

EGG INDUSTRY STATISTICAL REPORT

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For: December 2006

- * The December hatch was down 1,245,500 pullets compared to 2005. This projects forwards to a 15.1 million pullet placement for May of 2007 or about 1,120,000 less than the 2006 figure.
Eggs in incubators on Jan.1, 2007 were down 3.3% compared to 2006.
- * Current (Jan.1, '07) US table egg layer numbers (289.9 millions) are down 830 thousand compared to last year's numbers at this time (290.8 millions)
California's Decov. layer count is currently estimated to be 19.45 million - practically the same as 2005.
- * In Dec., Iowa leads the nation with 50.8 million laying hens compared to 27.0 million in Ohio, 23.9 million in Indiana and 21.7 million in Pennsylvania. California is now in 5th position.
- * The December U.S. rate of lay was estimated to be 74.2% compared to 74.4 in 2005. The Nation's average flock is slightly younger with 32.7% older than 72 weeks vs 34.0% in 2005
- * Southern California producer large egg prices for Dec. 2006 were estimated to average 75.5 cents per dozen compared to 61.2 cents in 2005. Blend prices averaged 69.9 cents/dozen vs.56.0 in 2005.
- * Eggs imported into California in 2006 totaled 7.046 million cases compared to 6.067 million in 2005 - up 15.8%.
- * Shell eggs broken for products in December totaled 5.411 million cases - up 1.0% compared to 2005. Monthly egg breaking in 2006 has averaged 5.620 million cases or 31.2% of total egg production. Eggs broken were down 1.2% below year-earlier numbers.

Monthly Hi-lites (Compared to December a year ago) (% change)

| | U.S. | | California |
|--|-------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Hatch | -6.9 | | n/a |
| Layers (table eggs) | -0.1 | | +0.4 |
| Rate of lay | -0.2 | | n/a |
| Molting (Jan 1, 2006) (in + out of a molt) | +1.6 | January 1 | -3.0 |
| Imports into California (Dec) | n/a | | +12.5 |
| 2006 year-end layers - millions | 289.5 | 12/31 | n/a |
| 2005 year-end layers - millions | 290.8 | 12/31 | n/a |
| 2004 year-end layers - millions | 284.8 | 12/31 | n/a |
| 2003 year-end layers - millions | 279.5 | 12/31 | n/a |
| 2002 year-end layers - millions | 279.2 | 12/31 | n/a |
| 2001 year-end layers - millions | 279.9 | 12/31 | n/a |
| 2000 year-end layers - millions | 273.6 | 12/31 | n/a |