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Eggs in Incubators on April 1 Down 2 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 2016, in the United States totaled 28.3 million, down 2 percent from April 1, 2015. Eggs in incubators were up 2 percent from the March 1, 2016 total of 27.6 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During March Down 6 Percent from Last Year

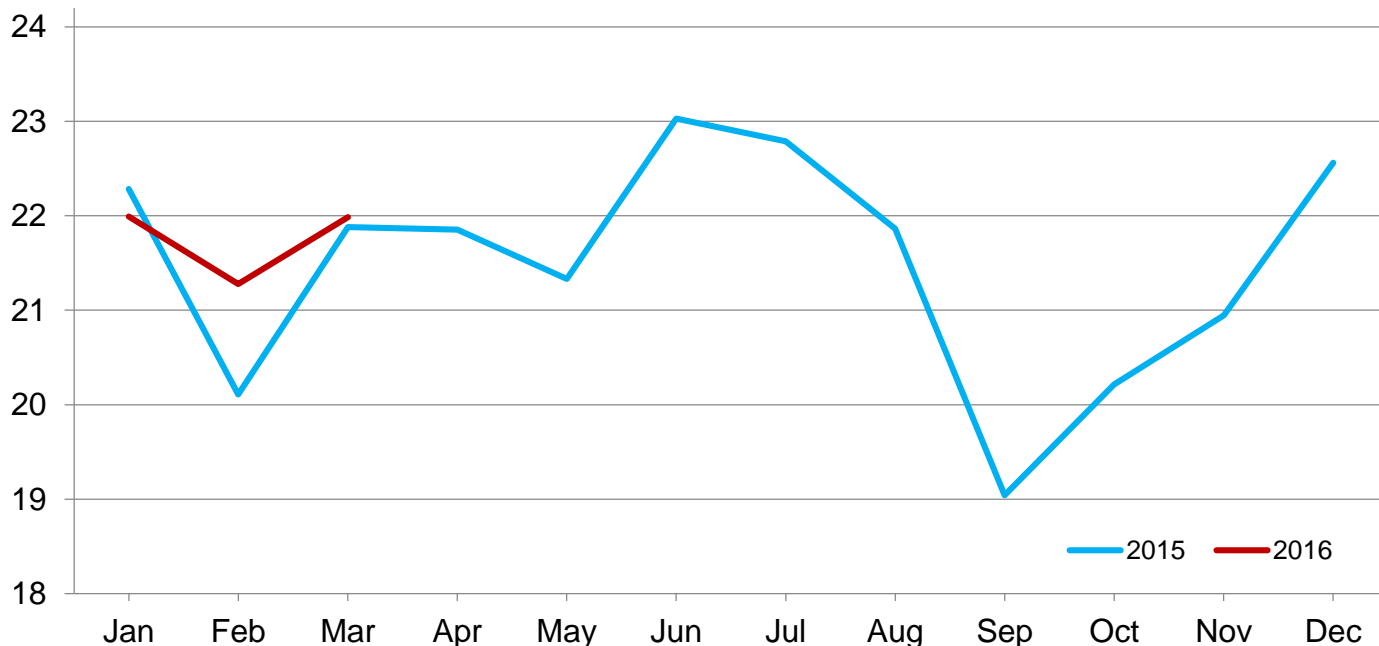
Turkey poults hatched during March 2016, in the United States totaled 22.8 million, down 6 percent from March 2015. Poults hatched were up 3 percent from the February 2016 total of 22.0 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During March Up Slightly from Last Year

The 22.0 million net poults placed during March 2016 in the United States were up slightly from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were up 3 percent from the February 2016 total of 21.3 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2014-2016

[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
	2014-2015	2015-2016		2014-2015	2015-2016	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	27,402	23,793	87	22,855	19,528	85
October	27,856	24,211	87	23,744	20,621	87
November	28,004	25,125	90	21,936	20,996	96
December	28,964	25,727	89	24,660	22,642	92
January	29,146	27,473	94	23,921	22,783	95
February	27,155	27,057	100	21,712	22,016	101
March	28,331	27,628	98	24,178	22,781	94
April	28,798	28,274	98	23,263		
May	26,864			22,164		
June	27,252			23,148		
July	27,372			22,976		
August	27,044			22,006		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2014-2016

[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
	2014-2015	2015-2016		2014-2015	2015-2016	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	21,180	19,041	90	21,180	19,041	90
October	21,695	20,213	93	42,875	39,254	92
November	20,379	20,946	103	63,254	60,200	95
December	22,516	22,562	100	85,770	82,762	96
January	22,283	21,991	99	108,053	104,753	97
February	20,110	21,278	106	128,163	126,031	98
March	21,880	21,987	100	150,043	148,018	99
April	21,852			171,895		
May	21,331			193,226		
June	23,030			216,256		
July	22,788			239,044		
August	21,863			260,907		

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 hatching 15,000 or more poults annually are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible. Adequate time is given 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 Poult Placement data include imported poults and exclude exported poults.

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 poults which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, 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 through 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 28.3 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 April 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	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators	1.4	2.4	249	6	1,221	16	8
Poults hatched	0.4	0.7	70	0	205	10	13
Net poult placements	1.4	2.4	248	11	664	9	15

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

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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