



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

ISSN 1520-6114

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 24, 2003
VOL. 54 NO. 52

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW

Prices were unchanged throughout the week in all locations. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to very good. Supplies were sufficient to short. Breaking stock nest run along with checks and undergrades' prices were unchanged during the week. Offerings were at least fully adequate to instances ample with demand continuing very light. Schedules remain reduced for this week and next for the upcoming holidays. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady. Light type fowl prices were unchanged to higher. Offerings were adequate to instances tight as some users of spent fowl struggled to obtain enough birds to fulfill their needs. Demand was fairly good. Removal prices were steady at 6 to 12.5 cents per head.



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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Retail demand was good to usually very good as graders struggle to fill overwhelming last minute holiday orders. Food service movement was moderate to mostly good. Supplies were usually in close balance. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand remained very light while offerings continued at least fully adequate to instances ample. Schedules were reduced for the holidays. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	87-96	90-93
LARGE	86-94	87-92
MEDIUM	67-75	70-72

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices remained unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to full steady. Retail demand was good to very good preceding the holiday. Supplies were in close balance to occasionally short for present trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for the seasonally light demand. Light type hens were no better than adequate for less than normal schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	93-107	96-99
LARGE	89-104	94-98
MEDIUM	70-85	74-77

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

Dec 19, 2003

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	100.00	98.00	78.00
SOUTHEAST	100.50	98.50	77.00
MIDWEST	93.50	91.50	73.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	100.50	99.50	79.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	98.69	96.98	77.00

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

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

	12-23-03	12-16-03	12-24-02
Large	69-73	69-73	39-43
Medium	50-54	50-54	21-25

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-DEC 22, 2003

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast		No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	5-Area Pacific
Jumbo	Curr Wk	7.2	16.1	11.4	14.9	14.0	63.6
	Change	-4.8	-1.8	-0.3	-1.5	0.9	-11%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	17.0	44.5	11.6	18.9	27.7	119.7
	Change	-10.9	-21.2	-3.1	-7.5	-2.4	-27%
Large	Curr Wk	39.8	106.9	75.7	72.5	98.4	393.3
	Change	-6.0	-40.0	-24.2	-29.2	-24.3	-24%
Medium	Curr Wk	10.1	36.9	12.4	22.0	34.8	116.2
	Change	-5.2	-9.2	-1.0	1.6	-1.6	-12%
Small	Curr Wk	2.5	4.9	2.2	4.1	6.2	19.9
	Change	-0.1	-0.1	-1.1	-2.5	0.5	-14%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.5	19.7	8.6	18.6	6.2	57.6
	Change	-0.2	-5.3	-1.4	2.5	-0.1	-7%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	19.2	26.4	12.1	15.1	30.1	102.9
	Change	-8.7	-6.6	-9.6	-20.6	-1.7	-32%
Total	Curr Wk	100.3	255.4	134.0	166.1	217.4	873.2
	Percent Change	-26%	-25%	-23%	-26%	-12%	-22%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	873.2	-22%	171
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	198.0	-15%	36
Total Shell Egg	1071.2	-21%	207

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 171 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 - W/E 20-Dec-03
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES	LIQUID	LIQUID	LIQUID	DRIED	INED
	BROKEN	WHOLE	WHITE	YOLK		
CW	1,208,513	30,297	10,722	5,990	2,243	4,112
PW	1,189,328	30,302	10,280	5,552	2,033	4,331
LY	1,185,381	29,076	10,644	5,737	2,595	4,260
% CHG PW	2	0	4	8	10	-5
% CHG LY	2	4	1	4	-14	-3
2003	59,590,226	1,466,118	536,477	292,135	116,481	213,076
2002	61,396,726	1,438,633	584,752	314,247	141,119	218,079
% CHG YTD	-3	2	-8	-7	-17	-2
			CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST	
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			WEEK	WEEK	YEAR	
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)			42.30	42.43	41.94	
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)			38.90	38.79	38.35	

BROILER HATCHERY

STATE	<u>Broiler Eggs Set</u>		<u>Broiler Chicks Placed</u>	
	19 Selected States		19 Selected States	
	Week Ending			
	13-Dec	20-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec
	2003	2003	2003	2003
	THOUSAND			
AL	29,560	29,403	21,878	21,938
AR	30,992	30,777	23,280	24,764
DE	3,805	3,777	4,689	4,857
FL	1,354	1,353	1,420	1,616
GA	33,269	32,128	*24,688	25,840
KY	6,768	6,781	5,849	5,647
LA	3,847	3,784	3,933	3,554
MD	8,868	8,884	5,942	6,101
MS	19,396	19,182	15,804	16,228
NC	*18,004	18,046	*14,354	14,608
OK	6,371	6,442	5,512	4,383
PA	*3,624	3,775	*2,669	2,637
SC	3,861	3,517	3,842	4,469
TX	13,879	14,882	12,292	12,356
VA	6,349	6,325	5,285	5,131
CA, MO, TN, & WV	16,591	17,284	*15,254	16,027
19 State Total	*206,538	206,340	*166,691	170,156
Previous Year Total	203,251	200,056	163,147	164,898
Pct. of Prev. Year	102	103	102	103

*Revised

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 30-Jan-04 is estimated at 155.1 million head. This compares to 154.0 million head the previous week and to 154.2 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 153.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 60.13 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVG PRICES (CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DEC 17-DEC 23, 2003

Current Loads 59.50		Future Loads 50.25		Total Loads 109.75		
CLASS	SE		NE		MW	
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST
GNR W 1	74.00	78.60	74.17	76.09	75.00	72.00
GNR W 2	--	--	--	--	--	71.00
GNR W 3	--	--	58.00	59.00	56.00	59.00
GNR BR XL	--	--	--	105.57	83.50	75.00
GNR BR 1	--	104.00	--	113.00	--	--
GL W J	--	81.00	--	95.00	64.00	--
GL W XL	--	90.00	86.00	86.14	70.31	82.50
GL W LG	89.00	89.58	82.75	86.77	64.20	85.38
GL W MD	69.00	67.00	65.86	66.00	--	62.86
GL W SM	49.50	51.00	49.67	51.33	43.00	45.00
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	63.00	64.50
NRBS - 39	--	--	--	--	--	35.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 20-Dec-2003

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG PW	LY
ATLANTA	33.2	28.6	16	12
BOSTON	4.1	3.9	5	5
CHICAGO	64.2	60.5	6	14
DETROIT	33.2	36.9	-10	-1
KANSAS CITY	5.9	5.7	4	64
LOS ANGELES	84.7	101.1	-16	-17
NEW ORLEANS	10.1	8.7	16	-41
NEW YORK	36.3	31.9	14	-17
ST. LOUIS	24.3	21.5	13	17
SAN FRANCISCO	27.8	24.8	12	-1
TOTAL	323.8	323.6	0	-4
4 WK MVG AVG	319.9			

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 20-Dec-2003 (PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	YOUNG TURKEYS		TOTAL TURKEYS		
	PCT CHG	AVG LIVE WT	OLD BANDED	AVG LIVE WT	
-THOUSAND HEAD-	PW	WT	-THOUSAND HEAD-	WT	
N EAST	868	-8	20.86	(A) 869	20.86
SATL	743	-4	30.45	(A) 743	30.45
N CENT	2,596	25	28.88	(A) 2,596	28.88
S CENT	543	-3	21.02	(A) 543	21.02
WEST	500	-19	18.94	(A) 500	18.94
U.S. TOTAL	5,250(B)	6	26.02	1	5,251
TO-DATE					
2003	240,394(B)			606	241,000
TO-DATE					
2002	239,081(B)			661	239,742

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 20-Dec-2003

	YOUNG HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD	TOTAL
	THOUSANDS				
HEAD	2,490	2,747	13	1	5,251
AVG WT	15.63	35.44	24.33	52.41	26.02
LAST WEEK	2,132	2,805	35	1	4,973
SAME WK YR AGO	1,827	2,903	38	1	4,769
AVG WT	15.21	37.65	26.87	28.23	28.96
TO-DATE/2003	97,219	140,037	3,138	606	241,000
TO-DATE/2002	95,103	141,258	2,720	661	239,742

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 20-Dec-03

(PRELIMINARY)	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	154,431	1,340	1,509	2,849	440
AVG WT	5.34	3.72	7.84	5.90	7.08
LAST WEEK	153,501	1,379	1,292	2,671	453
SAME WK YR AGO	152,854	1,782	1,442	3,224	434
AVG WT	5.07	3.37	7.60	5.26	6.6
TO-DATE/2003	7,819,202	71,977	71,311	143,288	21,092
TO-DATE/2002	7,878,649	88,473	72,137	160,610	21,251

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 147.8 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 156.3 million head or 8.5 million head more than or 106% of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 27-Dec-03

	Current Week	Previous Week
12/27/03	(1)12/20/03	
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
BRO-FRY	116,078(2)	169,762
LT HENS	820	1,461
HVY HENS	698	1,510
TOTAL	117,596	172,733

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Dec-03 is 145.8 million head compared to 109.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 116.3 million head or 29.5 million less than estimated available. For week of 03-Jan-04 the estimated available is 147.1 million head.

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

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
NOVEMBER 15	159	151.7	105%	5.3
22	153.1	149.1	103%	5.25
29	119.8	149.6	80%	5.35
DECEMBER 6	156.8	150.2	104%	5.45
13	155.4	150.2	103%	5.23
20	156.3	147.8	106%	5.34
YEAR TO DATE	7914.3	7967.6	99%	
DECEMBER 27		145.8		
JANUARY 3		147.1		

READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers f.o.b. and Delivered to First Receivers at major market areas week of 12/22/03-12/26/03 (cents per lb.)

	U.S. GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	56.00-59.00	58.67	32	61.44	62
Los Angeles	74.00	72.04	54	72.19	111
New York	59.00-62.00	60.91	23	61.87	50

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

	Change from			
	15-Dec-03	15-Dec-03	23-Dec-02	
22-Dec-03	65.73	-0.04	65.77	57.12
NUMBER OF LOADS	527			

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/	61-67	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-66	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-68	-	-	-

16-24 LB TOMS

EASTERN REGION	58-59	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	57-58	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	58-60	-	-	-

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 - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)

SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)

		FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM	12/22/03	3,383	114,020	43,979
AM	12/01/03	3,395	110,555	45,473
CHG		-12	3465	-1494
PCT CHG		0%	3%	-3%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 22-Dec-03

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast (1)	6-9 CENTS/LB.	8-9	8.47
Southeast (2)	TFEWR		
South Central(1)	6.75-11.75 CENTS/LB.	8.25-9	8.94

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading

LIGHT TYPE 19-Dec-03 Cents per Head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern		
Removal Cost	0-12	10-11

So. Central

Removal Cost Too Few To Report

No. Central

Removal Cost 6-12.5 10-12.25

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

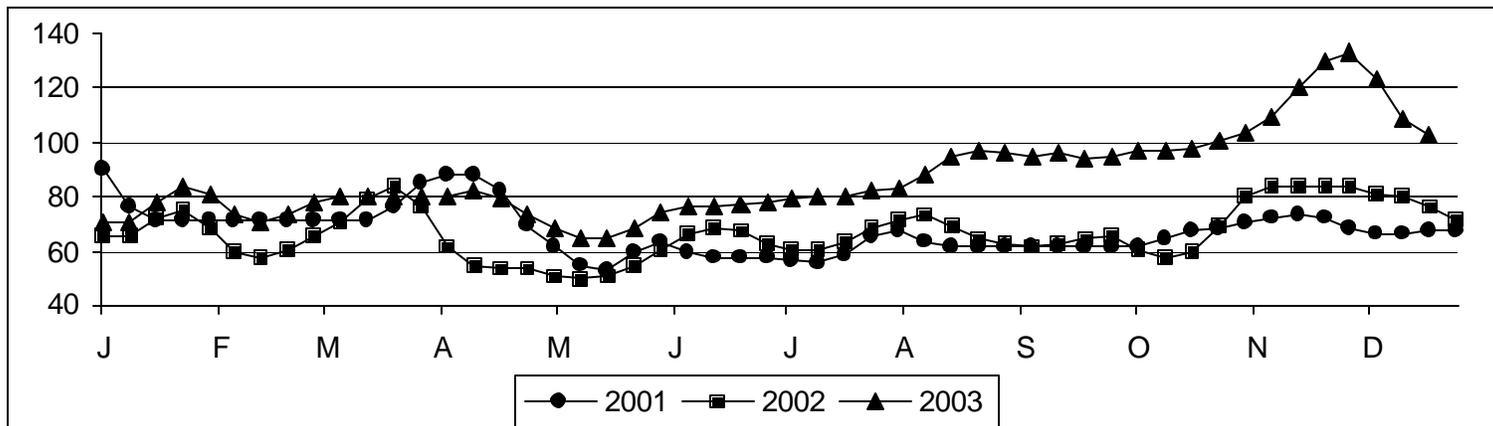
(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

W/E 20-Dec-03

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	228.9	3	-5
E.N. CENTRAL	601.7	7	9
W.N. CENTRAL	310.0	3	13
S. ATLANTIC	159.4	-17	1
S. CENTRAL	120.6	4	22
WEST	186.7	-3	-8
TOTAL	1607.3	1	5
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		86	86

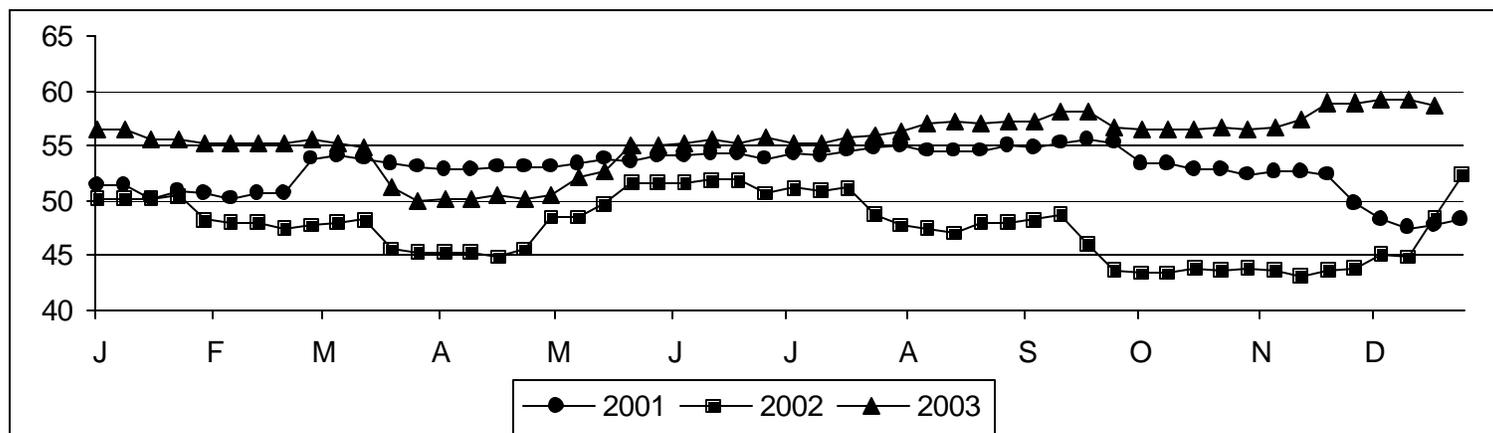
New York Large Weekly Average Price

Cents per Dozen



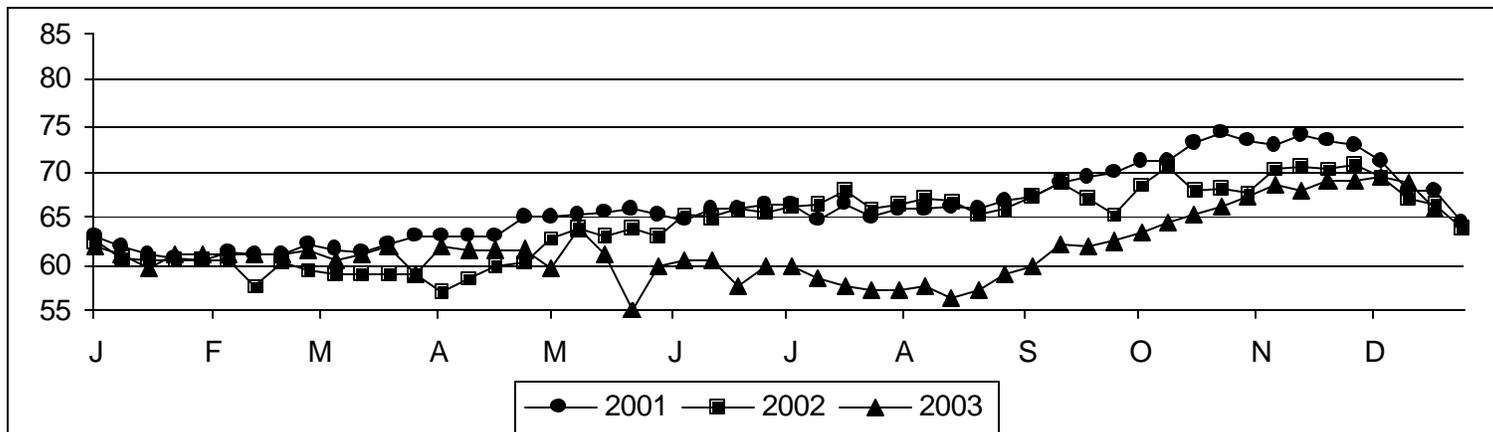
Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices

Cents per Pound



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices for 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys

Cents per Pound



Note: Some Weeks' Average Prices are Based on Offers Only

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