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Ohio Egg Facts

- Ohio is the second-largest egg producing state in the nation.
- Ohio has 28 million laying hens and nearly 8 million pullets (hens less than one year old).
- In 2012, Ohio chickens produced more than 7.6 billion eggs with an estimated value of more than \$523 million a year.
- Darke and Mercer counties in western Ohio are the top two egg-producing counties in the United States.
- Ohio is one of 10 states that has an egg quality assurance program. The Ohio Egg Quality Assurance Program (OEQAP) is a voluntary program that is intended to minimize the risk of Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) in eggs, and is a cooperative effort between egg producers and farmers, the Ohio Poultry Association and the Ohio Department of Agriculture.
- Ohio's egg farms follow all state and national guidelines, including FDA's national Egg Rule, to ensure eggs are safe and free from Salmonella and other foodborne bacteria.
- There are two egg-breaking facilities in the state of Ohio. These plants convert shell eggs into liquid pasteurized eggs, dried eggs and frozen egg products that are utilized in bakeries and other food products containing eggs.
- Ohio egg farmers, in partnership with United Egg Producers, have adopted broad animal care guidelines, assuring customers that the environment provided to the hens is safe, humane and disease-free.
- Ohio egg farmers participate in the United Egg Producers Certified animal care program. The guidelines place top priority on the comfort, health and safety of the chickens and include:
 - Increased cage space per hen.
 - Standards for molting based on current, verified scientific studies.
 - Standards for trimming of chicks' beaks, when necessary, to avoid pecking and cannibalism.