



Turkey Hatchery

ISSN: 1949-1964

Released March 15, 2011, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Eggs in Incubators on March 1 Up 4 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 2011, in the United States totaled 27.9 million, up 4 percent from March 1, 2010. Eggs in incubators were down 2 percent from the February 1, 2011 total of 28.4 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During February Up 8 Percent from Last Year

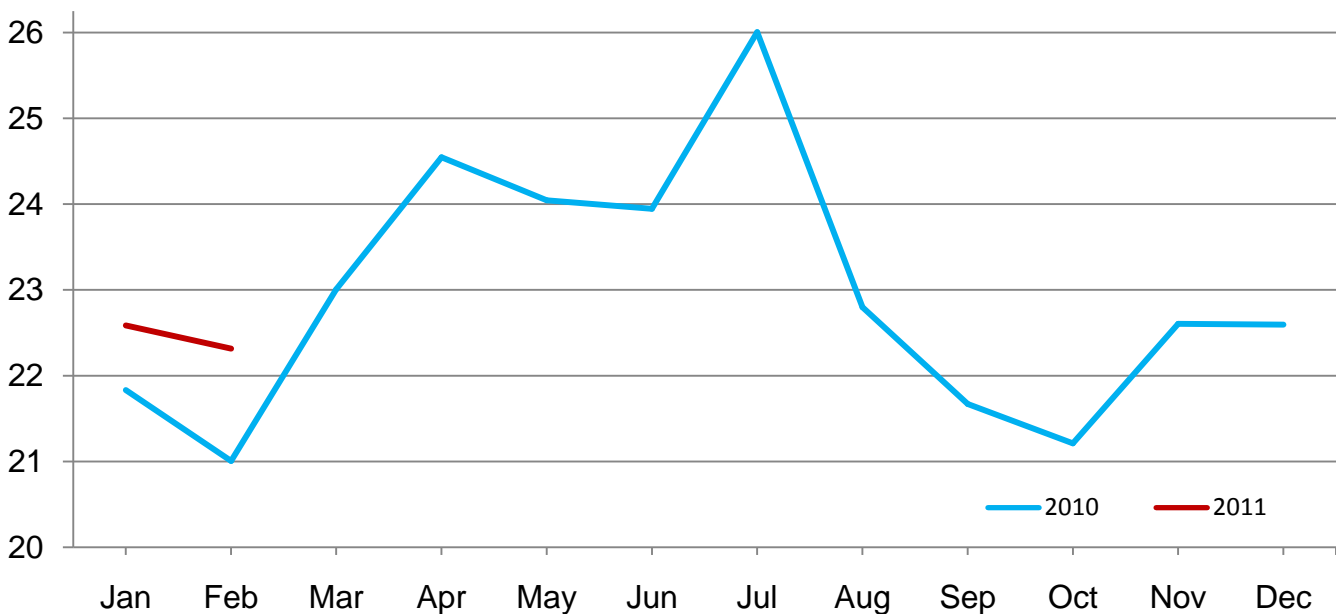
Turkey poults hatched during February 2011, in the United States totaled 23.1 million, up 8 percent from February 2010. Poults hatched were down 4 percent from the January 2011 total of 24.0 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During February Up 6 Percent from Last Year

The 22.3 million net poults placed during February 2011 in the United States were up 6 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 1 percent from the January 2011 total of 22.6 million.

Net Poults Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2009-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Eggs in incubators first of month		Percent of previous year	Poults hatched entire month		Percent of previous year
	2009-2010	2010-2011		2009-2010	2010-2011	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	26,366	26,353	100	22,045	22,065	100
October	26,440	26,223	99	22,039	22,085	100
November	26,010	28,415	109	21,499	23,786	111
December	26,559	27,268	103	22,594	23,519	104
January	27,501	27,853	101	22,460	23,973	107
February	26,755	28,431	106	21,391	23,067	108
March	26,823	27,875	104	23,414		
April	28,809			24,759		
May	28,740			24,207		
June	28,707			24,341		
July	29,850			26,198		
August	27,947			22,908		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2009-2011

[Includes imports and excludes exports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total all breeds		Percent of previous year	Cumulative total		Percent of previous year
	2009-2010	2010-2011		2009-2010	2010-2011	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	20,852	21,670	104	20,852	21,670	104
October	21,245	21,211	100	42,097	42,881	102
November	21,061	22,604	107	63,158	65,485	104
December	22,074	22,596	102	85,232	88,081	103
January	21,833	22,585	103	107,065	110,666	103
February	21,005	22,315	106	128,070	132,981	104
March	23,007			151,077		
April	24,546			175,623		
May	24,045			199,668		
June	23,946			223,614		
July	26,006			249,620		
August	22,798			272,418		

Statistical Methodology

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 United States totals. Only United States level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poultry Placement data include imported poult and exclude exported poult.

Cumulative net poult 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, 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 April.

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 1.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 27.9 million eggs by more than 1.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.4 percent.

Reliability of March Turkey Hatchery Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Years	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators	1.4	2.4	254	2	886	16	8
Poult hatched	0.5	0.8	74	0	289	12	7
Net poult placements	1.1	1.9	187	18	779	13	11

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-4447
Doug Bounds – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3106
David Colwell – Cold Storage	(202) 720-8784
Chris Hawthorn – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink	(202) 720-0585
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Troy Marshall – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey	(202) 720-3244

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