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Eggs in Incubators on March 1 Down 12 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 2009, in the United States totaled 28.2 million, down 12 percent from March 1, 2008. Eggs in incubators were down 1 percent from the February 1, 2009 total of 28.5 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 8 percent, West North Central down 5 percent, North and South Atlantic down 10 percent, and South Central and West down 38 percent.

Poults Hatched During February Down 11 Percent from Last Year

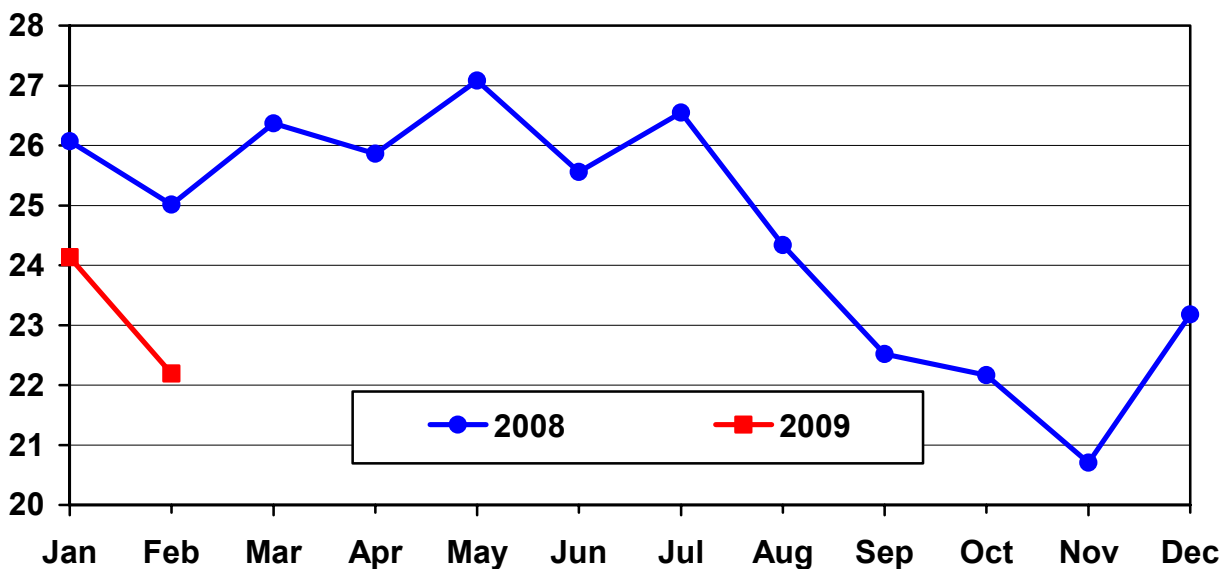
Turkey poults hatched during February 2009, in the United States totaled 22.9 million, down 11 percent from February 2008. Poults hatched were down 8 percent from January 2009 total of 24.9 million poults. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 13 percent, West North Central down 9 percent, North and South Atlantic down 9 percent, and South Central and West down 23 percent.

Net Poults Placed During February Down 11 Percent from Last Year

The 22.2 million net poults placed during February 2009 in the United States were down 11 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 8 percent from the January 2009 total of 24.1 million.

U.S. Turkey Net Poult Placements

Million Poults



Eggs in Incubators: First of Month by Region and United States, March 2009

Region	Mar 1 2008	Feb 1 2009	Mar 1 2009	Percent of Previous Year	Percent of Previous Month
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
E N Central	4,576	4,298	4,232	92	98
W N Central	12,099	10,997	11,531	95	105
N & S Atlantic ¹	10,509	10,245	9,465	90	92
S Central & West ¹	4,821	2,942	3,004	62	102
US	32,005	28,482	28,232	88	99

¹ Regions combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Poults Hatched: Entire Month by Region and United States, February 2009

Region	Feb 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Percent of Previous Year	Percent of Previous Month
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
E N Central	4,002	3,798	3,485	87	92
W N Central	10,019	9,738	9,165	91	94
N & S Atlantic ¹	8,603	8,681	7,814	91	90
S Central & West ¹	3,155	2,730	2,439	77	89
US	25,779	24,947	22,903	89	92

¹ Regions combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Net Poultry Placements: By Month, United States, 2007-2009 ¹

Month	Total All Breeds		Percent of Previous Year	Cumulative Total		Percent of Previous Year
	2007-08	2008-09		2007-08	2008-09	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Sep	24,073	22,515	94	24,073	22,515	94
Oct	25,222	22,165	88	49,295	44,680	91
Nov	24,755	20,702	84	74,050	65,382	88
Dec ²	24,091	23,179	96	98,141	88,561	90
Jan	26,067	24,131	93	124,208	112,692	91
Feb	25,011	22,192	89	149,219	134,884	90
Mar	26,369			175,588		
Apr	25,863			201,451		
May	27,084			228,535		
Jun	25,557			254,092		
Jul	26,551			280,643		
Aug	24,337			304,980		

¹ Includes imports and excludes exports.

² Revised 2008 data only.

Regional Listing:

North Atlantic: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.
 East North Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.
 West North Central: IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.
 South Atlantic: DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.
 South Central: AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.
 West: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.

Reliability of Turkey Hatchery Estimates

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 40 hatcheries are contacted each month. All known turkey hatcheries are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible and given adequate time to respond via mail, fax, or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond are contacted by phone. Care is exercised to ensure that all hatcheries are accounted for in the estimate.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State, regional, and U.S. totals. Only regional and U.S. level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poultry Placement data includes imported poult and excludes exported poult.

Cumulative net poultry placements beginning on September 1 and ending on August 31 are shown in the monthly "**Turkey Hatchery**" report. This time period corresponds with the placements of poult which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions to the previous month are published in the monthly "**Turkey Hatchery**" report, while annual revisions are published in the "**Hatchery Production - Annual Summary**" report in May.

Reliability: Turkey hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for turkey eggs in incubators on the first day of the month over the past 24 months is 1.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 28.2 million eggs by more than 1.0 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.6 percent.

Reliability of U.S. March Turkey Hatchery Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90 Percent Confidence Level			Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Months	
					Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
		Percent	Percent	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	Number	Number
Eggs In Incubators	1.0	1.6	465	170	0	1,022	8	12	
Poult Hatched	0.3	0.4	103	33	0	228	9	7	
Net Poultry Placements	0.9	1.5	342	163	0	570	15	8	

¹ Based on data for the past 24 months.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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Bruce Boess - Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink.....	(202) 720-4447

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