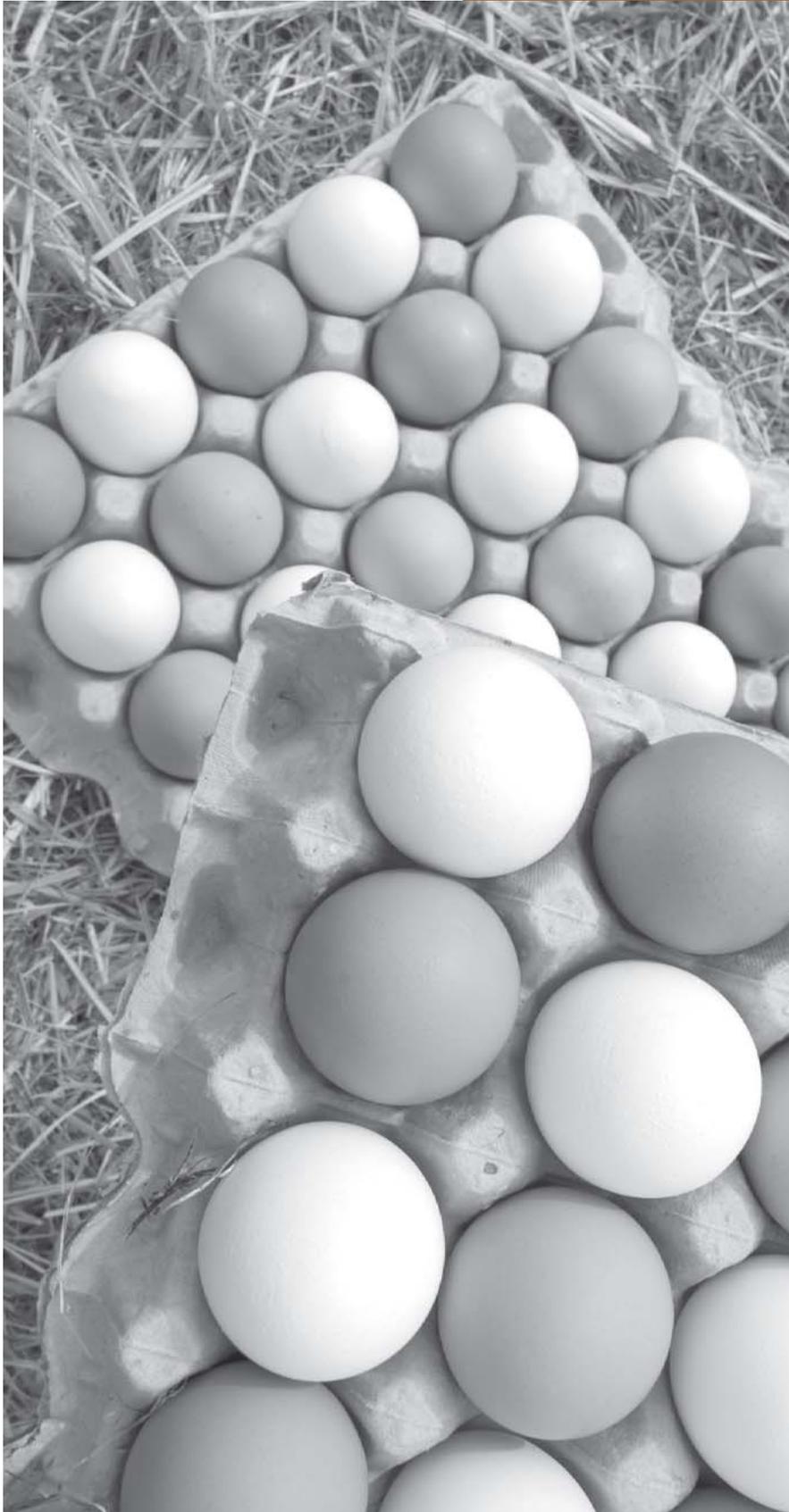


Poultry review



Maryland broiler production

ranked eighth among states published individually in number of broilers produced in 2009. Broilers continue to lead Maryland's Agricultural Farm Receipts, bringing in 40 percent of the state's total farm receipts for the year. In 2009, total value of production at \$640 million. Maryland growers raised 291.9 million broiler chickens in 2009, a decrease of two percent from a year earlier. The average weight per broiler was 4.8 pounds, down .6 pounds from 2008.

In 2009, A total of 383 million broiler-type chicks were hatched in commercial hatcheries, an increase of one percent from 2008.

Egg production decreased in 2009 to 554 million eggs, down from 666 million in 2008. The average number of layers during 2009 was 2.163 million, down from the 2.521 million layers in 2008.