



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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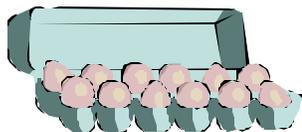
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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Prices were unchanged in New York and Chicago. In most other locations, prices were higher on all sizes. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Demand into all channels ranged light to very good. Supplies were adequate to tight. Breaking stock supplies were adequate for the light to moderate demand. Light type fowl were adequate. Processing schedules were regular to reduced for the holiday.

NORTH ATLANTIC In Philadelphia, prices were unchanged to 9.5 cents higher for the larger sizes and unchanged to 6 cents higher for mediums; in Boston, prices were unchanged to 11 cents higher on extra large, unchanged to 10 cents higher on large, and unchanged to 6 cents higher for mediums, based on previous week average prices. In New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Demand was moderate to good, best into holiday feature activity. Supplies were generally adequate. Breaking stock offerings were adequate, but sharply reduced for the light to moderate demand. Light type hens were sufficient and demand was fair at best.

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

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The trade sentiment fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand ranged from light to good, best where features are planned or in progress. Supplies adequate to barely adequate.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were 8 to 9 cents higher for the larger sizes and 6 cents higher for medium. Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were unchanged. Trade sentiment was firm. Retail demand was good to very good. Food service movement was generally moderate. Supplies were closey balanced to tight. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate at this call as demand continued mostly light to instances moderate. Most breakers were planning reduced schedules for this week in preparation for the upcoming holiday. A few breakers continue to move excess shell eggs into the active graded channels. Floor stocks were balanced to fully adequate. The trade sentiment was steady. Winter storms continue to disrupt transportation and delivery throughout the Midwest.

SOUTHERN In Atlanta and Florida, prices were generally higher on all sizes. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Retail demand was moderate to good, best where features were planned or in progress. Supplies were generally adequate. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern Region for the week ending December 15, 2000 was 85.13 cents, 5.21 cents more than the week before, and 33.04 cents more than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies were adequate and demand for additional eggs was light to moderate. Light type hens were sufficient for regular to reduced slaughter needs.

WESTERN Prices throughout the region 9 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 6 cents higher on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 8% lower than last Monday with California down 9% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 7%. Retailer demand seasonally good. 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)	125-127	122-124	80-82
New York	100-102	97-100	81-84
Philadelphia	94.5-100	92.5-98	78-81
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	92-93	90.5-92	74-75
Jackson (1)	100-101	99-100	83-84
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	95-110	94-108	77-91
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	88-93	87-92	70-75
Detroit (2)	85-88	84-87	66-69
Major Ohio Cities (2)	83-92	82-90	66-73
Major Wisconsin Cities	89-96	87-94	70-77
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	103-106	100-102	83-85
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	127	119	105

- (1) - Prices reported weekly
- (2) - Delivered Warehouse
- (3) - Reported Invoice prices

CALIFORNIA Prices 9 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 6 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 9% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings light. Small invoice price 85. Ads in Northern California: major- large dozen 79.

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

	RANGE
JUMBO	139
EXTRA LARGE	127
LARGE	119
MEDIUM	105

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	239-265
EXTRA LARGE	219-259	EXTRA LARGE	209-249
LARGE	199-219	LARGE	189-239
MEDIUM	187-199	MEDIUM	149-199

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 22, 2000 will increase by 20 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 15, 2000 were 334,532 cases which was 40 percent above the prior week and 24 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	297,577	36,955	334,532

% change from the prior week..... +44 +13 +40

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

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate at this call as demand continued mostly light to instances moderate. Most breakers were planning reduced schedules for this week in preparation for the upcoming holiday. A few breakers continue to move excess shell eggs into the active graded channels. Floor stocks balanced to fully adequate. Trade sentiment 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	38-42	40-42
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	24-27	
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 higher. Demand was moderate to good for spent hens. Finished sales were active. Schedules were full. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 18-DEC-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5-9	6-9	7.07

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices trended higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to moderate for adequate but reduced offering. Hatching eggs were reported as being short in some locations. Floor stocks of finished product were clearing and ranged from about adequate to adequate for trade needs. Processing schedules were mostly normal to less than normal. The market tone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 18-DEC-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	4-8.5	5.6-8.5	6.27
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 Dec 18,2000

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

		NO	SO	SO	SO	5-Area
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	10.5	19.1	6.2	15.5	7.4 58.7
	Change	-0.2	-0.2	-1.0	2.2	-1.8 -2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	23.5	31.0	9.6	23.3	18.3 105.7
	Change	-1.1	-0.4	-2.5	-4.1	-2.9 -9%
Large	Curr Wk	38.9	67.6	43.2	83.4	92.8 325.9
	Change	-3.1	-12.1	-9.2	8.0	-3.8 -6%
Medium	Curr Wk	12.0	29.5	10.6	15.7	19.4 87.2
	Change	0.0	-2.1	-1.7	-2.2	-0.2 -7%
Small	Curr Wk	3.8	4.3	1.6	4.9	4.9 19.5
	Change	-0.5	-1.5	0.3	-0.2	-1.3 -14%
Misc	Curr Wk	6.3	23.6	8.9	17.8	5.0 61.6
	Change	0.1	6.4	0.0	3.1	0.0 18%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	23.5	34.0	20.1	20.0	34.9 132.5
	Change	-10.8	-7.9	3.1	-1.4	-6.3 -15%
Total	Curr Wk	118.5	209.1	100.2	180.6	182.7 791.1
Percent	Change	-12%	-8%	-10%	3%	-8% -7%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	791.1	-7%	171
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	359.2	-1%	39

Total Shell Egg 1150.3 -5% 210
1/Information is supplied by a universe of 171 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 DECEMBER 04, 2000

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	172	168.9	159.9	109.9

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING DECEMBER 04, 2000 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	136	136	126	77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 15, 2000

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS			
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	73.50	—	—	76.00	—	71.00	15.00	GNR W 1	—	—	—	—	—	8.00	
GNR W 3	—	63.25	—	—	60.00	—	1.25	GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	.50	
GNR W 4	—	39.25	—	—	47.33	54.00	1.50	GL W J	—	—	—	—	85.00	1.75	
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	88.00	
GL W J	—	—	—	—	72.43	—	1.75	GL W LG	81.00	—	—	—	89.50	5.25	
GL W XL	—	—	84.00	86.00	76.00	—	1.50	GL W MD	—	—	—	—	72.50	75.00	
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	81.33	—	5.25	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	53.50	56.00	
GL W MD	—	—	64.00	66.00	—	—	4.00								
GL W SM	—	—	26.00	28.00	—	—	1.00								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	38.00	43.00	6.00								

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 12/11/00-12/15/00

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS			
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	68.93	75.93	69.38	72.63	65.00	67.00	83.00	GNR W 1	—	76.33	—	—	—	77.00	29.00
GNR W 2	—	64.00	—	—	59.81	58.00	10.00	GNR W 2	—	70.00	—	—	—	—	7.00
GNR W 3	—	64.25	51.00	53.00	60.00	—	5.25	GNR W 3	—	56.00	—	—	—	—	2.50
GNR W 4	—	39.25	—	—	46.46	48.83	6.50	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR BR XL	—	—	—	75.00	—	—	.75	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	85.00	1.75
GNR BR 1	—	62.00	63.00	71.00	—	—	5.00	GL W XL	—	83.00	—	—	—	83.47	6.75
GNR BR 2	—	—	—	75.00	—	—	1.75	GL W LG	81.00	—	—	—	89.50	86.74	14.75
GL W J	—	—	63.50	65.00	72.43	—	2.00	GL W MD	57.00	—	—	—	72.50	64.11	4.25
GL W XL	—	90.00	78.67	82.14	73.97	—	13.50	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	53.50	56.00	.25
GL W LG	—	89.43	86.00	88.00	75.13	94.00	18.50								
GL W MD	—	65.13	60.75	65.52	61.50	—	19.75								
GL W SM	—	—	30.50	32.11	—	—	4.50								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	38.00	43.00	6.00								
NRBS - 39	—	—	18.00	20.00	—	—	.25								

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 12/03/00 - 12/09/00

Origin State	CO	IA	MI	MN	MO	NH	OH	OR	SD	TX	UT	WA	WI	TOTAL
N. CA	0	2850	0	0	0	0	0	1,641	0	0	1,173	0	0	5,664
C. CA	0	1,620	0	0	0	0	0	270	0	0	0	462	0	2,352
S. CA	6,404	21,087	750	21,755	8,430	589	3,474	0	1,600	960	13,689	960	7,420	87,118
TOTAL STATE	6,404	25,557	750	21,755	8,430	589	3,474	1,911	1,600	960	14,862	1,422	7,420	95,134

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
122-125	106-109	103-106	61-64	17-20

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
93-96	84-90	82-87	64-69	29-33

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
67-69	49-51	11-13

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.

EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
103.12	102.12	87.24	50.51

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	<u>12/11/00</u>	<u>12/04/00</u>	<u>12/14/99</u>
PACIFIC COAST	113	149	65
LOS ANGELES	82	109	0

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS**NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME****USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.****POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

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