Turkey Hatchery

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Eggs in Incubators on November 1 Down 1 Percent from Last Year

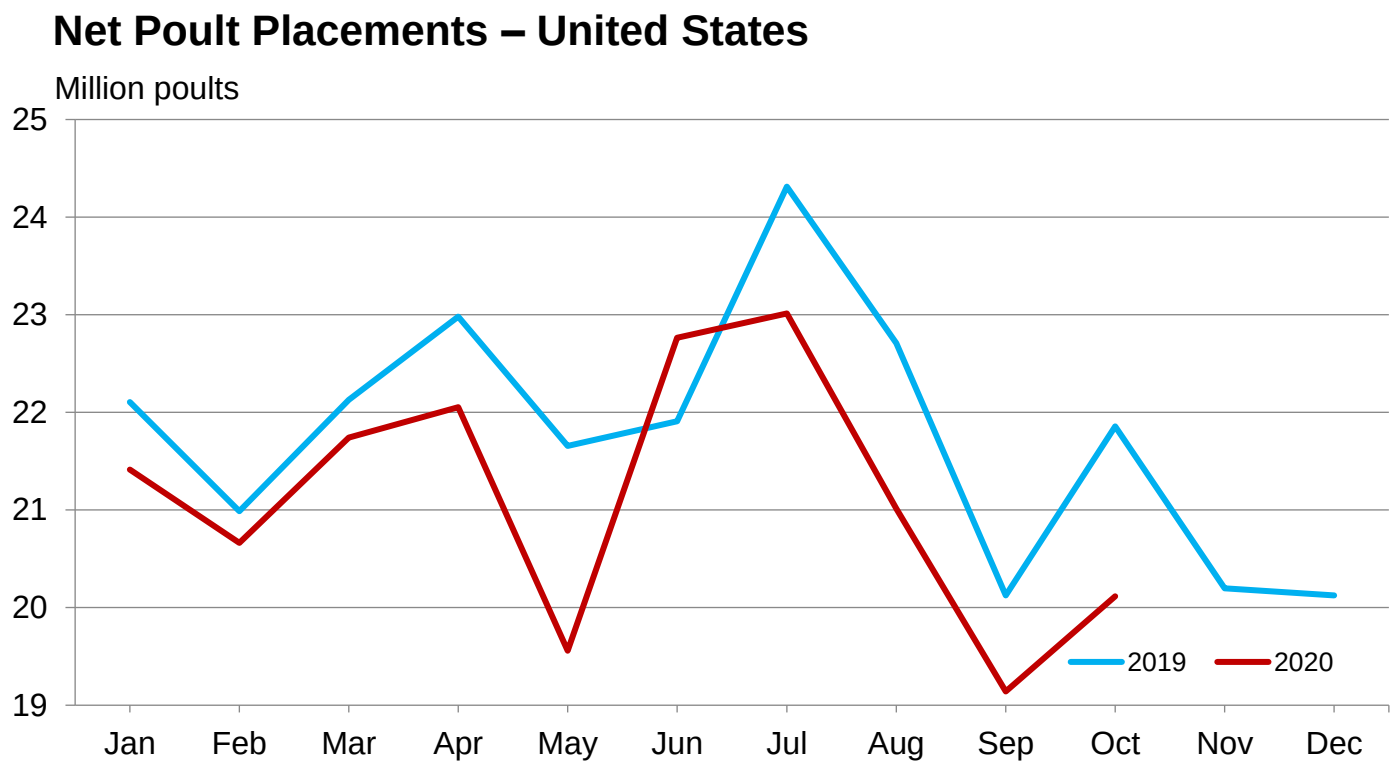
Turkey eggs in incubators on November 1, 2020 in the United States totaled 26.8 million, down 1 percent from November 1, 2019. Eggs in incubators were down 2 percent from the October 1, 2020 total of 27.3 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During October Down 6 Percent from Last Year

Turkey poults hatched during October 2020 in the United States totaled 23.3 million, down 6 percent from October 2019. Poults hatched were up 7 percent from the September 2020 total of 21.8 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During October Down 8 Percent from Last Year

The 20.1 million net poults placed during October 2020 in the United States were down 8 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were up 5 percent from the September 2020 total of 19.1 million.



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2019-2021

[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
	2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	26,666	25,990	97	22,464	21,840	97
October	29,327	27,293	93	24,905	23,290	94
November	26,958	26,797	99	22,325		
December	26,464			22,655		
January	28,820			23,879		
February	28,209			22,566		
March	27,980			23,729		
April	27,922			23,461		
May	27,274			21,562		
June	28,540			23,940		
July	27,718			23,759		
August	27,158			22,509		

Net Poult Placements by Month – United States: 2019-2021

[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
	2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	20,125	19,141	95	20,125	19,141	95
October	21,857	20,114	92	41,982	39,255	94
November	20,199			62,181		
December	20,216			82,397		
January	21,414			103,811		
February	20,663			124,474		
March	21,741			146,215		
April	22,053			168,268		
May	19,559			187,827		
June	22,764			210,591		
July	23,013			233,604		
August	21,014			254,618		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS regional field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 45 hatcheries in 20 states 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. 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 regional 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.

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 2.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 26.8 million eggs by more than 2.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 4.2 percent.

Reliability of November 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	2.4	4.2	436	1	2,201	18	6
Poults hatched	1.8	3.1	228	1	1,913	12	12
Net poult placements	2.4	4.1	347	1	1,884	19	5

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@usda.gov

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- Cornell's Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS's and other agencies archived reports. The new website, https://usda.library.cornell.edu. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, https://usda.library.cornell.edu. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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