



USDA, AMS, Poultry Market News Weekly Egg Products Report December 24, 2003

The "SOURCE" of Poultry and Egg Market Information

COMBINED REGIONAL REPORT - Combined regional for week ending 24-Dec-03 average prices on Sales to volume buyers, Grade A large, white eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

	Northeast	Southeast	Midwest	South Central	Combined Regional
This week	96.00	96.50	89.50	97.50	94.98
Last week	98.00	98.50	91.50	99.50	96.98

Selected Cities Large - 24-Dec-03: **New York** 101-105 **Chicago** 91-96 **California** 125

WEEKLY SHELL EGG AND BREAKING STOCK INVENTORY - 22-Dec-03 - (30 DOZEN CASES - IN THOUSANDS)

	Northeast	North Central	South Central	South Atlantic	Pacific	5-Area	Breaking Stock	Total
Current week	100.3	255.4	134.0	166.1	217.4	873.2	198.0	1071.2
% change PW	-26	-25	-23	-26	-12	-22	-15	-21

Breaking Stock 24-Dec-03 - prices paid cents/dozen, material exchanged, 30-dozen case equivalent, 48 lb minimum, delivered to breakers.

	Central States		Eastern Region (23-Dec-03)	
Nest Run	62-66	M 62-63	66-68	
Checks & Undergrades	50-58	M 52	52-57	

Eggs Processed under federal inspection week ending 20-Dec-03.
Pounds in Thousands (excludes ingredients)

	Cases Broken	Liquid Whole	Liquid White	Liquid Yolk	Dried	Inedible
CURRENT WEEK	1,208,513	30,297	10,722	5,990	2,243	4,112
PREVIOUS WEEK	1,189,328	30,302	10,280	5,552	2,033	4,331
LAST YEAR	1,185,381	29,076	10,644	5,737	2,595	4,260
% CHANGE PWK	2	0	4	8	10	-5
% CHANGE LY	2	4	1	4	-14	-3
TO-DATE 2003	59,590,226	1,466,118	536,477	292,135	116,481	213,076
TO-DATE 2002	61,396,726	1,438,633	584,752	314,247	141,119	218,079
% CHANGE YTD	-3	2	-8	-7	-17	-2

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)

Current Week: 42.30 **Previous Week:** 42.43 **Last Year:** 41.94

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE (INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)

Current Week: 38.90 **Previous Week:** 38.79 **Last Year:** 38.35

National Liquid Eggs - 24-Dec-03 - prices paid cents/lb, f.o.b. plant, non-pasteurized trucklots, for delivery within 14 days.

Class	Loads	Range	Wtd. Avg.	Change From Last Week
WHOLE	6	56	56.00	1.24
WHITES	6	63-64	63.17	.80
YOLKS	5	59-64	62.60	-.30

Pasteurized whites were too few to report with pasteurized salt yolk reported at 66 to 69 cents fob.

Frozen Egg Prices - 24-Dec-03 wholesale selling price cents/lb, 30-lb containers.

Class	Trucklot			Less-than-Trucklot (min 25 cont.)			
	Eastern		Central	Eastern		South California ²	
Whole	72-85.5	M 73-78	72-75	M 73	80-89	79-82	
Blends ³	TOO FEW TO REPORT				82-100	-	
Whites	72-77	M 74-77	75-78	M 75-77	80-85	80-83	
Yolks ⁴							
Sugared	80-89	M 80-83	81-84	M 83-84	88-100	88-91	
Salted	75-87	M 78-83	77-81	M 78-80	84-95	85-88	

² f.o.b. shipping point

³ whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 28-32% egg solids

⁴ minimum 43% solids

National Dried Egg Prices - 24-Dec-03 - wholesale selling prices \$/lb, in containers, trucklot and less-than-trucklot volumes.

Class	Range	Mostly
WHOLE	2.99-3.50	3.05-3.15
YOLKS	1.75-2.30	1.84-1.90
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	5.70-6.10	5.70-5.80
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	2.00-2.40	2.00-2.05

Number of Light Hens Sltrd. in Federally Inspected Plants (Thousands) Weekending *13-Dec-2003*

Fowl Slaughtered in U.S.	U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada	Total U.S. Fowl Slaughtered
This week	This week	This week
1,379	241	1,620
Last week	Last week	Last week
1,399	250	1,649
Last year	Last year	Last year
1,829	168	1,997
To Date 2003	To Date 2003	To Date 2003
70,637	10,691	81,328
To Date 2002	To Date 2002	To Date 2002
86,691	14,959	101,650

Due to Holiday observances in Canada, we do not currently anticipate releasing the data for week ending Dec. 20 until the week of Jan. 5, 2004.

Inspected Egg Products

U.S. Exports To Canada, in Thousand Pounds (Preliminary) week ending - 13-Dec-03

	Liquid	Frozen	Dried	Total
Current week	358	0	0	358
Last year /1	258	0	32	290
To date 2003	16,883	96	559	17,538
To date 2002	20,046	21	835	20,902

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Thousand Pounds (Preliminary) week ending - 13-Dec-03

	Liquid	Frozen	Dried	Total
Current week	62	95	40	197
Last year /1	80	78	80	238
To date 2003	5,418	3,699	1,292	10,409
To date 2002	5,998	3,373	5,123	14,494

Inspected Shell Eggs

U.S. Exports To Canada, in 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary) week ending - 13-Dec-03

	Jumbo	EX-Lg	Large	Medium	Ungraded	Misc	Total
Current week	33	2,940	6,430	2,432	1,560	0	13,395
Last year /1	17	2,505	7,653	1,424	11,160	0	22,759
To date 2003	603	39,978	141,492	68,103	182,412	14,642	447,230
To date 2002	1,623	52,602	154,443	50,377	367,975	14,017	641,037

/1 Comparable week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) - Chickens and Eggs Narrative - 22-Dec-03

Total All Layers on 01-Dec-03 totaled 338 million, up slightly from a year ago.

Rate of lay per day for all layers on 01-Dec-03 averaged 72.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 2% from a year ago.

Table/Commercial Egg Producing Layers on 01-Dec-03 = 280.3 million, up 0% from a year ago.

Rate of lay per day for table egg type on 01-Dec-03 averaged 75.2 eggs per 100 layers, up 2% from 01-Dec-02.

30 Major Egg Production States produced 6.79 billion eggs during Nov-03, up slightly from Nov-02.

Egg Type Chicks Hatched during Nov-03 totaled 30.1 million, down 3% from Nov-02.

Eggs in Incubators totaled 33.3 million on 01-Dec-03, up 14% from a year ago.

Domestic Placement of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Future Hatchery Supply Flocks = 315,000 during Nov-03, up 39% from Nov-02.

30 SELECTED STATES

Table Egg Type layers on 01-Dec-03 = 262.2 million, up 0% from 01-Dec-02.

Eggs per 100 Table Egg Layers on 01-Dec-03 = 75.1, up 2% from 01-Dec-02.

Layers in forced molt on 01-Dec-03 were 2.5%, down 11% from those in molt on 01-Dec-02.

Layers with molt completed on 01-Dec-03 were 22.5, down 5% from 01-Dec-02.

Layers sold during Nov-03 totaled 12.0 million, down 16% from Nov-02.

Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during Nov-03 were 4.6 million, up 19% from Nov-02.

Pullets less than 20 weeks of age on 01-Dec-03 = 91.2 million, up 4% from 01-Dec-02.

Pullets added during Nov-03 = 19.5 million, down 3% from Nov-02.

For information on "Chickens and Eggs" call Tom Kruchten at (202)690-4870, office hours 7:30

*******ANNOUNCEMENT*****

The president has issued an Executive order declaring Friday, December 26, a holiday. In observance of the holidays, Poultry Market News will be closed December 25-26. Reports normally released on Friday, December 26, will be issued Wednesday, December 24, if sufficient information is available. If you have questions regarding this report, call 404-562-5870.