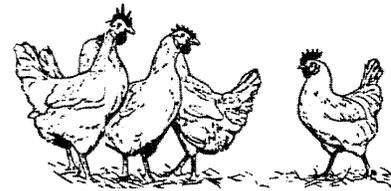


California Poultry Report



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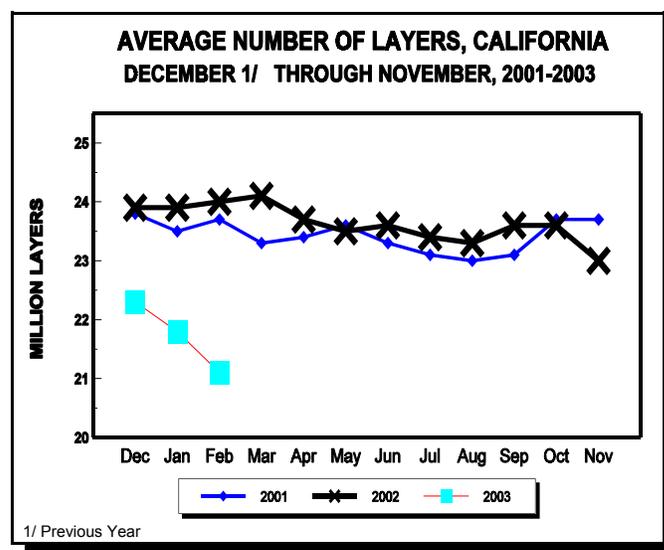
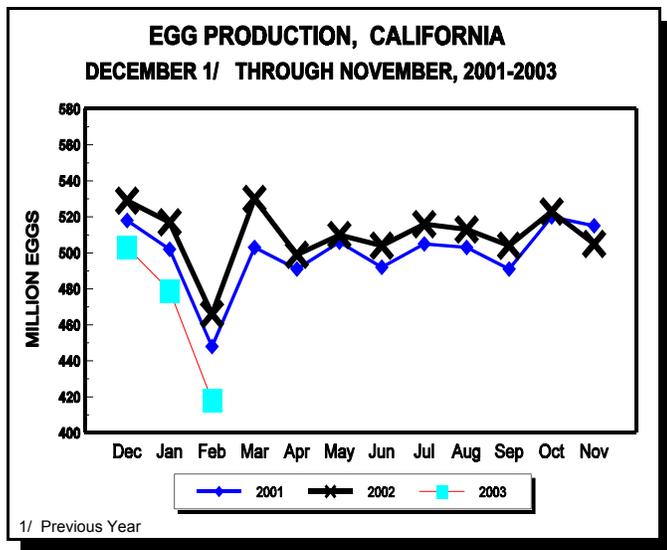
U.S. FEBRUARY EGG PRODUCTION

U.S. egg production totaled 6.62 billion during February 2003, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 5.63 billion table eggs and 985 million hatching eggs, of which 927 million were broiler-type and 58.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2003 averaged 338 million, up slightly from a year earlier. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,957 eggs, up 1 percent from February 2002.

All layers in the U.S. totaled 338 million on March 1, 2003, up slightly from a year ago. The 338 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table type eggs, 57.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.62 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate-of-lay per day averaged 69.6 eggs per 100 layers on March 1, 2003, down 1 percent from a year ago.

CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during February totaled 418 million, 61.0 million less than last month and 52.0 million less than last February. Average number of layers during the month totaled 21.1 million, 3.2 percent below last month, and 12.1 percent lower than February 2002. Eggs per 100 layers during the month were 1,981 compared to 2,194 last month and 1,956 in February 2002.



LAYER NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION DURING FEBRUARY, FORCED MOLTING AS OF MARCH 1

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousands		Number		Millions		Percent			
Alabama	10,567	9,975	1,732	1,724	183	172	2.5	0.5	8.5	10.0
Arkansas	14,935	15,271	1,701	1,716	254	262	1.5	0.5	6.5	10.5
California	24,037	21,104	1,956	1,981	470	418	4.0	5.5	31.5	39.5
Georgia	20,928	20,375	1,821	1,850	381	377	3.5	1.0	13.0	16.0
Indiana	22,223	22,872	1,975	2,007	439	459	9.0	4.5	29.5	30.5
Iowa	36,236	37,738	2,037	2,009	738	758	3.5	4.0	31.0	34.0
North Carolina	11,146	11,141	1,723	1,741	192	194	0.0	1.0	7.5	10.0
Ohio	30,068	30,133	1,979	1,958	595	590	2.5	8.0	19.5	23.5
Pennsylvania	23,656	24,403	2,114	2,131	499	520	3.5	2.5	20.0	18.5
Texas	18,943	18,720	1,863	1,939	353	363	5.0	0.5	20.0	25.5
UNITED STATES	337,991	338,190	1,947	1,957	6,581	6,617	3.7	3.3	22.2	23.6

U.S. BROILER HATCH

The February 2003 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 695 million, was down 1 percent from February of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 630 million on March 1, 2003, down 3 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.70 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2003, down 8 percent from February 2002.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, FEBRUARY

State	2002	2003	$\frac{2003}{2002}$
	Thousands		Percent
Alabama	97,410	91,495	94
Arkansas	100,381	101,976	102
Delaware	11,771	11,607	99
Florida	7,529	5,224	69
Georgia	102,976	102,398	99
Kentucky	21,788	22,105	101
Maryland	31,651	32,096	101
Mississippi	62,327	63,505	102
North Carolina	61,281	59,258	97
Oklahoma	20,927	22,177	106
Pennsylvania	11,171	11,185	100
South Carolina	14,921	15,610	105
Texas	50,822	48,505	95
Virginia	21,668	21,995	102
California, Louisiana, Missouri, Tennessee and West Virginia	64,466	64,647	100
Other States ^{1/}	21,487	20,807	97
UNITED STATES	702,576	694,590	99

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED

Egg-type chicks hatched during February totaled 30.0 million, down 13 percent from February 2002. Eggs in incubators totaled 30.5 million on March 1, 2003, down 7 percent from a year ago.

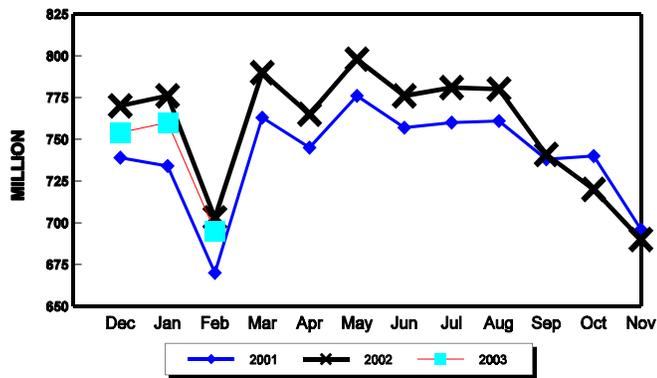
Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 221 thousand during February 2003, down 11 percent from February 2002.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, FEBRUARY

State	2002	2003	$\frac{2003}{2002}$
	Thousands		Percent
Arkansas	811	814	100
Florida	611	620	101
Georgia	2,157	2,229	103
Indiana	4,883	4,197	86
Iowa	4,356	5,101	117
Minnesota	1,360	1,465	108
Pennsylvania	4,094	3,709	91
Other States ^{1/}	16,054	11,853	74
UNITED STATES	34,326	29,988	87

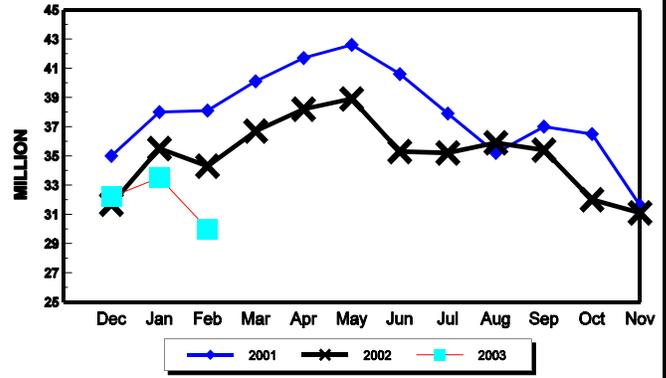
^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**BROILER CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES
DECEMBER 1/ THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2001-2003**



^{1/} Previous Year

**EGG TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES
DECEMBER 1/ THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2001-2003**



^{1/} Previous Year

EGGS IN INCUBATORS, MARCH 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	2002	2003	$\frac{2003}{2002}$	2002	2003	$\frac{2003}{2002}$
	Thousands		Percent	Thousands		Percent
North Atlantic	12,592	11,107	88	4,821	4,338	90
East North Central	7,491	7,362	98	7,413	6,303	85
West North Central	21,529	20,132	94	6,520	6,382	98
South Atlantic	242,047	233,214	96	3,941	2,838	72
South Central	343,017	334,647	98	5,117	5,332	104
West	23,047	23,725	103	5,021	5,354	107
UNITED STATES	649,723	630,187	97	32,833	30,547	93

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

The average February prices received by California producers, when compared to January average prices, decreased 10 cents per dozen for market eggs. Monthly statistics on California turkey prices have been discontinued.

Nationally, the February average prices received by producers decreased one cent per pound for broilers, and turkey prices decreased slightly compared to last month. Prices for market eggs decreased 6.3 cents per dozen.

POULTRY AND EGG AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	February 2002	January 2003	February 2003
		Cents		
CALIFORNIA				
Market Eggs ^{2/} ^{3/}	Doz.	30.0	53.0	43.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	34.0	35.0	34.0
Market Eggs ^{2/} ^{3/}	Doz.	36.6	52.9	46.6
Turkeys ^{3/}	Lb.	34.1	34.6	34.5

^{1/} The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by producers. They are averages for all grades, classes and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

^{2/} Average for market (table) eggs sold retail by producers.

^{3/} Mid-month prices.

U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

Turkey eggs in incubators in the U.S. totaled 31.3 million on March 1, 2003, down 4 percent from March 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 2 percent above the February 2003 total of 30.7 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: East North Central, down 1 percent; West North Central, up 2 percent; North and South Atlantic, down 8 percent; South Central, down slightly; and West, down 21 percent.

The 23.8 million poult placed during February 2003 in the United States were down 2 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 6 percent from the January 2003 total of 25.4 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: East North Central, down 1 percent; West North Central, up 3 percent; North and South Atlantic, down 3 percent; South Central, down 16 percent; and West, down 6 percent.

REGIONAL TURKEY POULT PLACEMENT AND EGGS IN INCUBATORS

Geographic Division	Eggs In Incubators March 1		2003 2002	Poults Placed During February ^{1/}		2003 2002
	2002	2003		2002	2003	
	Thousands	Thousands	Pct.	Thousands	Pct.	
EN Central	4,881	4,816	99	3,557	3,539	99
WN Central	11,720	11,954	102	8,939	9,227	103
N & S Atlantic	10,002	9,171	92	7,247	7,065	97
S Central	2,892	2,886	100	2,496	2,104	84
West	3,101	2,444	79	2,027	1,898	94
U.S.	32,596	31,271	96	24,266	23,833	98

^{1/} Excludes exported poults.

U.S. TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS ^{1/}

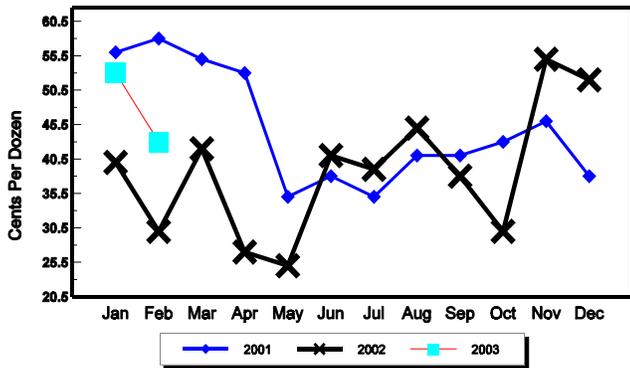
Month	Total All Breeds		02-03 01-02	Cumulative Total		02-03 01-02
	2001-02	2002-03		2001-02	2002-03	
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	
Sept.	22,414	22,670	101	22,414	22,670	101
Oct.	24,128	23,811	99	46,542	46,481	100
Nov.	24,226	23,987	99	70,768	70,468	100
Dec. ^{2/}	24,499	23,977	98	95,267	94,445	99
Jan. ^{2/}	25,880	25,389	98	121,147	119,834	99
Feb.	24,266	23,833	98	145,413	143,667	99
Mar. ^{3/}	25,746			171,159		
Apr. ^{3/}	26,184			197,343		
May	25,551			222,894		
June ^{3/}	24,409			247,303		
July ^{3/}	25,646			272,949		
Aug.	24,924			297,873		

^{1/} Excludes exported poults.

^{2/} Revised in 2003.

^{3/} Revised in 2002.

**MARKET EGG PRICES, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 2001-2003**



PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	February 28, 2002	January 31, 2003 ^{a/}	February 28, 2003	Feb. 2003 Feb. 2002	Feb. 2003 Jan. 2003
		Thousands			Percent	
PACIFIC COAST						
Turkeys	Lbs.	40,313	30,072	45,272	112	151
Chickens	Lbs.	39,517	50,740	49,282	125	97
Ducks	Lbs.	92	84	79	86	94
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	79,922	80,896	94,633	118	117
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	413,243	423,070	478,862	116	113
Chickens	Lbs.	736,295	723,235	674,688	92	93
Ducks	Lbs.	6,575	5,222	5,135	78	98
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	1,156,113	1,151,527	1,158,685	100	101
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	13,903	15,340	17,112	123	112

^{a/} Revised.