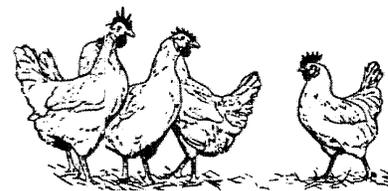


California Poultry Report



Frequency: Monthly
Released: March 29, 2005

(USPS 598-310)
VOL. 26 NO. 3



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Layer and Egg Production	1
Chick Hatch -- Eggs in Incubators	2
Turkey Poults Hatched and Placed	3
Poultry and Egg Prices	3
Cold Storage Holdings	3

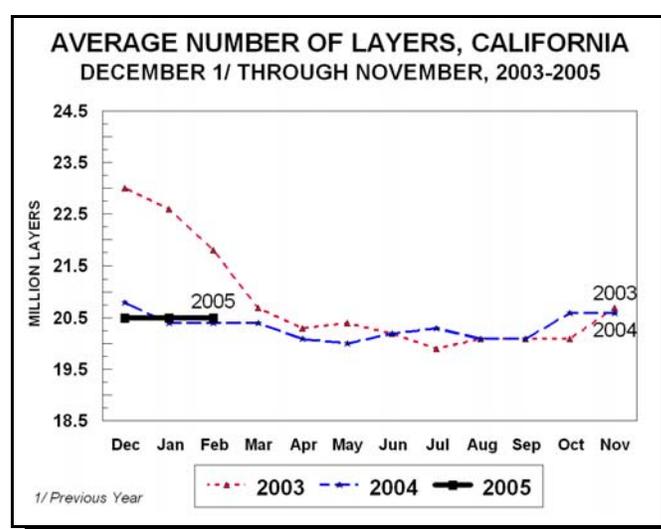
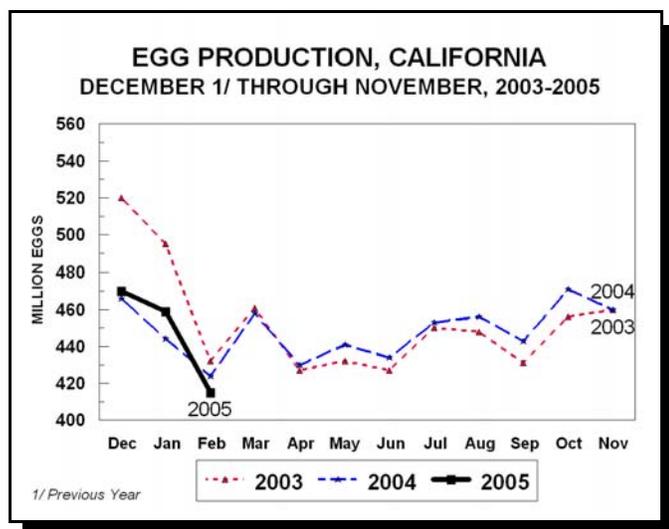
U.S. FEBRUARY EGG PRODUCTION

U.S. egg production totaled 6.91 billion during February 2005, up slightly from last year. Production included 5.90 billion table eggs, and 1.01 billion hatching eggs, of which 956 million were broiler-type and 58.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2005 averaged 349 million, up 3 percent from a year earlier. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,980 eggs, down 3 percent from February 2004.

CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during February totaled 415 million, 44.0 million less than from last month and 9.00 million below last February. The average number of layers during the month totaled 20.5 million, slightly higher than last month and 1 percent more than February 2004. Eggs per 100 layers during the month were 2,020 compared to 2,238 last month and 2,077 in February 2004.

All layers in the U.S. totaled 349 million on March 1, 2005, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 349 million layers consisted of 289 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.64 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate-of-lay per day averaged 71.4 eggs per 100 layers on March 1, 2005, up 1 percent from a year ago.



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	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Thousands		Number		Millions		Percent			
Alabama	9,190	9,232	1,752	1,787	161	165	0.0	0.5	3.5	5.0
Arkansas	15,869	15,099	1,758	1,729	279	261	2.5	2.0	8.0	10.0
California	20,416	20,546	2,077	2,020	424	415	2.5	2.0	31.0	32.0
Georgia	20,567	20,958	1,940	1,894	399	397	2.5	2.0	13.0	15.5
Indiana	23,084	23,545	2,071	2,005	478	472	4.5	2.0	33.0	32.5
Iowa	40,453	49,860	2,158	2,006	873	1,000	12.0	5.0	40.0	32.5
North Carolina	10,894	10,948	1,781	1,790	194	196	1.5	1.5	8.0	7.0
Ohio	27,109	28,129	1,999	1,984	542	558	7.0	6.0	21.5	22.5
Pennsylvania	23,938	24,455	2,168	2,135	519	522	3.5	2.5	20.0	15.5
Texas	18,534	18,142	1,996	2,006	370	364	1.5	1.0	23.0	19.5
UNITED STATES	339,647	348,974	2,032	1,980	6,901	6,908	4.6	3.0	23.4	23.0

U.S. BROILER HATCH

The February 2005 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 731 million, was up slightly from February of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 659 million eggs on March 1, 2005, up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.21 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2005, down 2 percent from February 2004.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, FEBRUARY

State	2004	2005	<u>2005</u> <u>2004</u>
	Thousands		Percent
Alabama	101,222	100,258	99
Arkansas	105,663	104,000	98
Delaware	12,772	13,004	102
Florida	4,669	4,483	96
Georgia	113,447	111,770	99
Kentucky	22,017	23,483	107
Louisiana	12,538	13,446	107
Maryland	29,362	28,134	96
Mississippi	67,390	67,202	100
North Carolina	60,569	60,474	100
Oklahoma	21,139	21,794	103
Pennsylvania	12,018	12,951	108
South Carolina	12,313	16,705	136
Texas	50,491	50,004	99
Virginia	21,598	21,485	99
California, Missouri, Tennessee and West Virginia	58,395	60,356	103
Other States 1/	22,333	21,725	97
UNITED STATES	727,936	731,274	100

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

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED

Egg-type chicks hatched during February totaled 32.9 million, up 3 percent from February 2004. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.7 million on March 1, 2005, up 1 percent from a year ago.

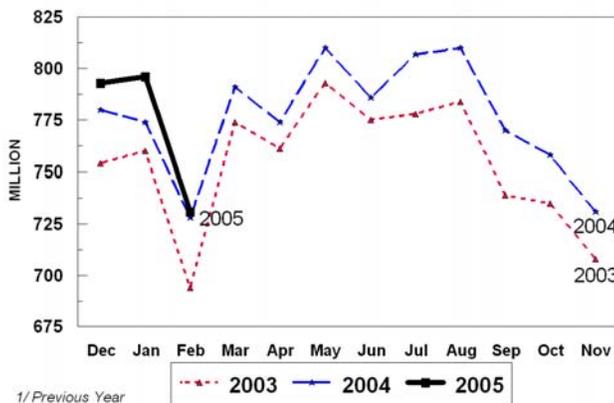
Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 208 thousand during February 2005, down 27 percent from February 2004.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, FEBRUARY

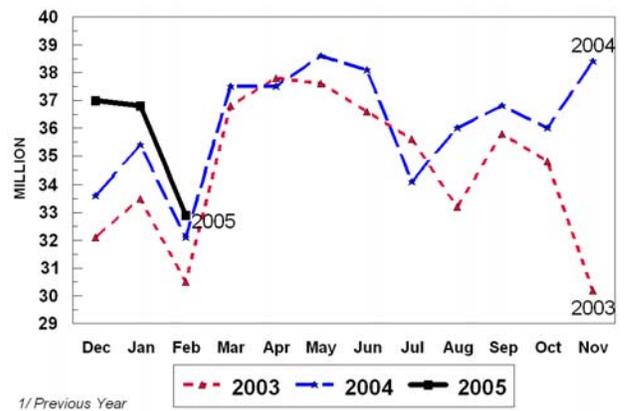
State	2004	2005	<u>2005</u> <u>2004</u>
	Thousands		Percent
Florida	615	648	105
Georgia	2,327	2,167	93
Indiana	4,894	4,532	93
Iowa	5,675	4,999	88
Minnesota	1,112	818	74
Pennsylvania	4,849	4,790	99
Other States 1/	12,606	14,956	119
UNITED STATES	32,078	32,910	103

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

**BROILER CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES
DECEMBER 1/ THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2003-2005**



**EGG TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES
DECEMBER 1/ THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2003-2005**



EGGS IN INCUBATORS, MARCH 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2005/2004
	Thousands		Percent	Thousands		Percent
North Atlantic	12,016	12,188	101	6,263	5,842	93
East North Central	9,185	8,319	91	6,502	6,774	104
West North Central	22,826	23,429	103	8,240	6,943	84
South Atlantic	232,310	239,577	103	2,463	3,869	157
South Central	346,259	349,880	101	5,586	6,406	115
West	25,000	25,473	102	5,209	4,872	94
UNITED STATES	647,596	658,866	102	34,263	34,706	101

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

The average February prices received by California producers, when compared to January average prices, increased 1.0 cent per dozen for market eggs.

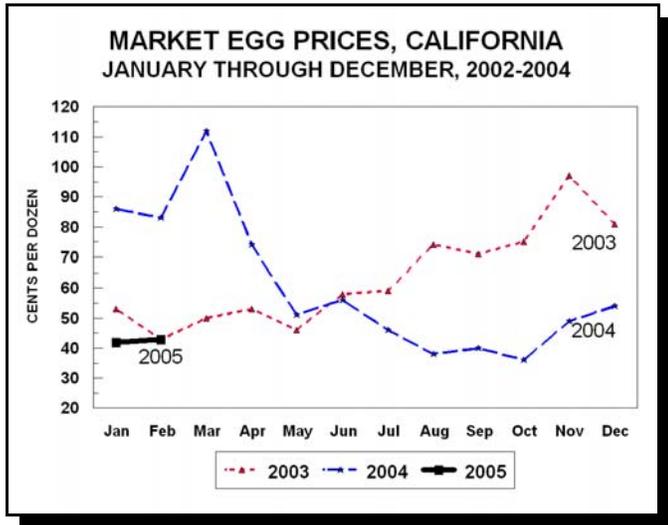
Nationally, the February market egg prices, at 35.8 cents per dozen, decreased 1.5 cents from January reflecting a seasonal decrease. The February broiler price, at 43.0 cents per pound, was unchanged from January, but 4.0 cents below a year ago. The February turkey price, averaging 38.0 cents per pound, is down 1.3 cents from the previous month.

POULTRY AND EGG AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	February 2004	January 2005	February 2005
		Cents		
CALIFORNIA				
Market Eggs ^{2/}	Doz.	83.0	42.0	43.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	47.0	43.0	43.0
Market Eggs ^{2/}	Doz.	74.5	37.3	35.8
Turkeys ^{2/}	Lb.	35.0	39.3	38.0

^{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/} Mid-month prices.



U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

U.S. turkey eggs in incubators totaled 27.9 million on March 1, 2005, 6 percent below March 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 3 percent above the February 1, 2005 total of 27.0 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 11 percent, West North Central down 2 percent, North and South Atlantic down 10 percent, South Central down 16 percent, and West up 12 percent.

The 21.3 million poult placed during February 2005 in the United States were down 7 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 3 percent from January 2005. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central up 7 percent, West North Central down 9 percent, North and South Atlantic down 8 percent, South Central down 13 percent, and West down 11 percent.

REGIONAL TURKEY POULT PLACEMENT AND EGGS IN INCUBATORS

Geographic Division	Eggs In Incubators March 1		2005 2004	Poults Placed During February ^{1/}		2005 2004
	2004	2005		2004	2005	
	Thousands		Pct.	Thousands		Pct.
E N Central	5,059	4,517	89	3,118	3,339	107
W N Central	11,131	10,938	98	9,119	8,316	91
N & S Atlantic	8,747	7,879	90	6,826	6,275	92
S Central	2,504	2,111	84	1,836	1,599	87
West	2,172	2,435	112	2,006	1,792	89
U.S.	29,613	27,880	94	22,905	21,321	93

^{1/} Excludes exported poults.

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

Month	Total All Breeds		04-05 03-04	Cumulative Total		04-05 03-04
	2003-04	2004-05		2003-04	2004-05	
	Thousands		Percent	Thousands		Percent
Sept.	22,171	21,268	96	22,171	21,268	96
Oct.	22,805	20,806	91	44,976	42,074	94
Nov.	22,155	22,232	100	67,131	64,306	96
Dec.	23,424	22,205	95	90,555	86,511	96
Jan.	23,273	21,887	94	113,828	108,398	95
Feb.	22,905	21,321	93	136,733	129,719	95
Mar.	24,215			160,948		
Apr.	24,664			185,612		
May	23,692			209,304		
June	23,291			232,595		
July	25,013			257,608		
Aug.	23,674			281,282		

^{1/} Excludes exported poults.

PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	February 28, 2004	January 31, 2005	February 28, 2005	Feb. 2005 Feb. 2004	Feb. 2005 Jan. 2005
		Thousands			Percent	
PACIFIC COAST						
Turkeys	Lbs.	35,621	27,211	31,633	89	116
Chickens	Lbs.	26,627	34,146	31,120	117	91
Ducks	Lbs.	24	20	20	83	100
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	62,272	61,377	62,773	101	102
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	471,682	335,398	386,434	82	115
Chickens	Lbs.	542,790	646,843	629,993	116	97
Ducks	Lbs.	1,328	401	475	36	118
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	1,015,800	982,642	1,016,902	100	103
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	21,138	18,577	17,865	85	96