



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

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NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Early week prices were unchanged to lower and continued to decrease by the close of the period. Throughout the week, the market tone was mixed, steady to barely steady. Demand at retail outlets was moderate to very good, best where holiday features provided additional consumer interest. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock and check and undergrade prices were lower. The market tone was steady to barely steady. Fully adequate offerings were reported for the irregular demand. Some spot purchasing was needed to fill needs. Most breakers were satisfied with regular commitments and company owned production. Schedules were full-time. Light type fowl prices were higher for the adequate offerings. Removal prices were steady at 4.5 to 10.5 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 to producers in IA-MN-WI were lower. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Retail demand was moderate to very good with planned and current feature activity providing some much needed last minute consumer interest for the Easter holiday. Loose egg demand was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to instances fully adequate and still easily filled current orders. Central states breaking stock prices were lower. Offerings were fully adequate for the irregular demand. Most breakers satisfied with regular sources of product with limited spot purchasing to fill needs. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	87-96	91-93
LARGE	87-95	89-92
MEDIUM	69-75	72-74

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, however all sizes were trending sharply lower. The market tone was mixed and highly unsettled. Demand ranged moderate to very good, best where features were in progress for Easter. Supplies were adequate to available. Breaking stock offerings were adequate to ample and demand was reported as light to moderate. Spent hens were generally sufficient for the mostly moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	92-106	95-99
LARGE	89-103	94-98
MEDIUM	69-82	74-76

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

COMBINED REGIONAL Apr 02, 2004

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	117.00	116.00	95.00
SOUTHEAST	118.50	116.50	94.00
MIDWEST	112.00	110.50	93.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	116.50	115.50	95.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	115.99	114.64	94.43

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

	04-06-04	03-30-04	04-07-03
Large	70-77	87-94	48-52
Medium	52-56	69-73	34-38

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-APR 05, 2004

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

		Ne	So	So	Atl	Pacific	5-Area
		Cent	Cent	Cent	Cent	Cent	Cent
Jumbo	Curr Wk	11.6	26.6	8.6	16.2	13.0	76.0
	Change	-0.4	-1.7	-2.0	-4.8	-3.2	-14%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	27.2	49.7	12.3	24.4	46.4	160.0
	Change	-8.4	-7.3	-1.8	-6.0	-3.5	-14%
Large	Curr Wk	63.6	144.3	107.6	124.3	180.9	620.7
	Change	-27.9	-52.1	-27.3	-23.5	-34.5	-21%
Medium	Curr Wk	13.1	54.4	17.2	25.0	42.3	152.0
	Change	-2.6	-4.6	1.4	0.3	3.4	-1%
Small	Curr Wk	3.2	8.0	3.1	6.4	4.8	25.5
	Change	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	1.6	-0.8	0%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.4	27.0	12.3	16.4	7.0	67.1
	Change	-1.1	-1.8	0.6	2.5	1.6	3%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	16.1	46.9	19.4	27.4	32.3	142.1
	Change	-10.3	-4.3	-12.5	-9.3	-4.4	-22%
Total	Curr Wk	139.2	356.9	180.5	240.1	326.7	1243.4
	Percent Change	-27%	-17%	-19%	-14%	-11%	-17%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1243.4	-17%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	244.6	6%	35
Total Shell Egg	1488.0	-14%	205

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 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 03-Apr-04
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,197,986	29,072	10,845	5,875	2,283	4,178
PW	1,188,239	29,064	11,047	5,897	2,138	4,113
LY	1,104,923	27,128	10,037	5,180	1,721	4,132
% CHG PW	1	0	-2	0	7	2
% CHG LY	8	7	8	13	33	1
2004	15,143,237	360,704	144,289	80,416	33,062	53,177
2003	14,481,699	352,769	131,217	72,459	30,483	53,675
% CHG YTD	5	2	10	11	8	-1
			CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST	
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			WEEK	WEEK	YEAR	
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)			41.71	42.18	42.06	
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)			38.22	38.72	38.32	

BROILER HATCHERY

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set, 19 Selected States		Broiler Chicks Placed, 19 Selected States	
	27-Mar 2004	03-Apr 2004	27-Mar 2004	03-Apr 2004
	THOUSAND			
AL	29,773	30,354	*21,787	21,846
AR	31,331	31,453	24,554	25,018
DE	3,834	3,738	4,928	4,562
FL	1,337	1,343	*1,507	1,540
GA	32,685	32,159	*25,683	25,963
KY	7,176	7,244	5,680	5,944
LA	3,787	3,877	3,870	3,778
MD	8,875	8,880	5,890	6,134
MS	19,179	19,459	16,428	16,617
NC	18,611	19,033	14,615	15,120
OK	6,585	6,526	5,278	5,033
PA	4,007	3,952	2,884	2,826
SC	3,781	3,392	4,714	4,179
TX	15,397	15,436	12,438	12,529
VA	6,834	6,662	5,606	5,183
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*17,738	17,687	*16,306	15,999
19 State Total	*210,930	211,195	*172,168	172,271
Previous Year Total	205,168	210,423	169,325	167,811
Pct. of Prev. Year	103	100	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 15-May-04 is estimated at 158.6 million head. This compares to 158.4 million head the previous week and to 158.7 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 157.4 million head and the composite weighted average price was 59.20 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVG PRICES
(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 1, 2004-APRIL 7, 2004

CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	68.00	76.40	71.75	70.83	--	--	14.50
GNR W 3	--	--	--	--	--	55.00	1.00
GNR BR 1	--	--	--	--	--	87.00	1.00
GL W J	--	--	--	--	63.25	--	5.25
GL W XL	--	77.50	81.80	82.59	68.85	74.86	36.75
GL W LG	--	84.18	71.70	80.38	67.38	75.00	22.25
GL W MD	68.00	--	59.13	60.25	--	--	9.25
GL W SM	48.00	49.50	50.25	51.50	43.00	46.00	4.25
GL BR LG	--	--	--	--	--	106.00	.75
NRBS - 48	58.00	--	--	--	64.69	67.13	89.00
NRBS - 42	--	--	--	--	--	62.00	5.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 03-Apr-2004

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	31.3	27.8	13	26
BOSTON	3.3	3.3	0	-6
CHICAGO	79.6	75.4	6	35
DETROIT	41.7	29.5	41	80
KANSAS CITY	12.5	3.1	303	16
LOS ANGELES	88.2	86.4	2	9
NEW ORLEANS	8.7	8.3	5	-32
NEW YORK	30.1	31.8	-5	-3
ST. LOUIS	23.2	17.4	33	36
SAN FRANCISCO	22.1	17.2	28	0
TOTAL	340.7	300.2	13	19
4 WK MVG AVG	305.7			

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTSBY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 03-Apr-2004
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	YOUNG TURKEYS			TOTAL TURKEYS	
	PCT CHG	AVG LIVE	OLD BANDED	AVG LIVE	
-THOUSAND HEAD-	PW	WT	-THOUSAND HEAD-	WT	
N EAST	840	-9	22.34	(A)	841 22.34
SATL	747	-2	30.35	(A)	748 30.35
N CENT	1,944	2	32.55	(A)	1,945 32.55
S CENT	513	-1	21.54	(A)	515 21.54
WEST	351	3	22.20	(A)	353 22.20
U.S. TOTAL	4,395(B)	-1	28.11	7	4,402 28.11
TO-DATE					
2004	54,898(B)			104	55,002
TO-DATE					
2003	57,717(B)			224	57,941

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included:

this week 61,000; for the year 588,000; last year to date 765,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED

W/E 03-Apr-2004

	YOUNG		YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS			
	THOUSANDS				
HEAD	1,735	2,599	61	7	4,402
AVG WT	15.42	36.69	23.72	27.14	28.11
LAST WEEK	1,808	2,595	48	7	4,458
SAME WK YR AGO	1,638	2,810	65	22	4,535
AVG WT	15.95	36.97	24.16	28.71	29.16
TO-DATE/2004	22,087	32,223	588	104	55,002
TO-DATE/2003	22,196	34,756	765	224	57,941

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 03-Apr-04

(PRELIMINARY)	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	152,052	1,234	1,172	2,406	507
AVG WT	5.19	3.42	8.22	5.76	6.28
LAST WEEK	152,749	1,254	1,222	2,476	481
SAME WK YR AGO	156,255	1,801	1,347	3,148	422
AVG WT	5.06	3.3	7.94	5.29	6.54
TO-DATE/2004	1,994,439	16,508	16,378	32,886	6,019
TO-DATE/2003	1,964,101	22,005	17,662	39,667	5,450

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.9 million head or 3 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 10-Apr-04

CLASS	Current Week	Previous Week
	04/10/04(1)	04/03/04
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
BRO-FRY	155,106(2)	159,305
LT HENS	1,495	1,298
HVY HENS	1,360	1,459
TOTAL	157,961	162,062

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 10-Apr-04 is 157.6 million head compared to 154.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 155.4 million head or 2.2 million less than estimated available. For week of 17-Apr-04 the estimated available is 158.8 million head.

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

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 28	154.6	156.8	99%	5.17
MARCH 6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
13	159.1	157	101%	5.06
20	154.9	158.6	98%	5.15
27	154.6	158	98%	5.16
APRIL 3	153.9	156.9	98%	5.19
YEAR TO DATE	2018.8	2042	99%	
APRIL 10		157.6		
17		158.8		

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 4/05/04-04/09/04 (cents per lb.)

	U.S. GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	71.00-74.00	73.99	36	76.42	71
Los Angeles	79.00	78.97	61	81.16	134
New York	75.00-77.00	76.04	23	76.25	48

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

	Change from			
	5-Apr-04	29-Mar-04	29-Mar-04	7-Apr-03
	76.96	0.19	76.77	57.71
NUMBER OF LOADS	564			

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/	64-65	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	64-65	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-66	-	-	-

16-24 LB TOMS

EASTERN REGION	64	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	64	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	64	-	-	-

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	04/05/04	3,123	182,868	40,646
AM	03/01/04	3,548	169,441	39,330
CHG		-425	13427	1316
PCT CHG		-12%	8%	3%

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of February 29, 2004 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on April 1, 2004 are:

FROZEN EGGS	19 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
TURKEYS	516 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
POULTRY	577 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 05-Apr-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast (1)	6.25-10.25	8.75-9.25	8.97

Southeast (2)

	TFEWR	
South Central(1)	6.25-12 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.5 9.04

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

LIGHT TYPE 02-Apr-04 Cents per Head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

REMOVAL COST

	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	0-12	8.5-11
So. Central	Too Few To Report	
No. Central	4.5-10.5	4.5-5

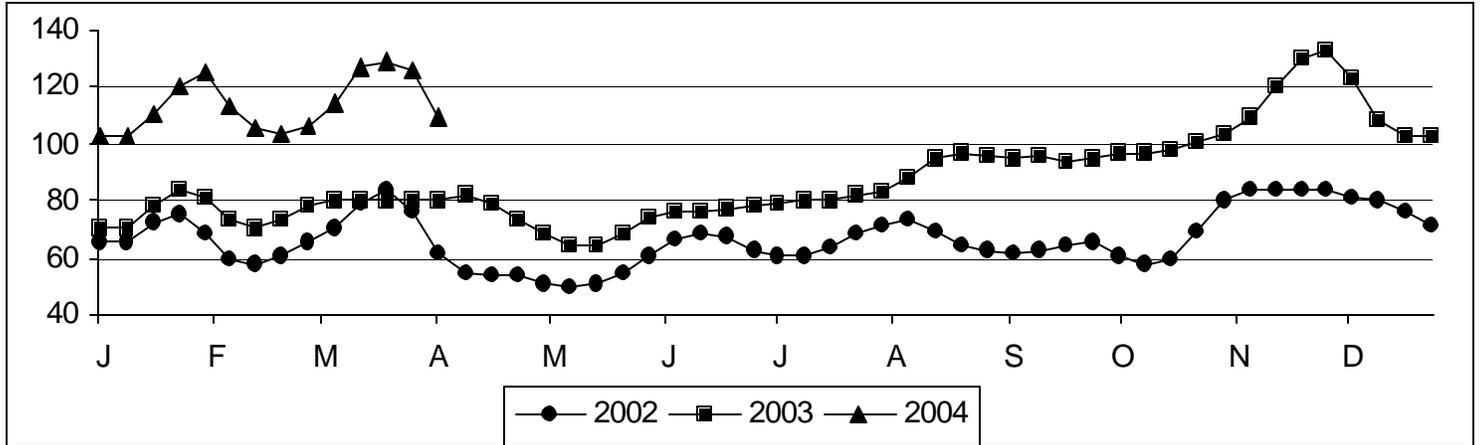
COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 03-Apr-04

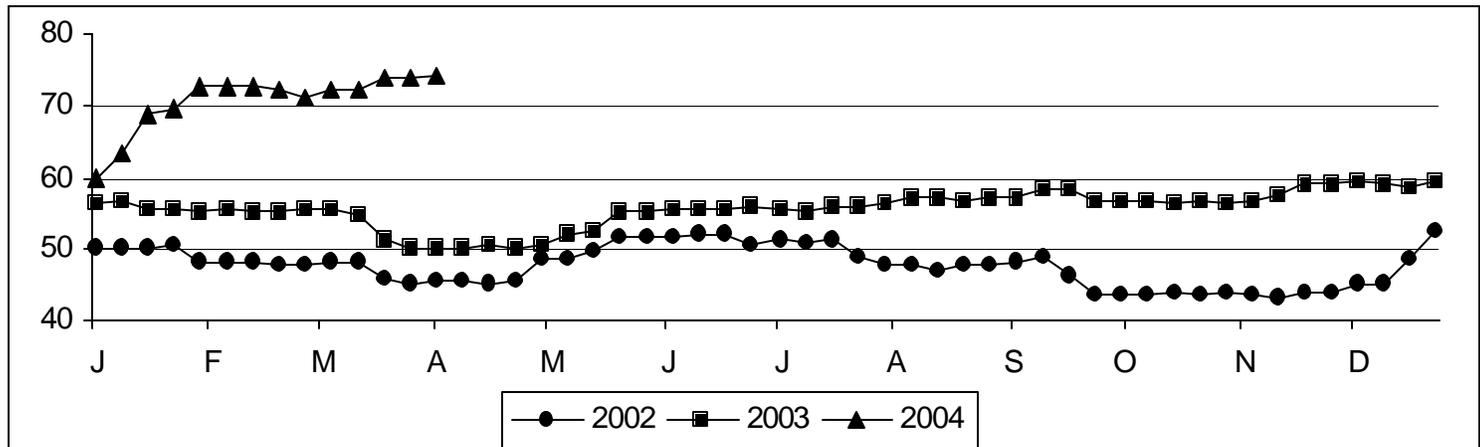
(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	228.6	-1	4
E.N. CENTRAL	566.6	-4	0
W.N. CENTRAL	306.7	5	0
S. ATLANTIC	187.7	-1	-2
S. CENTRAL	111.5	15	5
WEST	190.8	13	8
TOTAL	1591.9	2	2
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

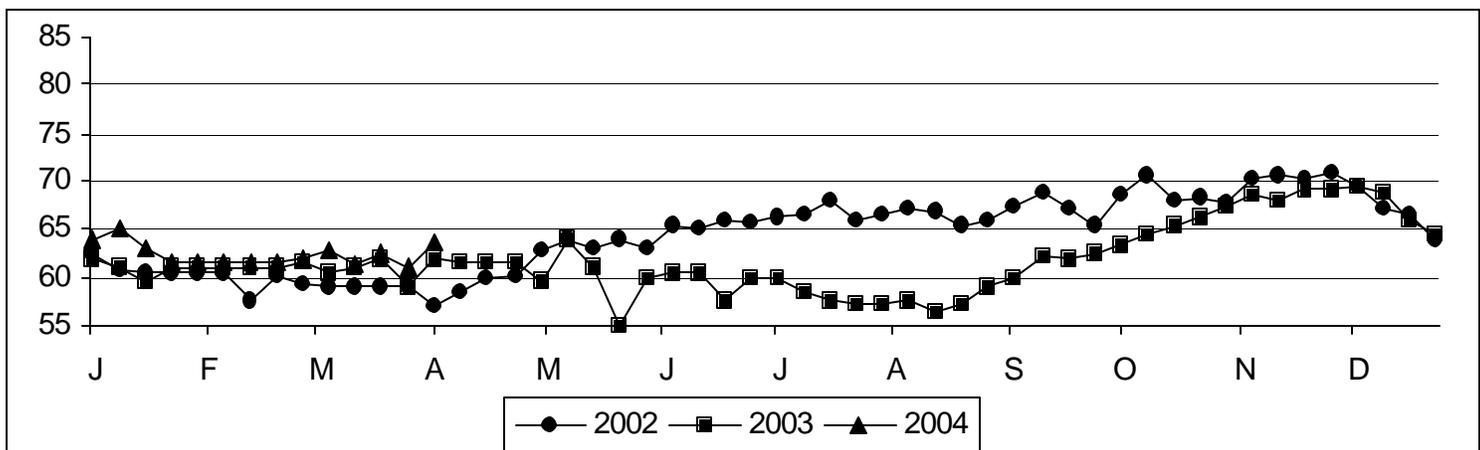
New York Large Weekly Average Price
Cents per Dozen



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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