



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

 Prices were unchanged in Chicago and New York. In Philadelphia, prices were lower on all sizes. Elsewhere, prices were lower on the lighter weight eggs. The market tone was cautiously steady entering the week. Demand ranged light to very good, best where features were in progress or planned for this week. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade requirements. Breaking stock supplies were adequate to ample for the light demand. Light type fowl were at least sufficient for normal to less than normal processing schedules.

• **Effective January 2, 2003, prices delivered to retailers warehouse or store door in Boston (Brown), Philadelphia, Atlanta, Jackson, Major Louisiana Cities, Detroit, Major Ohio Cities and Major Wisconsin Cities will no longer be issued. Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and South Central regional prices will be issued instead and will be reported as "prices delivered to retailers warehouse and volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, cents per dozen." Prices and comments will appear on the report daily. Prices into Chicago, New York and Southern California delivered store door will**

NORTH ATLANTIC Prices in Philadelphia were unchanged to 1.5 cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged to 3.5 cents lower on mediums; however prices in Boston were 2 cents higher on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums, when based on previous week average pricing. In New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was reported as cautiously steady beginning the week. Demand into all channels was moderate to very good. Supplies were adequate to available for white eggs, while browns remained short. Breaking stock demand was light for generally adequate offerings. Light type hens were at least sufficient for the light to fair demand.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were 2 cents lower for medium. All other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was cautiously steady. Retail demand was moderate to fairly good. Food service movement was mostly moderate to light. Supplies were fully adequate to available for current needs. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample with breakers reporting regularly committed shell eggs as overwhelming at times. Demand was light. Most schedules were full-time for this week with many breakers contemplating schedules for next week and generally running at least 4 days. Floor stocks at least adequate to mostly fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The market tone was cautiously steady. Retail and food service demand light to moderate and best where features are active. Supplies adequate to available for all sizes.

SOUTHERN In Atlanta prices were unchanged to lower on all sizes. In Florida, prices were lower on medium and unchanged on the balance of sizes. Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was light to good, best where features were in progress or planned. Supplies were adequate to available for trade needs. 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 13, 2002 was 75.49 cents, which was 3.19 cents less than a week earlier, but was 14.51 cents more than last year. Breaking stock supplies were sufficient for the light demand. Light type fowl were at least adequate for the light to fair demand. Processing schedules for this week were reported as normal to less than normal.

WESTERN Prices unchanged on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents lower on medium throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 10% lower than last Monday with California down 4% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 18%. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings adequate.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged entering the week. Trade sentiment was at best steady. Demand ranged light to occasionally good. Supplies were sufficient for current requirements.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DLVRD STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DZ.

NOTE: Effective January 2, 2003, this report will no longer be issued due to a change in egg price reporting procedures.

NORTHEAST CITIES	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
Boston (Brown)	118-122	109-113	75-77
New York	80-84	78-82	58-62
Philadelphia	78-82	77-80	57-61
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	70-74	68-71	49-53
Jackson (1)	77-79	75-77	60-62
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	78-88	76-86	56-67
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	69-73	67-71	49-53
Detroit (2)	65-70	64-69	46-53
Major Ohio Cities (2)	67-71	66-69	48-51
Major Wisconsin Cities	68-75	67-73	49-53
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	86-88	83-86	64-66
California (Grade AA)(1)(3)	106	101	86
(1) - Prices reported weekly		(2) - Delivered Warehouse	
(3) - Reported Invoice prices			

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents lower on medium and small. The California inventory was 4% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings adequate. Small benchmark price 64. Ads in Northern California: major- large 18 pack 99, buy 1 get 1 free; smaller outlets- large dozen 99, 18 pack 69.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	110
EXTRA LARGE	106
LARGE	101
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	239-299	JUMBO	235-289
EXTRA LARGE	229-299	EXTRA LARGE	219-249
LARGE	199	LARGE	195-239
MEDIUM	179	MEDIUM	175-189

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 20, 2002 will increase by 16 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 13, 2002 were 289,194 cases which was 13 percent above the prior week and 4 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	248,783	40,411	289,194
% change from the prior week.....	+15	-1	+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 All prices were unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample with breakers reporting regularly committed shell eggs as overwhelming at times. Demand was light. Most schedules were full-time for this week with many breakers contemplating schedules for next week and generally running at least 4 days. Floor stocks at least adequate to mostly fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak. PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	34-38	34-36
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	22-27	
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair to moderate. Offerings were generally sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Finished product supplies varied but were mostly in close balance to short and well cleared. The undertone was generally steady. HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 16-DEC-02.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-9.5 CENTS/LB.	7.75-8.5	8.05
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.			

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were lower on hens traded for this weeks slaughter. Demand was moderate for at least adequate offerings of raw materials. Finished sales were seasonally active. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady. HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 16-DEC-02.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5.75-10 CENTS/LB.	8-8.5	8.30
*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.			

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM DEC 16, 2002

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/ (30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area		
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	10.7	20.1	7.8	15.3	11.2	65.1
	Change	0.4	-2.0	-1.5	-1.7	-0.6	-8%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	26.9	61.8	16.3	24.7	33.0	162.7
	Change	-2.1	-9.0	0.5	-2.7	0.0	-8%
Large	Curr Wk	49.2	127.5	91.0	111.1	108.6	487.4
	Change	-2.9	-6.1	-5.2	8.2	-23.1	-6%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.1	49.3	24.0	18.1	27.6	134.1
	Change	0.6	-6.2	-0.1	-1.1	-4.0	-7%
Small	Curr Wk	3.0	8.0	3.7	5.3	4.0	24.0
	Change	0.1	-0.4	-1.9	1.6	-1.7	-9%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.0	22.8	8.4	19.4	5.7	60.3
	Change	-0.7	-1.8	0.3	-0.6	-1.6	-7%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	28.3	32.1	32.9	28.6	46.1	168.0
	Change	-9.3	-10.7	0.0	-3.0	5.3	-10%
Total	Curr Wk	137.2	321.6	184.1	222.5	236.2	1101.6
Percent	Change	-9%	-10%	-4%	0%	-10%	-7%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1101.6	-7%	175
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	289.1	3%	38
Total Shell Egg	1390.7	-5%	213

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 175 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 NOVEMBER 25, 2002

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	194.2	191.1	182.1	114.6

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING NOVEMBER 25, 2002 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	151	151	141	77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 13, 2002

CURRENT LOADS		20.25		FUTURE LOADS		17.50		TOTAL LOADS		37.75					
CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	CLASS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST			ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	50.00	—	51.00	52.00	—	—	2.00	GNR BR 1	101.00	—	—	112.00	—	—	1.00
GL W XL	—	—	63.50	63.00	46.13	—	10.00	GL W XL	—	51.75	—	—	—	53.83	7.00
GL W LG	—	—	62.50	64.00	43.00	—	9.50	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	52.50	7.75
GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.75	GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	—	.75
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.00								
NRBS - 39	—	—	14.00	16.00	—	—	.25								

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/07/02-12/13/02

CURRENT LOADS		92.00		FUTURE LOADS		72.25		TOTAL LOADS		164.25					
CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	CLASS	SC		NW		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST			ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	49.50	55.50	51.00	52.06	—	—	18.00	GNR W 1	—	58.00	—	—	—	—	3.00
GNR W 3	—	41.50	—	—	—	38.00	5.00	GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	86.00	—	104.00	2.50	GNR BR 1	101.00	—	—	112.00	—	—	2.00
GL W J	—	—	—	—	47.63	62.00	4.25	GL W J	53.00	—	—	—	—	59.00	4.50
GL W XL	—	61.75	63.50	62.96	46.68	61.00	53.75	GL W XL	50.33	52.88	—	—	—	54.78	22.25
GL W LG	—	61.50	61.67	62.06	44.73	61.00	44.75	GL W LG	50.00	58.35	—	—	—	54.88	33.25
GL W MD	—	41.75	41.25	42.29	37.00	38.00	11.75	GL W MD	38.11	43.00	—	—	—	44.94	6.00
GL W SM	28.00	30.00	27.25	29.00	—	—	3.00								
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	38.00	—	—	.25								
NRBS - 48	—	—	34.50	35.89	33.00	37.55	44.75								
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	28.50	28.67	3.00								
NRBS - 39	—	—	14.00	16.00	25.00	28.11	9.75								
NRBS - 36	—	—	26.00	27.00	—	—	.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

State	Number Cases Shipped To Northern CA	Number Cases Shipped To Central CA	Number Cases Shipped To Southern CA	Total State
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NOT AVAILABLE

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	101-104	92-95	56-59	25-28

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
71-81	65-68	62-67	46-50	31-35

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
46-50	28-32	11-15

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/09/02	12/02/02	12/10/01
PACIFIC COAST	658	773	222
LOS ANGELES	597	708	171

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

Receipts from the mainland:	12/1/02-12/7/02
30-dozen case	8,721

Receipts from the mainland:	11/24/02-11/30/02
30-dozen case	4,971

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
90.27	88.27	70.65	53.27

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