

TURKEYS
NUMBER RAISED
1968 INTENTIONS

January 26, 1968

GROWERS INTEND TO RAISE FEWER TURKEYS IN 1968

Turkey growers intend to produce 14 percent fewer turkeys in 1968 than last year according to the Crop Reporting Board. Present plans of growers are to reduce heavy breeds by 15 percent and light breeds by 10 percent. If producers carry out their present intentions, the 1968 turkey crop for the Nation would be about 108 million compared with the 126 million turkeys raised in 1967. A crop of this size, even with the sharp decrease, would be the third largest of record, exceeded only by the 1966 and 1967 crops. Production cutbacks are planned in all regions of the country. Decreases planned are: West 22 percent, North Atlantic 18 percent, West North Central 13 percent, East North Central and South Central 12 percent each, and South Atlantic 9 percent.

Growers plan to produce 93.8 million heavy breed turkeys in 1968, a decrease of 15 percent from last year. Present plans indicate that heavy breed turkeys will account for about 86 percent of total turkeys raised in 1968, compared with 87 percent in 1967 and 86 percent in 1966. Decreases planned for heavy breeds are 24 percent in the West, 17 percent in the North Atlantic, 13 percent in the South Central and West North Central, 11 percent in the East North Central and 8 percent in the South Atlantic.

Producers intend to raise 14.7 million light breed turkeys in 1968, down 10 percent from last year. The expected number of light breeds to be raised in 1968 is below last year in all regions except the South Central and West where increases are expected to be 4 and 5 percent, respectively. Decreases indicated for the remaining regions are North Atlantic 26 percent, East North Central 19 percent, West North Central 11 percent, and South Atlantic 10 percent.

The number of turkeys actually raised in 1968 may vary somewhat from the January 1, 1968 intentions of growers. Such changes may depend on reactions to this report, price of feed, supply and prices of hatching eggs and poults, and prices received for turkeys during the next few months. On January 1, 1967 growers intended to produce 8 percent more turkeys in 1967 than 1966. The number produced in 1967 was 8 percent more than in 1966; however, there were some slight changes from intentions in both light and heavy breeds.

Testings of all heavy breeds July through December 1967 were down 25 percent from the corresponding period in 1966. The July-December testings of light breeds were down 32 percent from the same months a year earlier. These testings of breeders to January 1 indicate that hatching eggs may be in short supply for the 1968 hatching season.

Turkeys: Number raised 1967 and intended number to be raised in 1968, by breeds, by States

State and division	1967			1968			Total turkeys 1968 as % of 1967
	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	Total	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	Total	
	head	head	head	head	head	head	Percent
Maine	30	3	33	23	3	26	79
New Hampshire	66	4	70	69	3	72	103
Vermont	20	0	20	20	3	23	115
Massachusetts	234	16	250	199	16	215	86
Rhode Island	14	0	14	12	0	12	86
Connecticut	153	9	162	141	9	150	93
New York	331	48	379	308	43	351	93
New Jersey	477	11	488	339	11	350	72
Pennsylvania	1,763	241	2,004	1,446	157	1,603	80
North Atlantic	3,088	332	3,420	2,557	245	2,802	82
Ohio	3,451	603	4,054	3,555	464	4,019	99
Indiana	3,794	529	4,323	3,111	397	3,508	81
Illinois	911	84	995	729	78	807	81
Michigan	1,087	80	1,167	1,033	80	1,113	95
Wisconsin	4,618	458	5,076	3,971	398	4,369	86
E. N. Central	13,861	1,754	15,615	12,399	1,417	13,816	88
Minnesota	11,952	5,788	17,740	11,593	4,920	16,513	93
Iowa	7,091	440	7,531	5,673	396	6,069	81
Missouri	11,159	314	11,473	9,262	236	9,498	83
North Dakota	1,005	102	1,107	854	106	960	87
South Dakota	675	604	1,279	506	761	1,267	99
Nebraska	904	9	913	814	8	822	90
Kansas	597	3	600	394	12	406	68
W. N. Central	33,383	7,260	40,643	29,096	6,439	35,535	87
Delaware	105	201	306	105	151	256	84
Maryland	157	21	178	152	16	168	94
Virginia	2,717	2,880	5,597	2,771	2,304	5,075	91
West Virginia	893	771	1,664	679	810	1,489	89
North Carolina	5,919	1,018	6,937	5,623	1,018	6,641	96
South Carolina	1,901	0	1,901	1,426	---	1,426	75
Georgia	1,807	110	1,917	1,662	165	1,827	95
Florida	64	195	259	64	195	259	100
South Atlantic	13,563	5,196	18,759	12,482	4,659	17,141	91
Kentucky	221	22	243	75	11	86	35
Tennessee	37	0	37	33	---	33	89
Alabama	1,041	6	1,047	729	2	731	70
Mississippi	94	1	95	90	1	91	96
Arkansas	7,872	470	8,342	5,983	555	6,538	78
Louisiana	10	---	10	8	---	8	80
Oklahoma	1,571	50	1,621	1,414	38	1,452	90
Texas	7,894	196	8,090	7,973	167	8,140	101
South Central	18,740	745	19,485	16,305	774	17,079	88
Mont., Idaho, & Wyo. ^{1/}	262	6	268	209	1	210	78
Colorado	2,565	83	2,648	2,180	85	2,265	86
New Mexico	9	1	10	9	1	10	100
Arizona	81	0	81	47	---	47	58
Utah	3,781	22	3,803	3,025	51	3,076	81
Nevada	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Washington	416	196	612	374	225	599	98
Oregon	1,687	301	1,988	1,350	301	1,651	83
California	18,652	459	19,111	13,802	459	14,261	75
Western	27,453	1,068	28,521	20,996	1,123	22,119	78
United States	110,088	16,355	126,443	93,835	14,657	108,492	86

^{1/} Montana, Idaho and Wyoming combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.