



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

MONDAY
MARCH 20, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 23

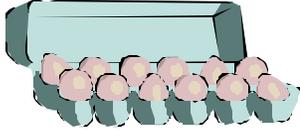
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were generally higher to occasionally unchanged throughout the country. The market tone ranged at least steady to mostly fully steady. Demand varied regionally, light to fairly good at times, usually moderate; and was best where feature activity was a factor. Supplies of all sizes were generally adequate to instances close. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the light to moderate demand. Light type fowl were sufficient for current processing schedules.

NORTH ATLANTIC SHELL In Philadelphia, prices ranged 1-2 cents higher on the larger sizes and .5-1 cent higher on mediums; in Boston, prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher for the larger sizes and unchanged for mediums, when based on previous week average prices. Prices paid to producers in New England were unchanged. The market tone was steady for browns and fully steady for whites. Demand was light to at times good. Supplies were generally adequate on all sizes. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the fair demand. Light type fowl were generally adequate for current needs.

NEW YORK Prices were 1 cent higher on all sizes. The market tone was fully steady. Demand was light to instances good. Supplies were generally adequate.

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The market tone was steady. Retail and food service demand light to moderate, best where features are planned or in progress. Offerings generally adequate.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were 4 cents higher for the larger sizes and were up 2 cents for medium. Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin and prices in Chicago were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was fair to at times good with the best interest coming from feature activity. Food service movement was slow to mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to instances close for all sizes. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offers were adequate for the usually light to fair demand. Floor stocks were closely balanced and adequate for current needs. Trade sentiment was cautiously steady to fully steady.

SOUTHERN In Atlanta, prices were higher. In Florida, prices were higher on the larger sizes, but slightly lower on mediums when based on previous week averages. Elsewhere, prices were higher. The market tone was steady to fully steady, instances firm. Demand was generally fair to moderate entering the week, with strong weekend clearances occasionally noted. Supplies were generally adequate to balanced. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending March 17, 2000 was 53.10 cents, unchanged from last week, but 20.57 cents less than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies were usually adequate for the mostly fair demand. Light type hens were sufficient for current needs.

WESTERN Prices in California 4 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents higher on medium and small; in the Northwest 5 cents higher on jumbo and extra large, 6 cents higher on large, and 3 cents higher on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 4% lower than last Monday with California unchanged and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 11%. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings held confidently.

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)	90-92	83-85	59-61
New York	61-63	58-61	46-49
Philadelphia	56-61	54-59	43.5-46
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	51-52	49.5-51	37-38
Jackson (1)	61-62	58-59	46-47
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	58-71	55-69	43-57
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	50-55	49-54	37-42
Detroit (2)	47-50	46-49	33-36
Major Ohio Cities (2)	48-53	47-51	34-39
Major Wisconsin Cities	51-58	49-56	37-44
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	66-69	63-65	50-51
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	88	83	69
(1) - Prices reported weekly			
(2) - Delivered Warehouse			
(3) - Reported Invoice prices			

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices 4 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was unchanged from last Monday. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings held confidently. Small invoice price 49. Ads in Northern California: major- large 18 pack buy 1 get 1 free. PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	
JUMBO	101	
EXTRA LARGE	88	
LARGE	83	
MEDIUM	69	
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 219-269
EXTRA LARGE	219-279	EXTRA LARGE 189-239
LARGE	199-209	LARGE 179-219
MEDIUM	187-199	MEDIUM 139-179

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending March 24, 2000 will increase by 1 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending March 17, 2000 were 297,196 cases which was 13 percent above the prior week and 4 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	262,708	34,488	297,196

% change from the prior week..... +16 -5 +13

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

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Nest run prices were unchanged with checks and undergrades higher. Offerings were adequate for the usually light to moderate demand. Floor

stocks were closely balanced to adequate for current schedules. Trade sentiment cautiously steady to fully steady.

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	27-32	27-29
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	12-15	

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 Trading was slightly lower compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were sufficient to maintain full schedules. Trade sentiment was generally no better than steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) * FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 20-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-19.5	10-13	12.13

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings. Processing schedules were usually normal. Undertone was about steady to steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) * FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 20-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16	8.25-11.5	10.50

AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT
 FOB PLANT TOO FEW TO REPORT

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

MONTHLY COLD STORAGE REPORT (In Units of 1,000)

	REVISED - A Jan 31 1999	-B- Jan 31 2000	Feb 28 1999	Feb 29 2000
FROZEN EGGS:				
Whites	1,174	610	1,052	571
Yolks	658	753	730	844
Whole & Mixed	8,469	10,159	8,151	9,174
Unclassified	746	576	905	641
Total Frozen Eggs	11,047	12,098	10,838	11,230

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- AM Mar 20, 2000

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	7.2	12.0	4.0	12.4	8.8 44.4
	Change	-0.8	-0.3	-0.7	0.7	0.4 -2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	25.0	30.2	8.1	31.4	25.8 120.5
	Change	1.8	-2.0	0.0	0.7	3.8 4%
Large	Curr Wk	65.9	72.8	36.4	64.8	82.5 322.4
	Change	16.1	-17.0	-9.3	-3.8	-14.0 -8%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.2	29.1	11.6	26.6	18.9 101.4
	Change	-1.3	0.7	-4.8	1.5	-2.1 -6%
Small	Curr Wk	3.9	3.6	2.1	9.7	4.3 23.6
	Change	0.7	-3.3	0.8	-3.4	0.9 -15%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.6	14.1	10.0	10.5	6.7 45.9
	Change	0.1	-1.6	0.3	-1.0	0.8 -3%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	33.4	74.3	14.9	34.7	49.1 206.4
	Change	-4.1	7.2	0.9	2.1	1.5 4%
Total	Curr Wk	155.2	236.1	87.1	190.1	196.1 864.6
Percent	Change	9%	-6%	-13%	-2%	-4% -3%
TOTAL		Number of Cases		Percent Change	Number of Cooperators	

Shell Egg	864.6	-3%	166
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	454.9	4%	40

Total Shell Egg	1319.5	-1%	206
-----------------	--------	-----	-----

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 166 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 MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 06, 2000

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	162	158.9	149.9	108.9

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING MARCH 06, 2000 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	126	126	116	76

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MARCH 17, 2000

CURRENT LOADS							12.75	FUTURE LOADS							6.00	TOTAL LOADS							18.75
SE		NE		MW		LOADS		SC		NW		SW		LOADS									
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST									
GNR W 1	—	—	35.00	37.00	—	—	1.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	51.50	56.06	2.25								
GNR W 3	—	—	22.00	24.00	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	53.67	—	—	—	—	5.50								
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00																
GL W XL	—	—	—	46.00	44.38	—	6.25																
GL W LG	—	—	40.50	42.00	44.67	—	6.50																
GL W SM	—	22.00	—	—	—	—	1.00																
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00																

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 03/11/00-03/17/00

CURRENT LOADS							103.75	FUTURE LOADS							59.25	TOTAL LOADS							163.00
SE		NE		MW		LOADS		SC		NW		SW		LOADS									
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST									
GNR W 1	30.00	43.30	34.38	36.86	—	—	41.00	GNR W 1	—	41.60	—	—	—	—	11.50								
GNR W 3	—	—	22.00	24.00	30.00	31.50	2.00	GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	2.25									
GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	29.00	30.50	2.00	GL W XL	49.00	—	—	55.75	51.50	56.13	6.25								
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W LG	46.14	50.47	—	53.75	—	53.19	27.50								
GL W XL	—	47.00	40.00	43.38	42.72	—	16.25	GL W MD	32.06	29.00	—	—	37.00	38.63									
GL W LG	—	47.00	39.40	41.54	43.83	—	33.00																
GL W MD	—	33.00	26.83	28.33	30.82	34.63	20.75																
GL W SM	—	22.00	20.00	21.50	—	—	6.00																
NRBS - 48	—	—	28.00	29.00	30.92	32.14	9.50																
NRBS - 45	—	26.00	—	—	26.67	30.00	3.00																
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.00																

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 03/05/00 - 03/11/00

Origin State	AR	CO	IN	IA	MI	MN	MO	NY	OH	OR	SD	TX	UT	WI	TOTAL
N. CA	0	903	0	700	810	0	0	0	0	1,713	0	0	3,230	0	7,356
C. CA	0	0	0	2,370	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,495	0	3,865
S. CA	2,490	7,155	1,720	11,862	0	6,656	3,758	850	11,540	0	570	840	3,180	940	51,561
TTL STATE	2,490	8,058	1,720	14,932	810	6,656	3,758	850	11,540	1,713	570	840	7,905	940	62,782

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
109-112	71-74	64-67	40-43	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
55-58	46-52	44-49	31-36	23-27

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
30-32	19-21	13-15

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
63.09	52.28	41.26

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	3/13/00	3/6/00	3/15/99
PACIFIC COAST	550	607	33
LOS ANGELES	421	495	0

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS PRICES DELIVERED TO RETAILERS, GRADE A STORE DOOR MARCH 14,2000:

	CARTONS	WTG AVG
EX-LARGE	149-155	153.45
LARGE	143-150	148.24
MEDIUM	124-135	132.41
SMALL	105-109	105.98

Receipts from the mainland: 2/27/00-3/4/00
30-dozen cases 4,836

Receipts from the mainland: 2/27/00-3/4/00
30-dozen cases 2,206

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Officer-In-Charge)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	