

## FACTS ABOUT MARYLAND'S MEAT CHICKEN INDUSTRY

- ✓ Approximately 35% of Maryland's cash farm income was from meat chickens in 2016.
- ✓ Maryland ranked 7<sup>th</sup> among the states in the pounds of meat chickens produced in 2016 with 1.85 billion pounds. In total, the U.S. produced 54.26 billion pounds of meat chickens in 2016.
- ✓ Maryland produced 303.5 million meat chickens in 2016. Maryland ranked 7<sup>th</sup> among the states in the number of meat chickens produced. In total, the U.S. produced 8.78 billion chickens in 2016.
- ✓ The average live weight of a Maryland-produced meat chicken in 2016 was 6.2 pounds. The U.S. average was 6.16 pounds.
- ✓ In 2016, Maryland meat chicken production value (gross income received by the agricultural sector for producing broiler chickens) was \$885 million. Maryland ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation in value of production. In total, U.S. meat chicken production value was \$25.94 billion in 2016.

According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, these Maryland counties are ranked among the leaders in broiler chicken production in America:

Somerset #18  
Dorchester #82

Caroline #20  
Queen Anne's #124

Wicomico #28  
Talbot #235

Worcester #29

Most of the grain grown on Maryland's Eastern Shore is used for chicken feed. In 2016, Delmarva's chicken industry purchased nearly \$1 billion in crops for chicken feed ingredients.

Chicken companies with growers or facilities on the Delmarva Peninsula and their national ranking in 2017 based upon average weekly ready-to-cook production, by weight, as published in the **WATT Poultry USA** March 2018 edition, are:

**Allen Harim Foods LLC #20**  
(Headquarters in Seaford, DE)

**Amick Farms #12**  
(Headquarters in Batesburg, S.C.)

**Mountaire Farms Inc. # 6**  
(Headquarters in Millsboro, DE)

**Perdue Farms Inc. # 4**  
(Headquarters in Salisbury, MD)

**Tyson Foods, Inc. # 1**  
(Headquarters in Springdale, AR)

**Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.**  
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