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Eggs in Incubators on March 1 Up 6 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 2017, in the United States totaled 29.3 million, up 6 percent from March 1, 2016. Eggs in incubators were down 2 percent from the February 1, 2017 total of 29.9 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During February Up 9 Percent from Last Year

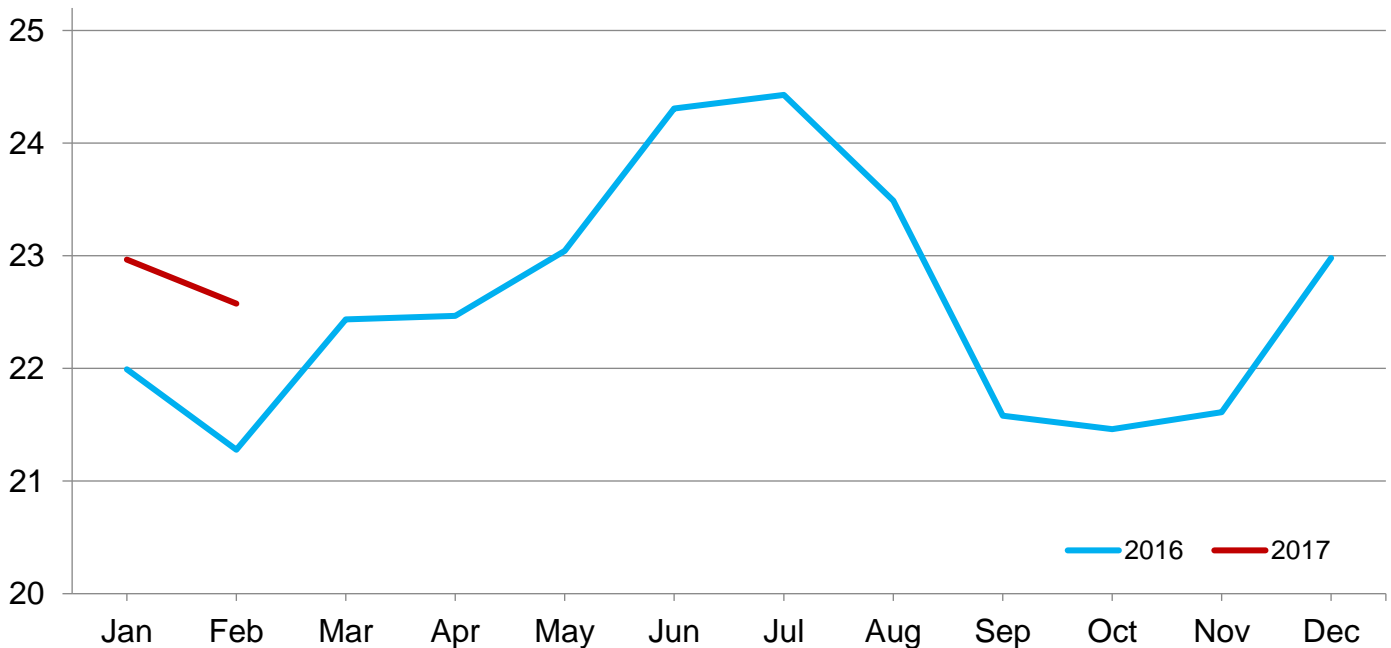
Turkey poults hatched during February 2017, in the United States totaled 23.9 million, up 9 percent from February 2016. Poults hatched were down 6 percent from the January 2017 total of 25.3 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During February Up 6 Percent from Last Year

The 22.6 million net poults placed during February 2017 in the United States were up 6 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 2 percent from the January 2017 total of 23.0 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2015-2017

[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
	2015-2016	2016-2017		2015-2016	2016-2017	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	23,793	28,922	122	19,528	23,645	121
October	24,211	28,409	117	20,621	23,652	115
November	25,125	27,526	110	20,996	23,103	110
December	25,727	28,824	112	22,642	25,422	112
January	27,473	29,961	109	22,783	25,332	111
February	27,057	29,906	111	22,016	23,936	109
March	27,628	29,322	106	23,496		
April	29,443			23,765		
May	28,149			23,513		
June	30,047			25,021		
July	29,899			24,757		
August	29,043			24,232		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2015-2017

[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
	2015-2016	2016-2017		2015-2016	2016-2017	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	19,041	21,581	113	19,041	21,581	113
October	20,213	21,461	106	39,254	43,042	110
November	20,946	21,611	103	60,200	64,653	107
December	22,562	22,980	102	82,762	87,633	106
January	21,991	22,966	104	104,753	110,599	106
February	21,278	22,575	106	126,031	133,174	106
March	22,436			148,467		
April	22,465			170,932		
May	23,042			193,974		
June	24,306			218,280		
July	24,428			242,708		
August	23,489			266,197		

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 1.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 29.3 million eggs by more than 1.6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.8 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	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators	1.6	2.8	277	6	1,388	17	7
Poults hatched	0.8	1.3	112	1	715	13	11
Net poult placements	1.6	2.8	303	41	760	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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