



## Minnesota's Broiler & Egg Industry

While opinions differ on which came first – the chicken or the egg – for Minnesota, the answer is obvious. They are *both* important to the economic vitality of the state's agricultural, economic, and employment outlook. Just take a look at some of these statistics:

- The egg industry in Minnesota is consistently ranked in the top 10 in the United States for egg production. (As of December 2010 – Minnesota raised 10 million layers and was ranked #7.)
- Broiler producers raise nearly 47 million birds annually, which gives the industry in Minnesota a #18 ranking for broiler production in the U.S.
- The broiler industry employs over 1,600 people in Minnesota, and is home to Gold'n Plump Poultry (headquarters – St. Cloud). Gold'n Plump is currently ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in production for all broiler production companies in the U.S.
- Minnesota's egg industry employs over 2,900 at companies such as Sparboe Companies, Michael Foods Egg Products, Rembrandt Foods, Land O' Lakes, Cargill Kitchen Solutions and Mendelson Egg Company.
- The broiler and egg industries (along with the turkey industry) help support many other jobs in spin-off industries such as agricultural services, soybean, corn, veterinarians, transportation, retail, wholesale, feeds, etc. It has been shown in research at the University of Minnesota that over 26,000 jobs in Minnesota depend on the economic viability of Minnesota's poultry industry.
- The value of broiler production in Minnesota is estimated at \$104.2 million.
- On the egg side, production value in 2007 was \$193.2 million (an 80% increase over 2006), with egg prices increasing to 80.5 cents per dozen. Minnesota averaged approximately 10.7 million layers on all its farms in 2007. Eggs are delivered to processing plants and processed as whole eggs, liquid eggs and powdered eggs.
- Minnesota's poultry industry (broiler, egg and turkey) is valued at approximately \$1 billion of total economic impact.

### National Egg Industry Statistics

- Current stats on U.S. per capita consumption: 59.9 pounds of chicken (2007) and 247.7 eggs per person (2009).
- In 2009, the average number of egg-type laying hens in the U.S. was 280 million.
- U.S. egg production during November 2010 was 6.51 billion table eggs.
- Top 10 egg-producing states as of December 2010 are: Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, California, Texas, Minnesota, Michigan, Nebraska and Florida.
- To date, there are approximately 245 egg producing companies with flocks of 75,000 or more; these companies represent about 95 percent of all the layers in the U.S.
- For the first 10 months of 2010, cumulative exports of processed egg products set a year-on-year record high in history to \$96.88 million, an increase of 11.6 percent over the same period a year earlier, due to increased shipments to EU-27, East Asia and Southeast Asia.
- Hong Kong remains, as it has for years, the top market for U.S. table eggs. Other top markets for processed egg products included Japan and EU-27.

*Sources: Minnesota Turkey Research & Promotion Council, Broiler & Egg Association of Minnesota, National Turkey Federation, USDA, American Egg Board*