



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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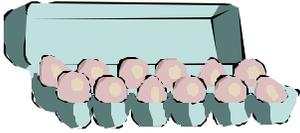
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady to barely steady, mostly steady. Demand was moderate to very good and was best where features were in progress or planned for next week. Supplies were in close balance to available with larger sizes reported in a better position than mediums. Breaking stock supplies were balanced to fully adequate and demand for additional product was light and unaggressive. Light type fowl were adequate for current slaughter schedules.

NORTH ATLANTIC Prices in all areas were unchanged. The market tone was steady. Demand was moderate to good, best where features for the upcoming week were planned or in progress. Supplies were generally adequate. Breaking stock offerings were irregular but usually sufficient from regular suppliers, with demand light to unaggressive. Light type fowl were adequate for current processing schedules.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Demand was moderate to good, better where features were planned or in progress. Supplies were generally adequate on all sizes.

MIDWEST Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were 1 cent lower for medium and were unchanged for the balance. Prices in all other areas were not changed. Trade sentiment was at least steady. Retail demand was good to very good in most locations. Food service movement was mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to barely adequate for current needs. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Trading and demand was light and unaggressive with most breakers working reduced schedules. Company owned production and regular commitments were enough to satisfy most breaker's current production needs. Floor stocks were in balance to fully adequate. The trade sentiment was cautiously steady.

CHICAGO Prices for extra large and large unchanged, mediums 1 cent lower. The market tone steady. Demand into all outlets moderate to good, and best where features are planned or in progress. Supplies adequate to closely balanced.

SOUTHERN Prices were unchanged. In Florida, asking prices for next week's deliveries were ranging unchanged from current week. However, in Atlanta, asking prices were unchanged on all sizes except mediums which were trending lower than current week. The market tone was steady to barely steady. Demand was moderate to good and best where features were in progress or planned for next week. Supplies were adequate. Breaking stock supplies were irregular but usually sufficient for the light and unaggressive demand. Light type hens were adequate for current processing requirements.

WESTERN Prices unchanged. The market tone was steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. Holiday clearances met expectations in most quarters.

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)	107-109	105-107	70-72
New York	83-85	80-83	70-73
Philadelphia	81-83	79-81	69-71
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	76-77	74.5-76	63-64
Jackson (1)	84-85	83-84	72-73
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	84-99	83-97	69-83
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	73-78	72-77	58-63
Detroit (2)	70-73	69-72	57-60
Major Ohio Cities (2)	71-77	70-75	58-64
Major Wisconsin Cities	74-81	72-79	61-68
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	92-95	88-91	77-79
Southern California(Grade AA)(4)	96-108	94-101	84-90
California (Grade AA) (1) (3)	112	104	94
(1) - Prices reported weekly	(2) - Delivered Warehouse		
(3) - Reported Invoice prices	(4) - Prices To Retailers		

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged. The market tone was steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes. Holiday clearances met expectations in most quarters. Small invoice price 74. Ads in Southern California: major-large 18 pack 199; smaller outlets-jumbo dozen 119, extra large dozen 109, 20 pack 199, large dozen 89-99.

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

	RANGE
JUMBO	124
EXTRA LARGE	112
LARGE	104
MEDIUM	94

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	111-121
EXTRA LARGE	96-108
LARGE	94-101
MEDIUM	86-92

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	229-289
EXTRA LARGE	219-259
LARGE	199-209
MEDIUM	187-189

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged.

Trading and demand was light and unaggressive with most breakers working reduced schedules. Company owned production and regular commitments were enough to satisfy most breakers current needs. Floor stocks were in balance to fully adequate. The trade sentiment was cautiously 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	31-36	33-35
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	19-22	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

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

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices on nest run were slightly lower, and unchanged on checks and undergraders when compared to early week trading. The market tone was reported as mostly steady. Offerings were irregular but usually sufficient from regular suppliers. Demand was light and unaggressive as most breakers were on holiday schedules. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending November 18, 2000 were 4% less than the previous week, and 1% less than a year earlier.

PRICES MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	33-37	34-36
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	19-24	

EASTERN REGION AREA:

AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 18-Nov-00

(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED.
PW	1,176,791	27,815	10,937	6,072	2,431*	4,108
LY	1,212,503	27,276	11,456	6,582	2,575	3,834
% PW	-1	0	0	-3	-4	-2
% LY	-4	2	-5	-11	-9	5
2000	53,871,857	1,223,739	539,655	289,828	127,834*	179,885
1999	51,595,690	1,188,552	493,046	270,272	118,453	163,824

*Previous week dried was revised***

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
	42.00	41.58	40.53

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 60 to 64 cents fob with no pasteurized whites reported. Trade sentiment was barely steady for whole egg, steady on whites and unsettled for yolk.

Demand moderate on all liquid products with whites providing the best interest. Breaking schedules were reduced this week for the Thanksgiving holiday. Breaking stock prices were unchanged with breakers satisfied with regular commitments and company owned production.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM Friday 24 November, 2000 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	CHANGE FROM	
			WTD. AVG.	LAST WEEK
WHOLE	16	28-33	30.75	-1.73
WHITES	19	18-26.5	21.18	-.97
YOLKS	4	56-61	57.75	-.08

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were unchanged to lower on whole, with majority trading on balance of items unchanged when compared to a week earlier. The market tone was usually steady on yolks, and still mixed on whites and unsettled on whole. Trading was limited and with buyers cautiously watching further market developments. Supplies were usually adequate for current needs. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending November 18, 2000 were 1% less than last week, but 5% more than a year ago.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS (MIN. 25 CONT.)		
	RANGE	MOSTLY	RANGE
WHOLE	47.5-50	48-50	54-56
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		68-90
WHITES	33-38	35-37	41-54
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	67-73	68-71	70-74
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	64-70	66-69	67-70
(/) - WHOLE PLUS YOLK PLUS SWEETENER, GENERALLY 28-32% EGG SOLIDS.			

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg prices ranged unchanged to 1 cent lower, whites unchanged, sugar yolk unchanged to 1 cent higher, and salt yolk irregular when compared to last week's reported prices. Trade sentiment was barely steady for whole and whites, and about steady to unsettled for yolk. Offerings were adequate to occasionally tight for all products. Buyers were watching current market developments before taking a position on frozen purchases. Demand was seasonally moderate. Breaking stock supplies were balanced to fully adequate for current needs. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS) TRUCKLOTS

	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	47-50	48-49
WHITES	34-37	34-36
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	69-72	71
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	66-69	

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices were 1 cent lower on whole, unchanged on whites and yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 11/18 was 21% more than the previous week. Breaking stock and liquid adequate. Frozen demand moderate and freezer stocks adequate.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, FOB SHIPPING POINT (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	RTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	55-58
WHITES	41-44
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	76-79
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	73-76

NATIONAL DRIED EGG Values were unchanged on blends, but prices ranged unchanged to lower generally unchanged on the balance when compared to a week earlier. The market tone was usually steady on yolks, and about steady on balance. Demand and trading was only fair, although movement was generally good due to prior commitments. Supplies were usually adequate for most trade needs. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending November 18, 2000 were 4% less than last week, and 9% less than the same week a year ago.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, DOLLARS PER LB., IN CONTAINERS, TRUCKLOT AND LESS-THAN-TRUCKLOT VOLUMES.

WHOLE	1.72-1.90	MOSTLY	1.75-1.85
YOLKS	1.50-1.70	MOSTLY	1.55-1.65
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.68-3.05	MOSTLY	2.75-2.90
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.25-1.40		

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR NOV 17, 00-NOV 23,00

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS																																																																																																																																																																																															
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW																																																																																																																																																																																											
CLASS	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	LOADS																																																																																																																																																																																												
GNR W 1	53.33	58.67	34.00	GNR W 1	—	58.30	18.00	GNR W 1	—	58.30	18.00	GNR W 1	—	58.30	18.00	GNR W 2	—	—	1.00	GNR W 2	—	—	1.00	GNR W 2	—	—	1.00	GNR W 3	—	43.00	1.00	GNR W 3	—	43.00	1.00	GNR W 3	—	43.00	1.00	GL W J	—	—	2.00	GL W J	—	—	2.00	GL W J	—	—	2.00	GL W J	—	—	2.00	GL W XL	56.00	65.00	3.50	GL W XL	56.00	65.00	3.50	GL W XL	56.00	65.00	3.50	GL W LG	56.00	65.00	8.50	GL W LG	56.00	65.00	8.50	GL W LG	56.00	65.00	8.50	GL W MD	—	—	2.00	GL W MD	—	—	2.00	GL W MD	—	—	2.00	GL W MD	—	—	2.00	GL W SM	—	—	15.75	GL W SM	—	—	15.75	GL W SM	—	—	15.75	GL W SM	—	—	15.75	GL W LG	—	60.17	17.00	GL W LG	—	60.17	17.00	GL W LG	—	60.17	17.00	GL W LG	—	60.17	17.00	GL W MD	—	53.00	14.00	GL W MD	—	53.00	14.00	GL W MD	—	53.00	14.00	GL W MD	—	53.00	14.00	GL W SM	—	29.00	3.00	GL W SM	—	29.00	3.00	GL W SM	—	29.00	3.00	GL W SM	—	29.00	3.00	NRBS - 50	—	—	1.00	NRBS - 50	—	—	1.00	NRBS - 50	—	—	1.00	NRBS - 50	—	—	1.00	NRBS - 48	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 48	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 48	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 48	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 39	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 39	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 39	—	—	10.00	NRBS - 39	—	—	10.00

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. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with processing schedules increased next week over current weeks reduced holiday schedules. Demand was moderate but unaggressive. Finished product sales were clearing. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were too few to report. Demand was moderate for leghorn hens for slaughter. Schedules were reduced for the holiday week. Trade sentiment was only steady

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for the only fair demand. Slaughter schedules reduced for Thanksgiving holiday week. Trade sentiment generally steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked reduced holiday schedules. Offerings adequate.

LIVE TYPE HENS

CENTS PER LB., DAY OF NEGOTIATION, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0-0	(1)
Eastern Light	0-0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.25	(2)

(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA FOR WEEK ENDING 24-Nov-00 AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	83.51	81.13	71.35
SOUTHERN	82.90	81.19	67.19
MIDWEST	74.38	73.14	61.19
WESTERN	104.46	98.80	89.41
TWELVE METRO AREAS	88.93	85.66	75.18

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Prices were unchanged to lower on light canners, however majority trading on heavy canners were slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate to good, mostly good on heavies. Supplies were occasionally short to adequate for trade requirements. Undertone was usually steady on lights and steady to fully steady on heavy canners.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITH OUT FREIGHT COST	
LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-24 MAJORITY	28.5-32.5 MAJORITY 30-31.5
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25-26 MAJORITY	29.5-33.5 MAJORITY 30.5-32.5

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 18-Nov-00 (PRELIMINARY) U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,858	1,411	3,269
LAST WEEK	2,016	1,530	3,546
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,080	1,512	3,592
TO-DATE/2000	87,441	66,942	154,383
TO-DATE/1999	95,265	65,461	160,726

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	220	0	220
LAST WEEK	273	12	285
SAME WEEK YR AGO	474	0	474
TO-DATE/2000	20,647	365	21,012
TO-DATE/1999	21,155	267	21,422

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	2,078	1,411	3,489
LAST WEEK	2,289	1,542	3,831
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,554	1,512	4,066
TO-DATE/2000	108,088	67,307	175,395
TO-DATE/1999	116,420	65,728	182,148

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Year-To-Date			
	2000	1999 /1	2000	1999
Week Ending Nov 11, 2000				
Liquid	150	297	6,703	11,898
Frozen	0	0	198	6
Dried	0	40	503	609
Total	150	337	7,404	12,513

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

	Year-To-Date			
	2000	1999 /1	2000	1999
Week Ending Nov 11, 2000				
Liquid	47	125	4,501	4,055
Frozen	16	7	801	530
Dried	23	41	780	210
Total	86	173	6,082	4,795

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Year-To-Date			
	2000	1999 /1	2000	1999
Week Ending Nov 11, 2000				
Jumbo	0	0	2,161	1,204
Extra Large	950	2,190	45,588	40,461
Large	2,012	3,994	127,587	135,758
Medium	1,088	1,770	31,845	45,727
Ungraded	2,250	11,730	360,334	572,273
Misc	750	0	10,887	10,722
Total	7,050	19,684	578,402	806,145

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.
Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

DETROIT 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
78-81	69-75	67-72	55-60	29-33

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

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
52-54	38-40	11-13

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

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
114-117	88-91	86-89	51-54	17-20

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG NOVEMBER 21, 2000. PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	121	119	84	50
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	114-118	112-116	77-81	43-47
MOSTLY	116-117	114-115	79-80	45-46
RHODE ISLAND	117-121	115-119	80-84	46-50
MOSTLY	117	115	80	46
VERMONT	124-125	120-121	85-87	-
MOSTLY	124	121	87	-

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-

SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 20-Nov-00	4,979	85,040	74,660
AM 1-Nov-00	5,117	128,816	72,410
CHG	-138	-43776	2250
PCT CHG	-3	-34	3

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 17-Nov-00

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	25.4	23.8	7	-12
BOSTON	2.8	3.6	-22	-26
CHICAGO	57.7	49.5	17	-12
DETROIT	30.1	29.5	2	-9
KANSAS CITY	8.8	3.9	126	120
LOS ANGELES	145.9	130.2	12	47
NEW ORLEANS	10.0	10.0	0	-11
NEW YORK	38.3	33.5	14	-7
ST. LOUIS	19.3	18.0	7	32
SAN FRANCISCO	23.4	19.1	23	-7
TOTAL	361.7	321.1	13	11
4 WK MVG AVG	316.6			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

17-Nov-00

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	230.9	5	0
E.N. CENTRAL	525.5	5	4
W.N. CENTRAL	258.7	-2	5
S. ATLANTIC	217.2	7	-1
S. CENTRAL	82.0	0	2
WEST	224.4	9	1
TOTAL	1538.7	4	2
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		91	88

CHICKENS AND EGGS

October Egg Production Down Slightly

U.S. egg production totaled 7.11 billion during October 2000, down slightly from the 7.13 billion produced in 1999. Production included 6.04 billion table eggs and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 60.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during October 2000 averaged 327 million, up 1 percent from the total average number of layers during October 1999. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,172 eggs, down 1 percent from 2,192 eggs in October 1999.

October 2000 contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays, compared to 21 weekdays and five Saturdays in October 1999.

All layers in the U.S. on November 1, 2000, totaled 328 million, up slightly from a year ago. The 328 million layers consisted of 272 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 53.7 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.51 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on November 1, 2000, averaged 70.3 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from the 70.7 eggs a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.66 billion eggs during October, down 1 percent from October 1999. The average number of layers during October, at 307 million, was up slightly from a year earlier.

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