly Hatchery Reports, Monthly Turkey Hatchery Report, Monthly Chicken & Egg Survey, and Annual Turkeys Raised Inquiry. Additional data are obtained from Quarterly Agriculture Surveys and Acreage & Livestock Surveys conducted throughout 1999.

Pennsylvania: Value of Poultry Production, 1999

