



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 unchanged to higher in all areas. Trade sentiment steady to firm, mostly fully steady. Demand into retail and food service ranged light to good in pre-holiday trading but mostly moderate. Retail features continue to generate the best movement. Supplies continue to be mixed, but generally adequate for current needs. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to higher, however, late in the period were mostly unchanged. Offerings were adequate for only the fair demand. Most breaking plants were satisfied with regular commitments and company owned production. Floor stocks were adequate and finished product demand only fair. Breakers running full schedules. The market tone steady. Light type hens were fully adequate to ample. The market tone remained 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	73-75	70-73	61-64
Philadelphia	68.5-73	66.5-71	57.5-61
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	61-62	59.5-61	51-52
Jackson (1)	71-72	68-69	60-61
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	72-86	70-84	58-72
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	62-67	61-66	51-56
Detroit (2)	60-63	59-61	48-52
Major Ohio Cities (2)	59-64	58-62	47-52
Major Wisconsin Cities	62-69	60-67	50-57
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	80-82	77-79	66-67
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	97	91	82

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

SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA FOR WEEK ENDING 26-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	70.86	68.48	59.35
SOUTHERN	67.36	65.66	56.44
MIDWEST	60.93	59.58	50.27
WESTERN	87.58	83.86	74.41
TWELVE METRO AREAS	74.30	71.73	62.43

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 Mar. 01, 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	11.5	10.9	5.6	6.8	7.4 42.2
	Change	2.3	0.2	1.8	-1.6	-2.0 2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	31.2	23.6	9.9	20.2	16.7 101.6
	Change	5.6	-2.9	1.0	0.8	2.6 8%
Large	Curr Wk	59.0	74.5	54.0	47.7	96.3 331.5
	Change	11.3	7.8	14.1	-1.8	11.7 15%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.5	29.0	19.5	13.3	21.4 98.7
	Change	3.8	7.4	3.4	-0.3	2.0 20%
Small	Curr Wk	6.3	6.4	3.9	4.9	12.1 33.6
	Change	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.3 19%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.3	12.5	12.0	7.0	6.4 42.2
	Change	-0.4	-1.0	0.1	1.4	0.8 2%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	39.5	66.7	10.2	31.1	50.5 198.0
	Change	5.4	-1.8	-2.7	-0.8	3.5 2%
Total	Curr Wk	167.3	223.6	115.1	131.0	210.8 847.8
Percent	Change	21%	5%	20%	-1%	10% 10%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	847.8	10%	165
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	413.7	2%	38
Total Shell Egg	1,261.5	7%	203

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 165 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 27-Feb-99

	(LBS IN THOUSANDS)		(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)			
	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED.
CW	1,032,669	23,448	10,513	5,539	2,658	3,278
PW	1,032,733	23,014	10,873	5,785	2,836	3,337
LY	999,317	22,679	10,318	6,048	2,785	3,270
% PW	0	2	-3	-4	-6	-2
% LY	3	3	2	-8	-5	0
1999	8,214,988	184,849	82,080	45,899	21,338	26,119
1998	8,174,535	176,942	87,701	48,683	22,781	26,841
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -						
	CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST			
	WEEK	WEEK	YEAR			
	41.42	41.65	42.34			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT FOR W/E 27-Feb-99
(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
N. ATLANTIC	261.1	4	-6
E.N. CENTRAL	427.1	2	-4
W.N. CENTRAL	222.9	0	-5
S. ATLANTIC	198.4	0	-10
S. CENTRAL	85.5	24	14
WEST	222.5	3	-4
TOTAL	1,417.5	3	-5
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		101	100

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in 15 Selected States		Broiler Chicks Placed in 15 Selected States	
	Feb 20	Feb 27	Feb 20	FEB 27
	Thousand			
AL	26,270	26,584	20,130	19,437
AR	*30,600	30,703	*24,676	23,715
DE	4,687	4,802	5,092	4,881
FL	2,947	2,920	2,338	2,505
GA	*31,708	31,281	*24,723	25,255
MD	8,865	8,998	5,903	5,890
MS	17,990	17,666	14,668	15,150
NC	17,894	17,847	13,616	13,829
PA	*3,857	3,913	*2,594	2,589
SC	4,708	4,619	3,856	3,736
TX	13,483	13,485	10,030	10,238
VA	6,659	6,673	5,092	5,879
CA, TN, & WV	11,791	11,552	*9,036	9,500
15 State Total	*181,459	*181,043	*141,754	142,604
Previous Year	174,508	176,161	134,827	137,647
Pct. of Prev.	104	103	105	104

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 10-Apr-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 150.3 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 148.6 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 144.1 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 140.5 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 58.61 CENTS PER POUND.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES-WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING WEEK OF 02/25/99-03/03/99

	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	45.25	50.50	47.63	49.00	53.62	54.22	56.75
GNR W 2	46.00	—	—	—	47.43	48.00	3.75
GNR W 3	—	—	—	41.50	38.75	40.75	4.00
GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W XL	—	57.83	54.00	56.25	51.54	—	17.75
GL W LG	—	57.64	52.67	55.50	51.84	—	33.00
GL W MD	—	45.00	43.25	45.13	42.00	—	14.25
GL W SM	—	—	31.13	33.25	33.00	—	5.00
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	35.00	36.00	40.56	42.95	8.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 27-Feb-99

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW THOUSANDS	PERCENT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	31.8	30.7	4	-10
BOSTON	7.8	8.2	-5	-31
CHICAGO	44.0	40.8	8	10
DETROIT	25.9	23.7	9	-5
KANSAS CITY	0.1	0.1	0	0
LOS ANGELES	94.2	85.2	11	-1
NEW ORLEANS	11.3	13.8	-18	10
NEW YORK	44.3	41.7	6	2
ST. LOUIS	1.5	1.5	0	-32
SAN FRANCISCO	20.3	19.0	7	0
TOTAL	281.2	264.7	6	-1
4 WK MVG AVG	280.0			

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 20-Feb-98

	FRYER- ROASTERS	YOUNG TURKEYS	OLD BANDED	TOTAL
				THOUSANDS
HEAD	0	4,259	37	4,296
AVGWT	0.00	26.05	24.30	26.03
LAST WEEK	0	4,723	33	4,756
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	5,458	79	5,537
AVGWT	0.00	24.11 (A)	26.41	24.14
TO-DATE/1999	0	31,759 (A)	207	31,966
TO-DATE/1998	8	35,504 (A)	289	35,801

(A) Includes 111,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 128,000 in 1998.

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS BY

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 20-Feb-99

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

	---YOUNG TURKEYS---			FRYER RSTR	OLD BAND	TOTAL TKY	AVG WT
	THOUSAND	PW	AVG				
	HEAD	% CHG	WT	---THOUSAND HEAD---			
NEAST	930	0	23.26	(A)	(A)	933	23.25
SATL	579	-10	29.10	(A)	(A)	587	29.02
N CENT	2,061	23	28.40	(A)	(A)	2,086	28.36
S CENT	495	-60	19.17	NONE	NONE	495	19.17
WEST	194	-22	22.95	(A)	(A)	195	22.92
U.S.TOTAL	4,259(B)	-10	26.05	0	37	4,296	26.03
TO DATE							
1999	31,759(B)			0	207	31,966	
TO DATE							
1998	35,504(B)			8	289	35,801	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 4,000 for the year 111,000; last year to date 128,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 27-Feb-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	149,527(A)	2,040	1,356	3,396	464
AVGWT	5.03	3.48	8.24	5.38	6.67
LAST WEEK	147,619	2,055	1,299	3,354	406
YR AGO	143,532	1,776	1,316	3,092	446
AVGWT	4.89	3.46	7.84	5.32	6.41
TO-DATE/1999	1,204,013	17,595	10,585	28,180	3,800
TO-DATE/1998	1,164,011	16,336	10,296	26,632	3,632

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 151.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 151.3 million head or 0.1 million head more than or 100 percent of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING Mar-06

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/06/99 (1)	02/27/99
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
BRO-FRY	152,445 (2)	151,334
LT HENS	2,080	2,221
HVY HENS	1,498	1,506
CHECK TOTAL	156,023	155,061

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 06-Mar-99 is 150.6 million head compared to 145.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 154.3 million head or 3.7 million more than estimated available. For week of 13-Mar-99 the estimated available is 150.2 million head.

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

WEEK ENDING		MILLION HEAD	MILLION HEAD	PCT	AVG WT
		SLAUGHTERED	AVAILABLE		
JANUARY	23	146.0	150.3	97	5.03
	30	151.5	151.0	100	4.99
FEBRUARY	6	153.5	149.4	103	5.07
	13	152.2	150.0	101	4.97
	20	149.4	152.6	98	4.90
	27	151.3	151.2	100	5.03
YEAR TO DATE		1,218.6	1,195.9	102	
MARCH	6		150.6		
	13		150.2		

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

	Change from	22-Feb-99	22-Feb-99	02-Mar-98
01-Mar-99				
	57.43	-0.46	57.89	57.78
NUMBER OF LOADS		641		

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 3/01-3/06/99.

	U.S. GRADE A			COMPOSITE	
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	47.00-51.00	50.06	49	52.28	79
Los Angeles	65.00	64.43	59	63.33	106
New York	51.00-55.00	53.10	56	55.11	84

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/	60-63	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	59-61	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	60-62	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION	60-61	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	59-61	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	60-62	-	-	-

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	TURKS	POP
		LBS	LBS	LBS
AM	1-Mar-99	2,629	119,554	82,349
AM	1-Feb-99	2,639	106,151	79,706
CHG		-10	13403	2643
PCT CHG		0	13	3

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of January 31, 1999 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on March 1, 1999 are:

FROZEN EGGS	11MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS 4.99 PCT
TURKS	412MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS 4.92 PCT
POP	742MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS 5.01 PCT

HEN MARKETS

Cents Per Pound, Generally for slaughter the following week.

3/1/99	HEAVY TYPE		
	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast Heavy	15-22(1)	15-19	17.79
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR(2)		
South Central Heavy	17-22(1)	18-20	19.00
2/26/99 LIGHT TYPE			
Eastern Light	1-3(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	

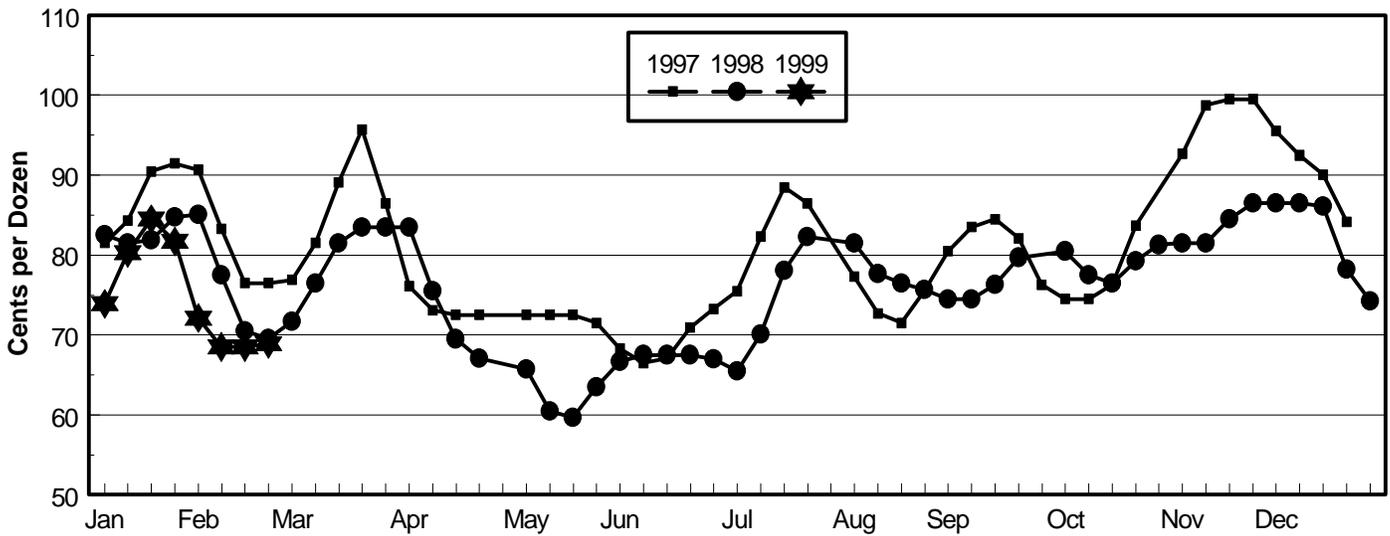
(1) At Farm Buyer Loading

(2) At Farm Producer Loading

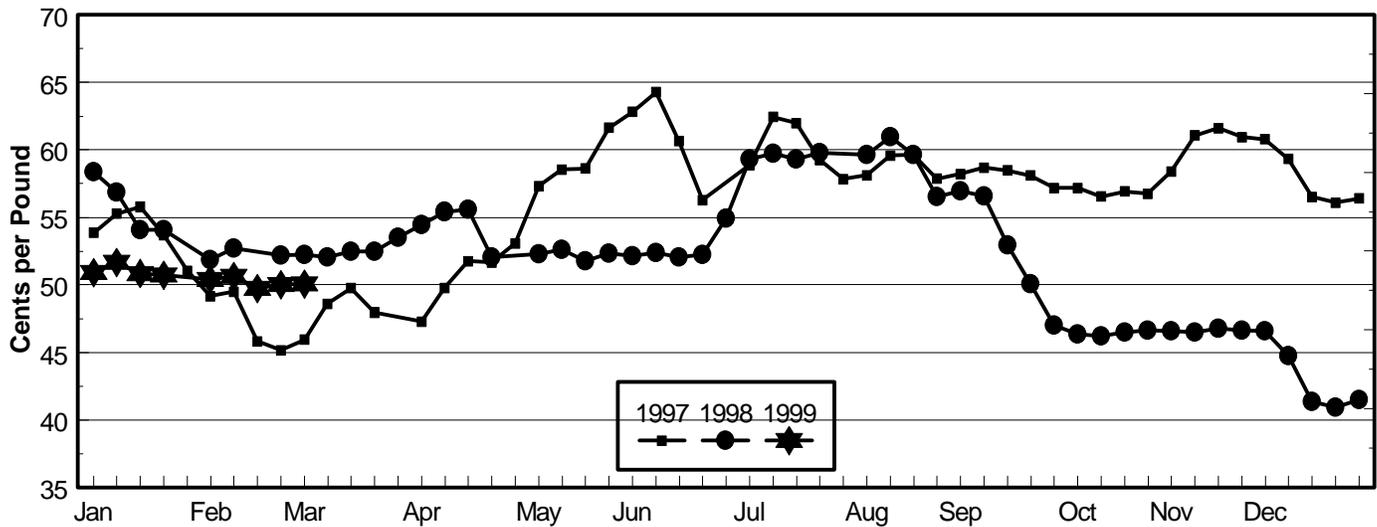
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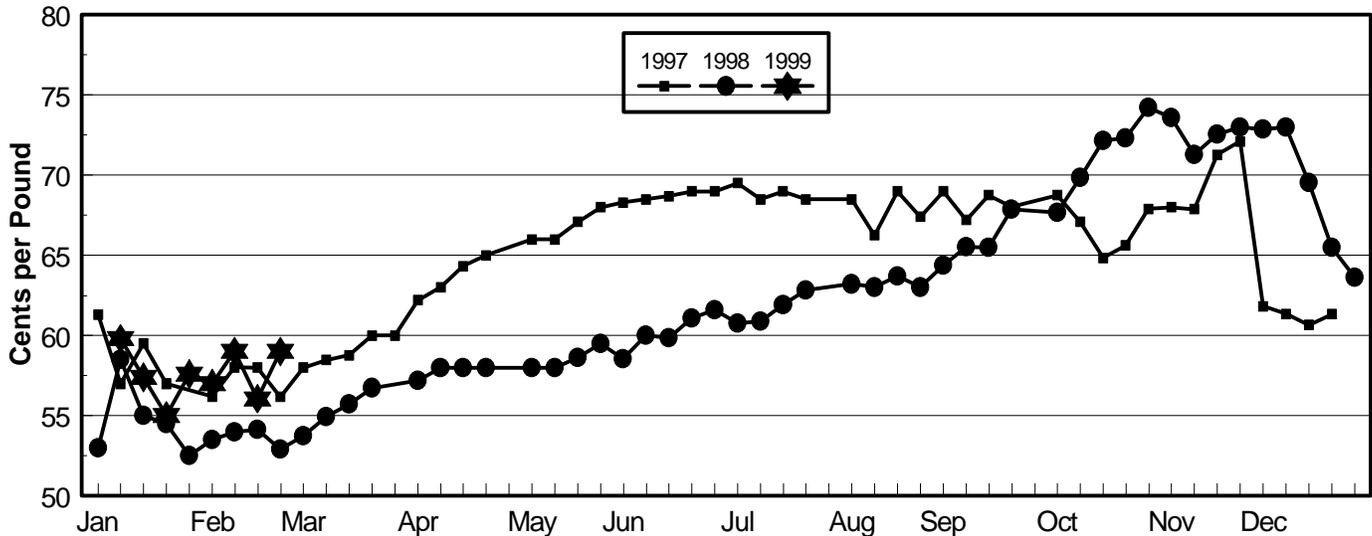
New York Large Egg Weekly Average Price, 1997, 1998, 1999



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.