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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN FROM 2011

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 96 million eggs during December, down 2 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 74 million table eggs and 22 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,228,000 birds, down 2 percent from 4,303,000 a year ago. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,271 eggs, compared with 2,277 in 2011.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 8.07 billion during December 2012, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 7.03 billion table eggs, and 1.04 billion hatching eggs, of which 969 million were broiler-type and 71 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2012 averaged 344 million, up 2 percent from last year. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,346 eggs, unchanged from December 2011.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY FROM 2011

During the month of December, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 19.2 million chicks, down less than 1 percent from last year's 19.3 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during December 2012 totaled 763 million, up 1 percent from December 2011. Eggs in incubators totaled 611 million on January 1, 2013, down 4 percent from a year earlier.

