



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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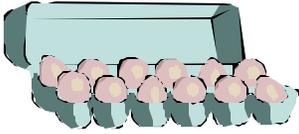
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In most areas, prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was steady. Demand was moderate to good. Supplies of all sizes were adequate to instances close. Breaking stock supplies were about adequate to adequate and for the light to moderate demand. Winter storms in the Midwest and the Northeast continue to delay shipments of eggs entering the holiday weekend with additional movement noted in retail stores. Light type fowl were sufficient for reduced processing needs.

NORTH ATLANTIC Prices remained unchanged on all sizes in all areas. The market tone was steady entering the holiday weekend. Retail demand was good as a forecasted winter storm stimulated consumer activity. Supplies were usually adequate for current requirements. Breaking stock offerings were about adequate to adequate for the light to moderate demand. Light type hens were adequate for the light and unaggressive demand. Reduced processing schedules were still in effect.

NEW YORK Prices continued unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the holiday weekend. Demand ranged moderate to good. Supplies were generally adequate for current requirements.

MIDWEST Prices ended the week unchanged in all areas. The trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was mostly good with the best interest in areas with extreme winter weather. Food service movement was moderate to at times good. Supplies were in good balance to instances close. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were lower. Most breakers continued to work from regular commitments and were offering excess nest runs at lower prices. Floor stocks continue to build as liquid movement is rated as slow and schedules are reduced due to the holidays. The trade sentiment was steady. Winter storms continue to cause trucking problems in the Midwest. Light type hens were at least fully adequate for current slaughter needs.

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The trade sentiment steady. Retail demand good and best where features are a factor, food service generally light. Supplies adequate to barely adequate.

SOUTHERN Prices remained unchanged. In Atlanta, asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending unchanged than current week. However, in Florida, asking prices for next week were generally trending higher. The market tone was steady. Demand was moderate to good and best where features were in progress or planned for the holiday weekend. Supplies were usually adequate. Breaking stock supplies were about adequate to adequate and demand for additional product was light to moderate. Light type hens were sufficient for reduced processing needs.

WESTERN Prices unchanged. Market tone was steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. Retailer demand was fairly good overall, best to cover first of the month needs. Offerings adequate.

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)	129-131	126-128	85-87
New York	104-106	101-104	83-86
Philadelphia	100-104	98-102	81.5-83
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	96-97	94.5-96	77-78
Jackson (1)	104-105	103-104	86-87
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	99-114	98-112	79-93
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	92-97	91-96	72-77
Detroit (2)	89-92	88-91	68-71
Major Ohio Cities (2)	89-96	88-94	69-75
Major Wisconsin Cities	93-100	91-98	72-79
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	107-110	104-106	85-87
Southern California(Grade AA)(4)	115-127	113-120	97-103
California (Grade AA) (1) (3)	131	123	107
(1) - Prices reported weekly	(2) - Delivered Warehouse		
(3) - Reported Invoice prices	(4) - Prices To Retailers		

CALIFORNIA Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady. Asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes. Retailer demand moderate to good, best to cover first of the month interest. Offerings generally adequate. Small invoice price 87. Ads in Southern California: no major noted; smaller outlets - large dozen 119, extra large dozen 129-149, jumbo dozen 139.

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

	RANGE
JUMBO	143
EXTRA LARGE	131
LARGE	123
MEDIUM	107

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	130-140
EXTRA LARGE	115-127
LARGE	113-120
MEDIUM	97-103

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	199-229
MEDIUM	187-199

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Nest run breaking stock prices were lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Most breakers continued to work from regular commitments and were offering excess nest runs at lower prices. Floor stocks continue to build as liquid movement is rated as slow and schedules are reduced due to the holidays. Weather related trucking problems continue to plague much of the Central and Southern U.S. Trade sentiment barely 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	38-40
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	25-28	

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 were unchanged on nest run breaking stock when compared to early week trading. However, checks and undergrades were unchanged to higher. The market tone was generally steady with traders watching further market developments. Demand was light to moderate for about adequate to adequate offerings. Breakers were usually on holiday schedules. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending December 23, 2000 were 11% 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	34-38	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	20-27.25	20-26

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 23-Dec-00
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED.
CW	1,003,656	23,885	9,131	5,146	2,167	3,713
PW	1,013,161	24,362	9,159	4,899	1,838	3,594
LY	943,423	21,082	9,313	5,268	2,205	3,226
% PW	-1	-2	0	5	18	3
% LY	6	13	-2	-2	-2	15
2000	59,193,934	1,352,109	614,356	316,421	139,115	198,796
1999	57,295,792	1,317,436	547,955	302,008	131,132	182,814

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -

CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
41.72	41.47	41.22

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 56 to 58.5 cents fob with pasteurized whites reported at 24 cents fob. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady for whole egg and yolk and about steady for whites. Offerings of all liquid products were at least adequate to instances fully adequate with whole egg the most available. Trading and demand was rated as very slow for all products with buyers taking a wait and see approach as sellers wait for improvement the middle of next month. Schedules were reduced for next week due to the upcoming holiday week. Breaking stock supplies were at least adequate to fully adequate.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM Friday 29 December, 2000 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	18	30-35	31.93	.78
WHITES	14	19-26	24.50	.10
YOLKS	10	52-54	52.90	-1.39

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were about unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Trading was limited with traders usually cautious and in a holiday mode. Supplies were adequate but usually not offered out at discounts. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending December 23, 2000 were 9% less than last week but 1% more than a year ago.

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY	LTL TRUCKLOTS (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	48-50	48-49	54-56
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		68-85
WHITES	35-37		41-54
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	67-71	69-71	70-76
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	64-69	66-69	67-74

(/) - WHOLE PLUS YOLK PLUS SWEETENER, GENERALLY 28-32% EGG SOLIDS.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg prices ranged unchanged to 1 cent lower. Whites and sugared yolk prices were unchanged, with salt yolk unchanged to 1 cent higher. Trade sentiment was generally steady for all frozen products. Demand was rated as mostly for immediate needs with most buyers cautious and watching further market developments before purchasing additional product. Floor stocks usually adequate for needs and building slightly as liquid supplies were reported as at least adequate to fully adequate. Breaking stock supplies were balanced to at least adequate.

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	47-49	48-49
WHITES	34-37	36-37
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	69-71	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	66-69	66-68

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 1 cent higher on whites unchanged on the balance. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 12/23 was down 11 percent from the previous week. Breaking stock adequate. Frozen demand moderate overall and freezer stocks adequate.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, FOB SHIPPING POINT (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS) LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)

WHOLE	55-58
WHITES	42-45
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	76-79
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	73-76

NATIONAL DRIED EGG Mostly prices were lower on albumen, other items were mostly unchanged when compared to a week earlier. The market tone was seasonal steady. However, sellers were looking at higher costs for drying but buyers were still on the sidelines for end of the year purchases. Inquiry had improved for first quarter needs. However, trading was still light. Supplies were generally adequate for most trade needs. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending December 23, 2000 were 18% more than last week, but 2% less than the same week a year ago, for a total of 6% more than last year.

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

WHOLE	1.65-1.90	MOSTLY	1.75-1.85
YOLKS	1.47-1.70	MOSTLY	1.55-1.65
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.65-3.05	MOSTLY	2.65-2.80
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.28-1.40	MOSTLY	1.30-1.40

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 22-28, 2000

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS			TOTAL LOADS					
SE				NE				MW		SC			NW		SW	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	
GNR W 1	74.58	—	77.33	77.50	77.00	—	37.00	GNR W 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.00	
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.00	GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.00	
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	46.50	48.00	9.00	GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	
GNR BR 1	—	—	68.00	69.50	—	—	3.75	GL W J	—	—	—	—	73.00	79.00	.75	
GL W J	—	—	66.50	68.00	—	—	.25	GL W XL	74.33	—	—	—	81.36	81.87	9.50	
GL W XL	—	—	85.00	78.50	68.38	—	30.25	GL W LG	71.23	—	—	—	83.38	81.08	21.00	
GL W LG	—	—	83.00	72.91	65.56	—	32.75	GL W MD	57.00	—	—	—	63.06	65.00	3.50	
GL W MD	—	—	63.30	66.00	52.50	—	11.00	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	34.00	37.20	1.25	
GL W SM	26.00	30.00	26.89	28.61	—	—	4.25									
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	.25									
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	36.67	41.00	16.00									

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 REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate for reduced processing schedules. Demand was light and unaggressive. Finished product sales were clearing available supplies. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for light hens for next weeks schedules. Sales were slowing post holiday. Trade sentiment was about steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Offerings were at least fully adequate for current slaughter needs with demand rated as mostly fair. Slaughter schedules continued mostly part-time for next week for the New Year's holiday. Trade sentiment steady.

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

LIVE HENS

Prices paid for live hens (trucklot) cents/pounds at farm.

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 29-Dec-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	104.26	101.89	83.94
SOUTHERN	99.29	97.58	78.45
MIDWEST	93.25	92.00	72.78
WESTERN	122.98	117.36	100.73
TWELVE METRO AREAS	108.06	104.82	86.96

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Prices were unchanged on light canners, but values were still trending higher on heavies when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to good, and trading was very limited with best interest still on short supplies of heavy canners. Offerings were adequate on light supplies of lights. Undertone was at best steady on lights and fully steady on heavies. CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-25 MAJORITY	32.5-40.5 MAJORITY 33.5-37.5

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25-26 MAJORITY 25	34-39 MAJORITY

NOTICE

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION

For week ending 23-Dec-00

This report is not available due to holiday schedules in Canada. The U.S. Fowl slaughter portion of this report is available on the World Wide Web at www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm. This report will be released as soon as possible (01/05/01)

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

	Week Ending Dec 16, 2000		Year-To-Date	
	2000	1999 /1	2000	1999
Liquid	230	320	7,406	13,052
Frozen	0	0	239	6
Dried	0	0	653	644
Total	230	320	8,298	13,702

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

	Week Ending Dec 16, 2000		Year-To-Date	
	2000	1999 /1	2000	1999
Liquid	22	31	4,855	4,487
Frozen	63	3	943	609
Dried	19	0	935	310
Total	104	34	6,733	5,406

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

	Week Ending Dec 16, 2000		Year-To-Date	
	2000	1999 /1	2000	1999
Jumbo	173	950	2,444	2,368
Extra Large	3,010	1,850	53,656	44,448
Large	11,465	6,575	156,577	153,423
Medium	1,808	240	40,705	53,196
Ungraded	4,500	12,770	393,044	624,383
Misc	510	0	13,247	11,622
Total	21,466	22,385	659,673	889,440

/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, Pltry Development Div.

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

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
97-100	88-94	86-91	66-71	30-34

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

	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	71-73	51-53	13-15

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
125-128	110-113	107-110	66-69	21-24

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS -
SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 26-Dec-00	4,422	70,080	73,018
AM 1-Dec-00	4,435	71,624	75,849
CHG	-13	-1544	-2831
PCT CHG	0	-2	-4

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 23-Dec-00

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	34.9	30.1	16	5
BOSTON	3.7	3.4	9	-12
CHICAGO	68.2	55.2	24	16
DETROIT	34.5	29.8	16	-15
KANSAS CITY	4.4	4.4	0	-15
LOS ANGELES	122.7	100.6	22	27
NEW ORLEANS	10.3	9.7	6	-21
NEW YORK	38.6	36.7	5	-11
ST. LOUIS	18.7	20.3	-8	18
SAN FRANCISCO	28.7	24.5	17	11
TOTAL	364.7	314.7	16	8
4 WK MVG AVG	329.9			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 23-Dec-00

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	229.2	-3	-8
E.N. CENTRAL	535.1	-2	12
W.N. CENTRAL	260.6	-4	10
S. ATLANTIC	221.5	0	1
S. CENTRAL	79.6	-1	-73
WEST	228.4	2	7
TOTAL	1554.4	-1	-8

MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING 90 87

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG DECEMBER 26, 2000.

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	143	140	99	54
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	135-139	132-136	91-95	46-50
MOSTLY	137-138	134-135	93-94	48-49
RHODE ISLAND	142-146	139-143	98-102	53-57
MOSTLY	142	139	98	53
VERMONT	142-145	139-140	79-97	-
MOSTLY	142	139	97	-

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