



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2003
VOL. 50 NO. 30

ISSN 1520-6122

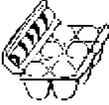
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

 Prices in Chicago and New York were unchanged. In the Southeast, prices were higher on all sizes when compared to previous week. Elsewhere, weekly prices were higher on mediums and unchanged on the balance. The market tone was usually steady. Demand was in a full range of light to good, mostly moderate to good. Supplies were fully sufficient to tight with mediums in the least available position. Breaking stock supplies were adequate to fully adequate for the light to at times fairly good demand. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for normal to reduced slaughter schedules.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE

EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN

MIDWEST REGIONAL Medium prices increased 2 cents in the Midwest. Other reported prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was usually good with features activity still providing the best interest. Food service movement mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to at times close. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light to instances fairly good for the adequate to fully adequate offerings. Most breakers limiting production and outside purchases to as needed only. Trade sentiment steady to at times barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	65-72	67-69
LARGE	63-71	65-69
MEDIUM	53-59	56-59

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS

	RANGE
LARGE	48-52
MEDIUM	36-40
SMALL	12-16

MW AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, WESTERN NY & WESTERN PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were 3 cents higher on mediums and unchanged on the balance of sizes when compared to last week. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand ranged moderate to good, although holiday week feature activity was not as prevalent as in past seasons. Supplies were adequate for current needs. Breaking stock offerings from regular sources were about sufficient for the light to moderate demand. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for the light to fair demand. Fowl processing schedules were reported as regular to reduced.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	69-84	72-75
LARGE	66-81	71-75
MEDIUM	58-70	60-62

NE AREA: CT,DC,DE,MA,MD,ME,NH,EASTERN NJ,EASTERN PA,RI, NORTHERN VA & VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Medium prices were 2 cents higher. Other reported sizes were unchanged. Trade sentiment mostly steady. Cartoned egg sales were mostly good over the weekend with feature activity still providing some good interest. Loose egg movement was mostly moderate. Supplies were usually adequate to barely adequate in some areas.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	73-82
LARGE	71-80
MEDIUM	57-66

SC AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK AND TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Weekly prices were unchanged to 3 cents higher on mediums and slightly higher on the larger sizes when compared to the previous week. The market tone was generally steady. Demand was moderate to fairly good, best where features were a factor. Supplies of the larger eggs were adequate to close while mediums were usually closely balanced to occasionally tight for present needs. Breaking stock offerings were about sufficient from regular sources. Breaking schedules were normal for the moderate demand. Light type hens were fully adequate for regular to reduced slaughter schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	70-79	73-76
LARGE	69-77	71-74
MEDIUM	53-64	57-61

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE

EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, instances good. Supplies balanced.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	71-77
LARGE	69-75
MEDIUM	57-63

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged. The market tone was generally steady entering the week. Retail demand was moderate to good, however pre-holiday feature activity was limited. Supplies were adequate for trade needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	80-84
LARGE	78-82
MEDIUM	67-71

WESTERN Prices 1 cent lower on jumbo, unchanged on extra large and large, and 2 cents higher on medium throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 23% lower than last Monday with California down 11% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 41%. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices 1 cent lower on jumbo, unchanged on extra large and large, and 2 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 11% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings adequate. Small benchmark price 71.

Ads in Northern California: major- large 18 pack buy 1 get 1 free.

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	112
EXTRA LARGE	108
LARGE	105
MEDIUM	91

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	259-319	JUMBO	249-319
EXTRA LARGE	249-319	EXTRA LARGE	239-319
LARGE	209-219	LARGE	215-259
MEDIUM	189-199	MEDIUM	179-215

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending April 18, 2003 will increase by 12 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending April 11, 2003 were 265,138 cases which was 7 percent above the prior week and 7 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	225,839	39,299	265,138
% change from the prior week.....	+9	-6	+7

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 16 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices unchanged. Demand was light to instances fairly good with offerings usually adequate to fully adequate. Most breakers attempted to limit production schedules and outside nest run orders to as needed status only. Trade sentiment steady to instances barely steady. 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	38-42	39-41
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	27-32	

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 trended slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was fair for the mostly adequate to fully adequate offerings. Finished sales were moderate. Processing schedules were noted as less than normal. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 14-APR-03

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-9.5 CENTS/LB.	8-8.5	8.18
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 generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings from producers. Finished sales showed some improvement although overall movement was moderate. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 14-APR-03

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.75-11 CENTS/LB.	8-8.75	8.33

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM APR 14, 2003

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

		NO	SO	SO	Atl	Pacific	5-Area
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	11.4	23.6	10.1	15.2	15.4	75.7
	Change	-2.4	-1.7	2.6	0.2	-0.4	-2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	21.5	38.9	11.1	22.2	38.0	131.7
	Change	-8.9	-13.9	-3.2	-10.9	-6.4	-25%
Large	Curr Wk	50.2	108.0	77.4	87.9	94.4	417.9
	Change	-14.9	-59.4	-51.4	-42.8	-60.0	-35%
Medium	Curr Wk	11.8	29.8	14.9	16.8	24.9	98.2
	Change	-2.9	-5.0	0.7	-6.9	-1.3	-14%
Small	Curr Wk	2.8	5.5	2.0	4.1	6.2	20.6
	Change	-0.2	1.1	-2.9	-4.6	1.8	-19%
Misc	Curr Wk	3.1	21.0	8.9	15.9	6.6	55.5
	Change	-0.8	2.6	3.2	3.5	1.6	22%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	20.3	38.1	19.2	22.2	33.8	133.6
	Change	-6.8	-20.9	-10.1	-13.8	0.8	-28%
Total	Curr Wk	121.1	264.9	143.6	184.3	219.3	933.2
Percent	Change	-23%	-27%	-30%	-29%	-23%	-26%
TOTAL			Number of Cases		Percent Change		Number of Cooperators

Shell Egg	933.2	-26%	174
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	205.3	-4%	37
Total Shell Egg	1138.5	-23%	211

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 174 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.

2/ Due to changes in the cooperator universe, the relevant totals for the previous week were ADJUSTED. This adjustment is necessary to facilitate valid comparisons. The revised figures are:

	NO	SO	SO	PACIFIC	5-AREA SUMMARY
NORTHEAST	CENT	CENT	ATL		
158.0	362.1	204.7	259.6	283.2	1267.6

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 31, 2003

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	195.2	192.1	183.1	114.6

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING MARCH 31, 2003 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 AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 11, 2003.

CURRENT LOADS	13.25	FUTURE LOADS	15.25	TOTAL LOADS	28.50
----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------	--------------------	-------

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	—	54.00	54.50	55.00	50.00	52.00	11.00	GNR W XL	—	53.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W XL	—	—	63.00	65.00	60.50	—	4.25	GNR W 3	40.00	41.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W LG	—	—	62.25	64.00	59.50	—	2.50	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	70.00	1.00
GL W SM	—	—	30.38	32.63	27.75	28.75	2.50	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	69.00	.50
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	41.50	42.00	5.00								
NRBS - 39	—	—	20.00	22.00	—	—	.25								

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 7, 2003-APRIL 11, 2003

CURRENT LOADS	84.00	FUTURE LOADS	65.00	TOTAL LOADS	149.00
----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------	--------------------	--------

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	49.50	54.14	50.70	52.13	50.80	51.71	43.00	GNR W XL	—	53.00	—	—	—	—	4.00
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	GNR W 1	55.00	56.00	—	—	—	61.35	10.00
GL W J	—	—	—	—	54.08	—	3.75	GNR W 2	—	50.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W XL	—	67.00	63.83	65.45	60.00	—	42.25	GNR W 3	39.50	40.50	—	—	—	—	4.00
GL W LG	66.25	66.94	60.58	63.79	59.94	59.00	30.50	GL W J	59.00	—	—	—	—	65.00	3.75
GL W MD	—	66.00	53.00	53.00	43.00	50.00	8.50	GL W XL	62.13	66.00	—	—	—	71.81	22.25
GL W SM	—	—	30.15	32.05	27.75	28.75	5.50	GL W LG	59.50	67.19	—	—	—	69.76	11.25
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	39.09	41.56	45.00	GL W MD	48.00	53.00	—	—	—	52.00	4.50
NRBS - 39	—	—	20.00	22.00	17.00	30.50	4.50	GL W SM	28.00	—	—	—	—	33.00	2.00
								NRBS - 39	—	23.00	—	—	—	—	2.00

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.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	04/07/03	03/31/03	04/08/02
PACIFIC COAST	185	224	105
LOS ANGELES	148	186	65

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.

MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	89.27
LARGE	88.57
MEDIUM	74.19
SMALL	54.27

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS**RECEIPTS FROM THE MAINLAND**

	March 30-April 5, 2003	March 23-March 29, 2003
30-dozen case	6,241	5,794

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

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	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	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
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	