



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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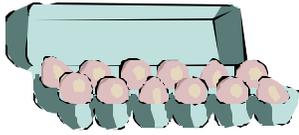
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were sharply higher to occasionally unchanged throughout the country. The market tone was fully steady to mostly firm. Retail demand was at least moderate to good, at times very good, with better movement centering around the occasional retail feature. Export channels also continued to see active movement. Supplies of all sizes were usually no more than adequate to close and often held with confidence. Breaking stock supplies were usually adequate for the irregular demand. Light type fowl were sufficient for immediate needs.

NORTH ATLANTIC SHELL In Philadelphia, prices were unchanged to 7 cents higher on all sizes; in Boston, prices ranged 1-8 cents higher on extra large, 1-11 cents higher on large, and 1-9 cents higher on mediums when based on previous week average prices. In New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to mostly firm. Demand into all outlets was moderate to good, best where retail items were featured. Supplies of all sizes were generally adequate to close. Breaking stock demand was irregular for short to adequate offerings. Light type hens were fully sufficient.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged for all sizes. The market tone was fully steady to mostly firm. Demand was moderate to good, best where featured. Supplies were generally adequate to close for current trading needs.

CHICAGO Prices increased 1 cent on all sizes. The trade sentiment steady to firm. Retail and food service demand moderate to good, best to features that are planned or in progress. Supplies mixed from in close balance to fully adequate.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were sharply higher for medium through jumbo and unchanged for small. Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin and prices in Chicago increased 1 cent for extra large, large, and medium and were unchanged for small. The trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Cartoned egg demand was good to very good. Loose egg movement was moderate to at times good. Supplies were barely adequate to close and held with confidence. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were slightly higher compared to Tuesday's prices. Many breakers worked to fill regularly committed orders. Offerings of additional heavy nest runs were usually adequate for the light to at times moderate demand. Most extra product was being moved into the higher priced graded market. Schedules were mixed. Trade sentiment was firm.

SOUTHERN In Atlanta and Florida, prices were sharply higher. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm. Demand was generally moderate to fairly good and feature activity was very limited as export channels continued to draw significant levels of product from the market. Supplies of all sizes were no more than adequate to closely cleared. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending February 4, **2000**, was 53.52 cents, 1.70 cents more than the week before, but 23.30 cents less than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies ranged short to adequate for the irregular demand. Light type hens were sufficient for current slaughter needs.

WESTERN Prices in California 14 cents higher on the large sizes, 11 cents higher on medium and small; in the Northwest 13 cents higher on the large sizes, 14 cents higher on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 1% lower than last Monday with California down 1% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 1%. Retailer demand moderate overall. Offerings light.

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)	103-106	96-99	68-71
New York	71-73	68-71	62-65
Philadelphia	62-71	60-69	54-62
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	60-61	58.5-60	54-55
Jackson (1)	70-71	67-68	63-64
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	70-83	67-81	56-70
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	60-65	59-64	53-58
Detroit (2)	57-60	56-59	49-52
Major Ohio Cities (2)	54.5-62	53-60	46-54
Major Wisconsin Cities	61-68	59-60	53-60
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	78-80	74-77	63-65
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	97	90	84

(1) - Prices reported weekly

(2) - Delivered Warehouse

(3) - Reported Invoice prices

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices 14 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 11 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 1% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings held very confidently. Small invoice price 64. Ads in Northern California: major-large 18 pack 99-188.

PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	110		
EXTRA LARGE	97		
LARGE	90		
MEDIUM	84		
PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.			
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	229-289	JUMBO	229-269
EXTRA LARGE	219-279	EXTRA LARGE	199-239
LARGE	199-209	LARGE	179-219
MEDIUM	187-199	MEDIUM	139-179

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending February 11, 2000 will decrease by 8 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending February 04, 2000 were 284,918 cases which was 3 percent above the prior week and 2 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	250,769	34,149	284,918
% change from the prior week.....	+5	-8	+3

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices were slightly higher. Many breakers were working to fill only regularly committed orders. Offerings of additional heavy nest runs were usually adequate for the light to instances moderate demand. Any additional product was easily finding its way into graded channels. Schedules mixed. Trade sentiment firm.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	36-41	36-38
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	22-25	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:
AR, CO, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, NM, ND, NE, OH, OK, SD, TX, WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Trading levels were slightly higher compared to the past week. Demand for spent fowl was moderate at processing plants. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 07-FEB-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-19.5	11-13	12.47

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Majority trading was unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate to good for about adequate to adequate offerings. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 07-FEB-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16	8-11	10.22
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- AM Feb 07, 2000
STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	Atl	Pacific	5-Area
	Northeast	CENT	CENT				
Jumbo	Curr Wk	5.4	9.1	5.4	11.0	11.0	41.9
	Change	-0.8	-0.2	0.1	1.1	3.1	9%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	14.4	22.0	6.6	18.0	20.0	81.0
	Change	-5.8	-5.1	0.7	-0.8	3.6	-8%
Large	Curr Wk	24.4	34.9	48.3	49.6	67.4	224.6
	Change	-11.5	-21.0	12.0	-2.8	-9.5	-13%
Medium	Curr Wk	11.2	29.0	10.2	15.6	20.8	86.8
	Change	1.5	-3.0	-5.2	1.6	3.0	-2%
Small	Curr Wk	3.7	5.7	2.6	5.7	3.3	21.0
	Change	-0.9	-0.4	0.9	0.5	-1.9	-8%
Misc	Curr Wk	6.3	23.1	8.7	10.8	5.8	54.7
	Change	1.2	10.0	1.9	0.3	0.3	33%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	24.8	65.2	7.5	23.5	47.9	168.9
	Change	-4.6	-17.9	-0.5	-3.8	0.2	-14%
Total	Curr Wk	90.2	189.0	89.3	134.2	176.2	678.9
	Change	-19%	-17%	12%	-3%	-1%	-7%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	678.9	-7%	168
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	431.4	0%	40
Total Shell Egg	1,110.3	-5%	208

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 168 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.

CANADIAN EGGS NOT AVAILABLE

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 04, 2000
CURRENT LOADS 30.00 **FUTURE LOADS** 22.25 **TOTAL LOADS** 52.25

CLASS	ORG	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	CLASS	ORG	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
		DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG				DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		
GNR W XL	—	56.00	—	—	—	52.00	—	1.00	GNR W 1	58.50	60.29	—	—	—	—	—	9.00
GNR W 1	46.00	62.00	54.20	48.67	56.25	—	34.00	—	GNR W 3	—	48.00	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 3	—	44.00	—	—	43.50	—	2.00	—	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	64.50	3.00	
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W MD	45.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	55.00	—	5.25	—									
GL W MD	—	49.00	47.50	49.00	—	—	3.00	—									
GL W SM	—	—	21.00	22.50	—	—	1.00	—									
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	—									

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 01/29/00-02/04/00

CLASS	ORG	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	CLASS	ORG	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
		DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG				DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		
GNR W XL	—	47.00	—	—	—	52.00	—	2.00	GNR W 1	58.50	50.92	—	—	—	—	—	70.00
GNR W 1	42.50	58.00	47.44	42.83	47.88	51.00	148.00	—	GNR W 3	—	43.00	—	—	—	—	44.63	9.00
GNR W 2	—	45.00	35.00	36.00	—	54.00	5.00	—	GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	42.25	1.00
GNR W 3	—	44.00	—	—	36.07	32.50	12.00	—	GNR BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	33.00	—	1.00	—	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR BR XL	—	—	79.50	—	—	—	1.00	—	GL W J	—	—	—	—	55.00	59.00	1.00	—
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	—	GL W XL	43.00	—	—	—	45.50	56.49	11.75	—
GL W XL	63.00	46.50	40.00	42.00	49.24	—	13.50	—	GL W LG	—	53.00	—	—	45.50	57.14	28.50	—
GL W LG	63.00	45.50	49.65	48.00	47.81	—	40.50	—	GL W MD	35.06	—	—	—	—	41.06	13.00	—
GL W MD	—	50.71	39.47	38.98	41.36	40.83	25.75	—	NRBS - 48	—	32.67	—	—	—	—	—	3.00
GL W SM	—	—	21.00	22.50	—	—	4.00	—									
GL BR XL	—	68.00	64.00	68.00	62.00	—	1.25	—									
GL BR LG	—	—	—	68.00	62.00	—	.50	—									
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	38.83	—	33.00	11.50	—									
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	23.00	3.00	—									

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA 01/09/00 - 01/15/00

Origin State	AR	CO	IA	MN	MO	MT	OH	OR	UT	WI	TOTAL
N. CA	0	0	1,486	0	0	0	0	530	570	0	2,586
C. CA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240	0	0	240
S. CA	480	2,560	4,932	2,350	624	600	810	0	1,803	194	14,353
TTL STATE	480	2,560	6,418	2,350	624	600	810	770	2,373	194	17,179

SHIPPED TO MILITARY: 0

NEW ENGLAND

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
112-115	85-88	78-81	50-53	16-19

DETROIT EGGS

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
65-68	56-62	54-59	47-52	25-29

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
40-42	35-37	15-17

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
74.14	65.89	43.18

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	1/31/00	1/24/00	2/1/99
PACIFIC COAST	137	76	79
LOS ANGELES	0	0	18

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS PRICES DELIVERED TO RETAILERS, GRADE A STORE DOOR FEBRUARY 1,2000:

	CARTONS	WTG AVG
EX-LARGE	149-155	153.45
LARGE	143-150	148.24
MEDIUM	124-135	132.41
SMALL	105-109	106.29

Receipts from the mainland: 1/23/00-1/29/00
30-dozen cases 4,871

Receipts from the mainland: 1/16/00-1/22/00
30-dozen cases 3,715

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