MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
LAND AND FISHERIES

POULTRY BULLETIN

March

2022

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PREPARED BY THE
AGRICULTURAL PLANNING DIVISION

March 2022

This bulletin is designed mainly to provide individuals in the Breeder, Hatchery and Processing Sub-Sectors with data that would assist in making informed decisions with respect to the supply and demand for chicken.

The Bulletin is free of charge and would be made available to anyone on request by contacting the Agricultural Planning Division (A.P.D.) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries. Please visit us at www.agriculture.gov.tt

(A) HATCHING EGG UTILIZATION:

TABLE 1

IMPORTED AND LOCAL BROILER HATCHING EGGS:

January, February and March 2022

	CASES HATCHING EGGS		
MONTH	LOCAL	IMPORTED	TOTAL
January 2022	0	12,173	12,173
February 2022	0	11,783	11,783
March 2022	0	13,188	13,188

Source: Poultry Surveillance Unit and Broiler Breeder Companies.

*Table I indicates that a total **13,188** cases of imported broiler hatching eggs were set by hatcheries involved in producing broiler chicks. The main hatcheries include Arawak, Nutrimix, Farmers' Hatchery (WGM) and Mastermix. The total number of hatching eggs set was **11.92% more** than the total number of eggs set for the previous month, **February 2022**.*

(B) *DAY-OLD CHICK PRODUCTION FORECAST:*

Estimates are based on two main assumptions:

I. That all Hatching Eggs supplied to hatcheries were utilized or set for the production of baby chicks.

II. That an average hatchability of 82% was obtained for the month for both local and imported eggs.

TABLE II

DAY-OLD CHICK PRODUCTION FORECAST:

NO. HATCHING EGGS SET (cases)	ESTIMATED NO. OF EGGS AVAILABLE	Period day old chicks available
13,188	4,747,680	1st Mar 2022 - 29th Mar 2022

*** 1 case = 360 eggs (Hatching eggs set x 360)**

(C) MATURE BIRD PRODUCTION FORECAST:

Estimates are based on the following assumptions:

(i) All chicks placed on farms.

(ii) An average mortality of 8%.

TABLE III

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MATURE BROILERS:

ESTIMATED NO. OF DAY-OLD CHICKS HATCHED	ESTIMATED NO. OF MATURE BIRDS	PERIOD BIRDS AVAILABLE
3,593,470	3,305,992	25th Feb 2022 – 28th Mar 2022
3,478,342	3,200,074	22nd Mar 2022 – 22nd Apr 2022
3,893,098	3,581,650	23rd Apr 2022 – 24th May 2022

(D) PROCESSED CHICKEN FORECAST:

Estimates are based on the following:

(1) Total no. of mature birds on the market.

(2) An average live weight of 2 kg. (4.41 lbs.) per bird.

(3) A dressed weight of 81%.

TABLE IV

FORECAST OF TOTAL PRODUCTION OF PROCESSED CHICKEN:

ESTIMATED NO. OF MATURE BIRDS	TOTAL ESTIMATED DRESSED WEIGHT	PERIOD AVAILABLE
3,581,650	5,815,460 kgs. 12,794,011 (lbs)	23rd Apr 2022 – 24th May 2022

(E) ESTIMATE OF CHICKEN PROCESSED BY PROCESSING PLANTS AND PLUCK SHOPS:

Estimates are based on the following:

(i) A market share of approximately 40% and 60% respectively for Processing Plants and Pluck Shops.

TABLE V

ESTIMATE OF CHICKEN PROCESSED BY PROCESSING PLANTS AND PLUCK SHOPS:

PROCESSING PLANT PRODUCTION	PLUCK SHOP PRODUCTION
2,326,184 kgs 5,117,604 lbs	3,489,276 kgs 7,676,407 lbs

TABLE VI

(F) AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF CHICKEN:

MONTH	Poultry Depot/ Pluckshop Prices ($ per lb.) Live weight	Poultry Depot/ Pluckshop Prices ($ per lb.) Dressed Weight	Pluckshop Pluck & Gut Fee ($)
Oct 2021	$7.72	$14.78	$13.95
Nov 2021	$7.71	$14.64	$13.77
Dec 2021	$8.10	$15.13	$14.62
Jan 2022	$8.09	$15.25	$14.10
Feb 2022	$8.09	$15.09	$14.57
Mar 2022	$8.25	$15.47	$14.18

Source: Ministry of Trade & Industry website (www.tradeind.gov.tt)

TABLE VII

(G) IMPORTS OF LIVE POULTRY AND EGGS:

MONTH	FEMALE BREEDER CHICKS	CASES LAYER H/EGGS	CASES TURKEY H/EGGS	DAY OLD TURKEYS	CASES DUCK H/EGGS	DUCKLINGS	DAY OLD BROILER CHICKS	LAYER CHICKS	**OTHER LIVE POULTRY
Oct 2021	0	0	0	0	260	0	0	86,700	0
Nov 2021	0	0	0	0	270	0	0	24,300	0
Dec 2021	0	0	0	0	280	1,512	0	56,500	0
Jan 2022	0	0	0	0	280	1,600	0	32,000	0
Feb 2022	0	0	0	0	100	10,400	0	55,500	0
Mar 2022	0	0	0	0	280	14,320	0	117,200	0

**** OTHER includes any poultry types not named**
Source: Poultry Surveillance Unit.

For the month of March 2022, ***2709*** cases of table eggs were imported from the USA.
***1 case = 30 dozens eggs**

(H) **DISEASES**

There were no major cases of Roundworms, Tapeworms and Body Mites reported for the month of March 2022

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