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Eggs in Incubators on October 1 Down 13 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 2015, in the United States totaled 24.3 million, down 13 percent from October 1, 2014. Eggs in incubators were up 2 percent from the September 1, 2015 total of 23.8 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During September Down 14 Percent from Last Year

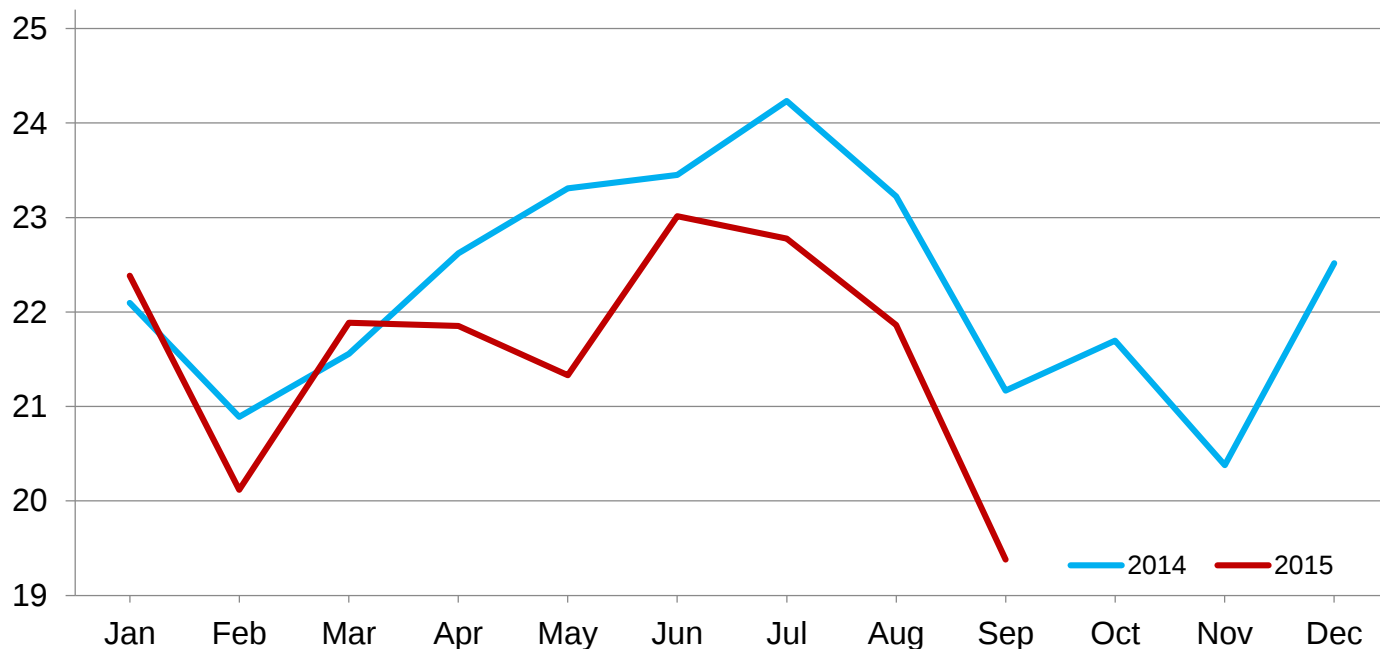
Turkey poults hatched during September 2015, in the United States totaled 19.6 million, down 14 percent from September 2014. Poults hatched were down 11 percent from the August 2015 total of 22.0 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During September Down 8 Percent from Last Year

The 19.4 million net poults placed during September 2015 in the United States were down 8 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 11 percent from the August 2015 total of 21.9 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	27,388	23,796	87	22,844	19,550	86
October	27,842	24,346	87	23,744		
November	28,004			21,936		
December	28,964			24,660		
January	29,281			24,023		
February	27,144			21,721		
March	28,250			24,179		
April	28,799			23,261		
May	26,845			22,161		
June	27,232			23,129		
July	27,357			22,966		
August	27,046			22,008		

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	21,169	19,381	92	21,169	19,381	92
October	21,695			42,864		
November	20,379			63,243		
December	22,516			85,759		
January	22,383			108,142		
February	20,119			128,261		
March	21,885			150,146		
April	21,851			171,997		
May	21,329			193,326		
June	23,014			216,340		
July	22,776			239,116		
August	21,864			260,980		

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 the affects of 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 1.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 24.3 million eggs by more than 1.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.3 percent.

Reliability of October 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	1.3	2.3	227	5	1,221	18	6
Poults hatched	0.5	0.8	84	0	211	10	13
Net poult placements	1.5	2.5	263	11	659	8	16

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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