



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

THURSDAY
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U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Poultry Programs Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Egg prices were generally unchanged, however, late in the period larger sizes were 1 cent higher. The market tone was fully steady with instances firm. Retail demand was fair to fairly good and showing signs of improvement going into the holiday period. Food service trade was mostly moderate. Supplies were mixed but usually adequate for current needs with any additional product held with increased confidence. Breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was uneven and most plants were satisfied with regular commitments while a few looked for additional product and bidding higher prices for prompt shipment. Sellers holding inventories with confidence. Supplies barely adequate to adequate. Most breaking plants running full breaking schedules. The market tone was fully steady. Light type hens were fully adequate to ample. The market tone remained barely steady.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST CITIES			
Boston (Brown)	102-104	93-95	68-70
New York	71-73	68-71	59-62
Philadelphia	68-71	66-69	57-59
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	60-61	58.5-60	50-51
Jackson (1)	70-71	67-68	59-60
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	68-82	66-80	56-70
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	60-65	59-64	49-54
Detroit (2)	58-61	57-59	47-51
Major Ohio Cities (2)	57-62	56-60	46-51
Major Wisconsin Cities	60-67	58-65	49-56
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	76-79	74-76	63-66
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	95	89	80

- (1) - Prices reported weekly
- (2) - Delivered Warehouse
- (3) - Reported Invoice prices

SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA FOR WEEK ENDING 19-Feb-99
AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	70.50	68.13	59.01
SOUTHERN	66.94	65.24	56.02
MIDWEST	60.70	59.34	50.20
WESTERN	85.70	81.97	72.52
TWELVE METRO AREAS	73.40	70.83	61.58

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN

	02-23-99	02-16-99	02-24-98
Large	39-41	39-41	40-42
Medium	29-31	29-31	30-32

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- AM Feb. 22, 1999
STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area		
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	9.2	10.7	3.8	8.4	9.4	41.5
	Change	-0.4	2.7	-1.1	1.8	0.2	8%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	25.7	26.5	8.9	19.4	14.1	94.6
	Change	1.5	2.3	1.5	0.0	0.3	6%
Large	Curr Wk	48.3	66.7	39.9	49.5	84.6	289.0
	Change	2.1	3.2	3.3	-1.3	14.8	8%
Medium	Curr Wk	11.7	21.6	16.1	13.6	19.4	82.4
	Change	0.1	0.3	2.5	-3.3	0.9	1%
Small	Curr Wk	5.3	5.4	2.8	4.0	10.8	28.3
	Change	1.0	-2.5	-0.2	-0.7	0.9	-5%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.7	13.5	11.9	5.6	5.6	41.3
	Change	-1.1	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.4	2%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	34.2	68.5	12.9	31.9	47.0	194.5
	Change	3.7	-0.2	1.0	-9.1	4.7	0%
Total	Curr Wk	139.1	212.9	96.3	132.4	190.9	771.6
	Change	5%	3%	9%	-9%	13%	4%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	771.6	4%	166
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	405.0	-3%	38
Total Shell Egg	1,176.6	2%	204

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 166 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 20-Feb-99

	(LBS IN THOUSANDS)		(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)			
	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED.
CW	1,032,733	23,014	10,873	5,785	2,836	3,337
PW	1,012,341	22,676	9,996	5,851	2,689	3,222
LY	1,040,518	22,386	11,141	6,258	2,895	3,416
% PW	2	1	9	-1	5	4
% LY	-1	3	-2	-8	-2	-2
1999	7,182,319	161,401	71,567	40,360	18,680	22,841
1998	7,175,218	154,263	77,383	42,635	19,996	23,571
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -						
	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR			
	41.65	41.24	41.52			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT FOR W/E 20-Feb-99
(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
N. ATLANTIC	251.9	2	-6
E.N. CENTRAL	418.6	-5	-3
W.N. CENTRAL	223.1	-8	-2
S. ATLANTIC	197.8	-5	-11
S. CENTRAL	69.1	-14	-8
WEST	216.3	-1	-1
TOTAL	1,376.8	-4	-5
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		101	99

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in 15 Selected States		Broiler Chicks Placed in 15 Selected States	
	Feb 13	Feb 20	Feb 13	Feb 20
	Thousand			
AL	26,857	26,270	*19,125	20,130
AR	*30,398	30,630	*24,293	24,589
DE	4,576	4,687	5,561	5,092
FL	2,981	2,947	2,215	2,338
GA	*31,617	31,672	*24,361	24,732
MD	8,817	8,865	4,972	5,903
MS	18,012	17,990	14,090	14,668
NC	17,715	17,894	13,558	13,616
PA	*3,553	3,827	*2,710	2,539
SC	4,478	4,708	3,207	3,856
TX	13,313	13,483	10,126	10,030
VA	6,663	6,659	5,205	5,092
CA, TN, & WV	*10,826	11,791	*10,148	9,034
15 State Total	*179,806	181,423	*139,571	141,619
Previous Year	174,355	174,508	136,804	134,827
Pct. of Prev.	103	104	102	105

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 3-Apr-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.6 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 147.6 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 143.5 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 147.3 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 58.80 CENTS PER POUND.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES-WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING WEEK OF 02/18/99-02/24/99

	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	44.50	—	45.33	47.10	50.29	50.15	50.50
GNR W 2	—	—	44.00	45.50	—	46.75	7.00
GNR W 3	—	—	41.83	42.83	—	—	4.00
GL W XL	52.00	—	52.00	55.48	50.09	—	12.00
GL W LG	51.00	52.83	50.17	52.83	49.34	55.00	26.00
GL W MD	—	44.00	41.67	43.92	39.50	—	14.50
GL W SM	33.13	34.25	30.50	32.25	—	—	4.00
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	—	40.75	42.36	3.50
NRBS - 48	38.00	39.00	—	36.00	38.00	41.00	7.00
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	40.50	—	1.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 20-Feb-99

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW THOUSANDS	PERCENT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	30.7	29.4	4	8
BOSTON	8.2	9.7	-15	-29
CHICAGO	40.8	68.3	-40	-33
DETROIT	23.7	32.4	-27	-7
KANSAS CITY	0.1	0.1	0	0
LOS ANGELES	85.2	86.1	-1	-5
NEW ORLEANS	13.8	14.4	-4	12
NEW YORK	41.7	45.5	-8	-13
ST. LOUIS	1.5	1.5	0	-29
SAN FRANCISCO	19.0	21.3	-11	2
TOTAL	264.7	308.7	-14	-11
4 WK MVG AVG	279.6			

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 13-Feb-98

	FRYER- ROASTERS	YOUNG TURKEYS	OLD BANDED	TOTAL
HEAD	0	4,723	33	4,756
AVGWT	0.00	25.64	28.58	25.66
LAST WEEK	0	5,530	38	5,568
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	5,508	47	5,555
AVGWT	0.00	24.65(A)	26.02	24.67
TO-DATE/1999	0	27,500(A)	170	27,670
TO-DATE/1998	8	30,046(A)	210	30,264

(A) Includes 107,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 105,000 in 1998.

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS BY

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 13-Feb-99

(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	---YOUNG TURKEYS---			FRYER RSTR	OLD BAND	TOTAL HEAD---	TKY AVG WT
	THOUSAND	PW	AVG WT				
NEAST	931	-26	21.84	(A)	(A)	932	21.84
SATL	640	1	29.21	(A)	(A)	660	29.10
N CENT	1,674	-36	29.02	(A)	(A)	1,675	29.06
S CENT	1,229	52	22.24	(A)	(A)	1,238	22.27
WEST	249	6	24.69	(A)	(A)	251	24.80
U.S.TOTAL	4,723(B)-15	25.64	0	33	4,756	25.66	
TO DATE							
1999	27,500(B)		0	170	27,670		
TO DATE							
1998	30,046(B)		8	210	30,264		

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 31,000 for the year 107,000; last year to date 105,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 20-Feb-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	147,619(A)	2,055	1,299	3,354	406
AVGWT	4.90	3.33	7.87	5.09	6.74
LAST WEEK	150,347	2,258	1,236	3,494	468
YR AGO	142,484	2,140	1,393	3,533	497
AVGWT	4.84	3.27	7.71	5.02	6.33
TO-DATE/1999	1,054,486	15,555	9,229	24,784	3,336
TO-DATE/1998	1,020,479	14,560	8,980	23,540	3,186

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 152.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 149.4 million head or 3.2 million head less than or 98 percent of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING Feb-27

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	02/27/99 (1)	02/20/99
----- THOUSAND HEAD -----		
BRO-FRY	151,334 (2)	148,184
LT HENS	2,221	2,140
HVY HENS	1,506	1,352
CHECK TOTAL	155,061	151,676

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Feb-99 is 151.2 million head compared to 144.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 153.2 million head or 2.0 million more than estimated available. For week of 06-Mar-99 the estimated available is 150.6 million head.

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
JANUARY	16	157.5	147.4	107
	23	146.0	150.3	97
	30	151.5	151.0	100
FEBRUARY	6	153.5	149.4	103
	13	152.2	150.0	101
	20	149.4	152.6	98
YEAR TO DATE	1,067.3	1,044.7	102	
FEBRUARY	27		151.2	
MARCH	6		150.6	

12-CITY COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

	Change from		
22-Feb-99	15-Feb-99	15-Feb-99	23-Feb-98
57.89	-0.27	58.16	57.72
NUMBER OF LOADS	629		

READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS

FINAL REPORT OF PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR TRUCKLOT SALES OF READY-TO-COOK ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED B/F TO BE DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS WEEK OF 2/22-2/27/99.

	U.S. GRADE A		COMPOSITE	
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG
Chicago	47.00-51.00	50.03	51	52.28
Los Angeles	66.00	65.06	63	64.20
New York	50.00-53.00	52.91	44	56.04

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/ 8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	58-62	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	56-63	56	56.00	120
WESTERN REGION 5/	58-62	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION	58-62	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	57-61	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	58-62	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 22-Feb-99	2,542	122,863	81,542
AM 1-Feb-99	2,639	106,151	79,706
CHG	-97	16,712	1,836
PCT CHG	-4	16	2

HEN MARKETS

Cents Per Pound, Generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY TYPE			
2/22/99	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast Heavy	15-22(1)	17-20	18.56
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR(2)		
South Central Heavy	17-22(1)	19-20	19.64
LIGHT TYPE			
2/19/99			
Eastern Light	.5-3.5(1)	1-1.5	
Eastern Light	TFEWR(2)		
So. Central Light	TFEWR(2)		
No. Central Light	TFEWR(1)		
No. Central Light	1.5-2(2)	2	

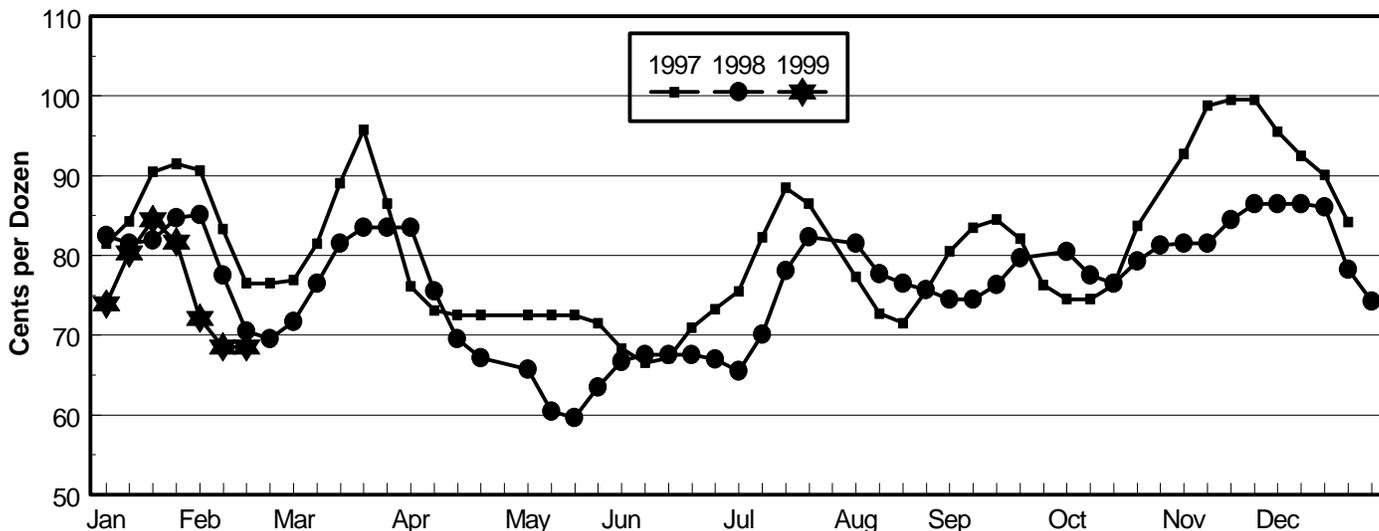
(1) At Farm Buyer Loading

(2) At Farm Producer Loading

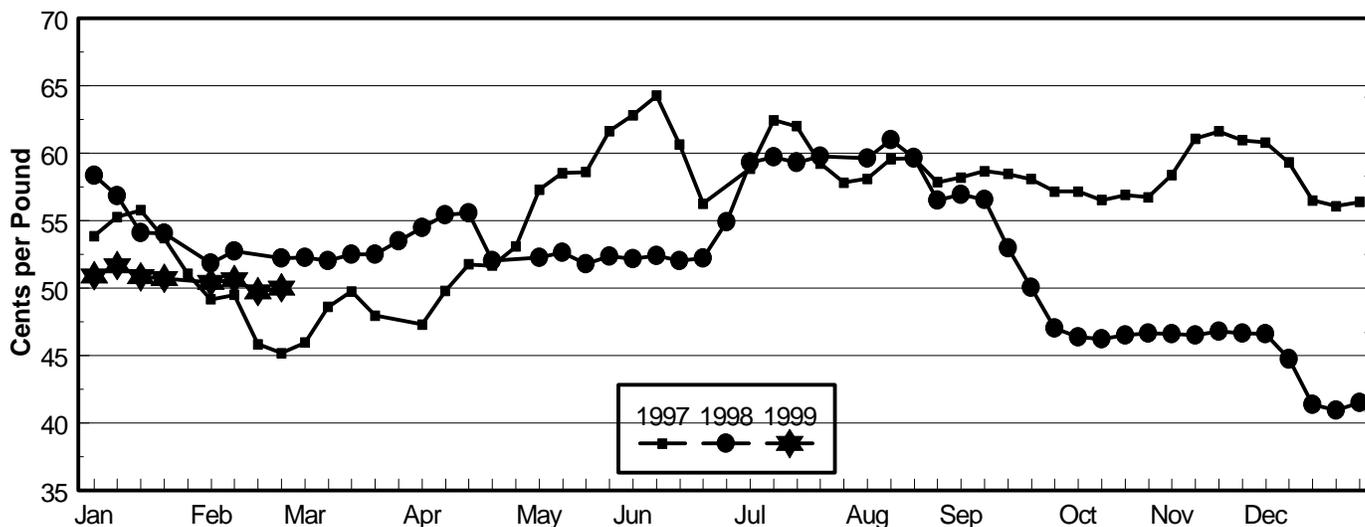
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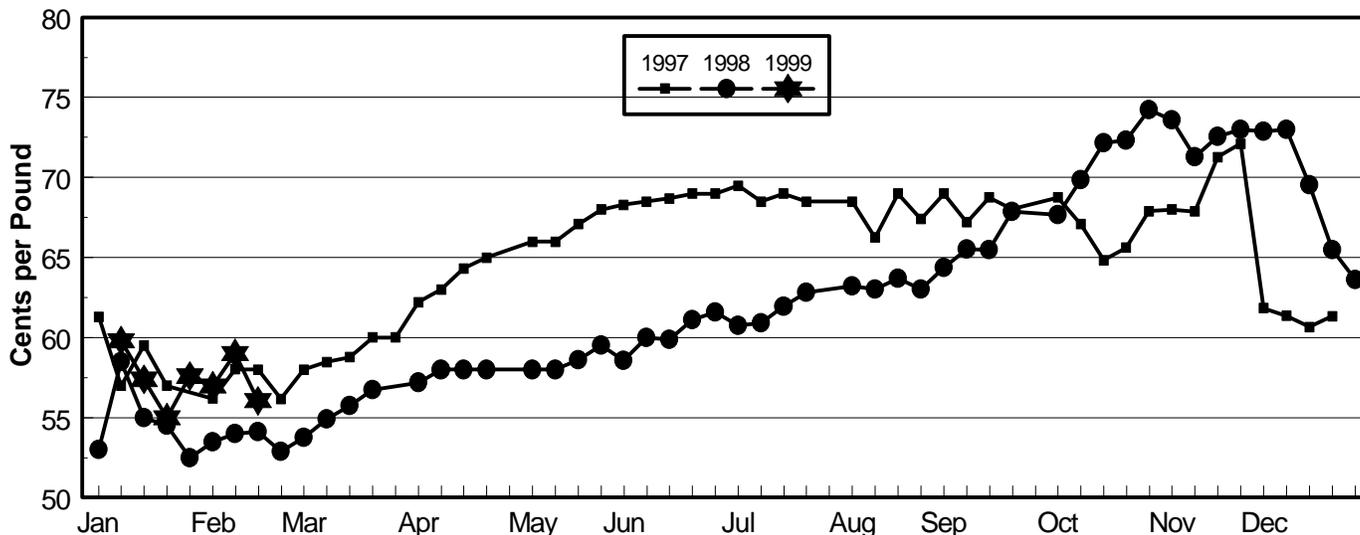
New York Large Egg Weekly Average Price, 1997, 1998, 1999



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Final Weighted Average Prices, US Grade A, 1997, 1998, 1999



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices for 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys, 1997, 1998, 1999



Note: Some weeks' averages are based on offers only.