

Poultry review



Maryland broiler production ranked eighth among states published individually in number of broilers produced and pounds of broilers produced in 2008. Broilers continue to lead Maryland's Agricultural Farm Receipts, bringing in 40 percent of the state's total farm receipts for the year. In 2008, the average price per pound for a broiler was \$0.49, thus total value of production at \$790 million. Maryland growers raised 298.6 million broiler chickens in 2008, an increase of one percent from a year earlier. The average weight per broiler was 5.4 pounds, unchanged from 2007.

In 2008, 380 million broiler-type chicks were hatched in commercial hatcheries, an increase of two percent from the 2007 total of 373 million.

Egg production decreased in 2008 to 666 million eggs, down from 702 million in 2007. The average number of layers during 2008 was 2.521 million, down from the 2.646 million layers in 2007