

PA. EGG PRODUCTION INCREASES LESS THAN U.S.

Egg production totaled 277 million eggs in Pennsylvania during January, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Production was three percent more than in January 1966 but one percent less than for December 1966.

Poultrymen had two percent fewer layers on hand during January 1967 than they had in December 1966 and one percent fewer than the January 1966 numbers.

The February 1 rate of lay of 60.1 percent was two percent more than the January 1, 1967 rate and four percent more than on February 1, 1966. Fewer old hens in laying flocks this year compared with a year earlier may account for the better rate of lay.

The average price received for all eggs sold during January was 41 cents per dozen, three cents less than the December 1966 price but a penny more than the January 1966 price.

Pennsylvania hatcherymen produced 29.2 million chicks during 1966, six percent more than the 1965 hatch. The United States egg-type hatch for 1966 at 57.8 million chicks is 18 percent more than the 1965 hatch.

Stocks of all eggs in cold storage on December 31, 1966 in the United States totaled 945,000 cases. This was six percent less than November 30, 1966, 31 percent less than De-

ember 31, 1965, and 41 percent less than the December 31, 5-year average.

U. S. EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production during January is estimated at 5,916 million eggs, seven percent above January 1966 and 10 percent above the 1961-65 average for the month. The average number of layers during January is estimated at 325 million, up five percent from a year earlier and four percent above the 5-year average for January. Egg production averaged 1832 eggs per layer during January, up two percent from a year earlier.

The number of layers on February 1 is estimated at 320 million, an increase of five percent from both a year earlier and the 5-year average. Estimated layer numbers were nine percent above a year earlier in the South Atlantic and South Central Regions. Other substantial regional increases were four percent in the East North Central and five percent in the West. In the North Atlantic and West North Central Regions, February 1 layer numbers were only slightly above a year earlier. The rate of lay on February 1 averaged 59.9 eggs per 100 layers, up three percent from a year earlier. Regionally, average rates were above a year earlier except in the West.

Egg producers on February 1 reported plans to buy three percent more replacement chicks and started pullets than in 1966. The largest indicated

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Profitable decisions on labor and credit problems will be stressed at the Farm Management Short Course to be offered by Penn State University, March 6 and 7. This course will be held on the main campus at University Park.

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The registration fee for the course is \$10 for Pennsylvanians; \$15 for non-residents.

Increases were eight percent in the South Central Region and six percent in the West. More moderate increases planned were three percent in the South Atlantic and two percent in the East North Central. Producers planned to purchase one percent fewer replacements in 1967 in the North Atlantic Region and five percent less in the West North Central.

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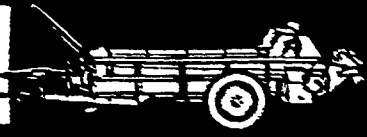
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