



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices in Chicago higher on all sizes. In New York, prices unchanged. The market tone fully steady to firm. Demand into all channels light to good. Supplies ranged sufficient to tight for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings barely adequate to tight for the moderate to good demand. Breaking schedules irregular. Light type fowl about sufficient for the fair to fairly good demand. Slaughter schedules reported as normal to less than normal.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI higher for all sizes. All other prices unchanged. Trade sentiment fully steady to at times firm. Cartoned egg demand moderate to good with features still moving some extra product. Food service movement light to mostly moderate. Supplies remained tight for mediums and small and adequate to close for the larger sizes. Central states breaking stock prices unchanged. Offerings tight to scarce with demand mostly good. Most breakers reducing breaking schedules and covering only regular commitments and contractual orders. Schedules mixed. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	86-95	89-92
LARGE	85-93	86-91
MEDIUM	80-88	83-85

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS

	RANGE
LARGE	71-75
MEDIUM	67-71
SMALL	43-47

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending higher on all sizes. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were close balanced to tight for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were barely adequate to short for the moderate to good demand. Light type fowl were adequate for normal to less than normal processing schedules for the upcoming week

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	89-103	92-96
LARGE	85-100	90-94
MEDIUM	78-93	83-86

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG All prices unchanged. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm with the lighter sizes remaining in the best position. Retail demand was fair to good, best for features that are planned for next week. Food service movement was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to close for the larger sizes and tight for medium and small.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	91.5-100	93-95
LARGE	89.5-98	94-97
MEDIUM	83.5-90	86-88

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending higher on all weights. The market tone was fully steady to firm entering the weekend. Retail and distributive demand was moderate to good. Supplies were closely balanced to tight for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were barely adequate to short for the moderate to good demand. Breaking schedules for the upcoming week were reported as regular to reduced. Light type fowl were about sufficient for the fair to fairly good demand. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	89-97	91-94
LARGE	87-95	89-92
MEDIUM	72.25-89	82-86

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

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

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone entering the weekend was fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to good, best where promotional activity was planned or in progress for next week. Supplies were close balanced to tight for current needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	103-107
LARGE	101-105
MEDIUM	96-100

CHICAGO EGGS Prices for extra large and large increased 1 cent, mediums advanced 2 cents. The market tone was fully steady. Retail and food service demand was light to good. Supplies balanced, instances tight.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	94-100
LARGE	93-98
MEDIUM	90-97

WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was firm with asking prices for next week 3-4 cents higher on jumbo, 3 cents higher on extra large and large, and 5 cents higher on medium. Retailer demand mainly moderate. Offerings adequate for current needs.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was firm with asking prices for next week 4 cents higher on jumbo, 3 cents higher on extra large and large, and 5 cents higher on medium and small. Retailer demand was still slowed by the retail clerks strike in the south but overall was moderate. Offerings generally adequate for immediate needs. Small benchmark price 96. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- extra large dozen 139, 20 pack 199, large dozen 129.

CALIFORNIA 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	135
EXTRA LARGE	133
LARGE	124
MEDIUM	116

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	115-125
EXTRA LARGE	113-123
LARGE	111-114
MEDIUM	103-106

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

	RANGE
JUMBO	269-339
EXTRA LARGE	269-329
LARGE	229-249
MEDIUM	199-219

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices unchanged. Offerings were tight to scarce with demand mostly good. Most breakers were reducing breaking schedules and covering only regular commitments and contractual orders. Schedules mixed. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm.

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	80-83	82
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	64-70	66
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 when compared to early week trading. Demand was moderate to good. Offerings were barely adequate to short. Breaking schedules for the upcoming week were reported as normal to reduced. The undertone was fully steady to firm. Cases broken in the Eastern region for the week ending Oct. 18, 2003 were 8 percent less than last week and 9 percent less than the same week a year ago.

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	73-77	74-76
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	60-67	61-65
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-Oct-03
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,217,401	30,792	10,632	5,762	2,286	4,102
PW	1,257,598	30,867	11,291	5,783	2,337	4,306
LY	1,259,316	29,598	11,898	6,421	2,897	4,308
% CHG PW	-3	0	-6	0	-2	-5
% CHG LY	-3	4	-11	-10	-21	-5
2003	49,036,078	1,195,319	447,226	243,314	99,759	176,094
2002	50,838,731	1,180,530	491,033	263,937	121,214	180,491
% CHG YTD	-4	1	-9	-8	-18	-2
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			CW	PW	LY	
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)			42.13	41.55	41.47	
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)			38.76	38.12	38.05	

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 83 to 91 cents fob with pasteurized whites reported at 65 cents fob. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm for whole egg and whites, and about steady to weak for yolk. Offerings were adequate for whole egg and yolk and adequate to tight for whites. Demand was good to very good for whole egg and whites with yolk demand limited. Breaking schedules were reported as reduced by many operations for next week. Breaking stock prices were higher compared to the previous week.

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

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	22	67-69	68.82	1.94
WHITES	22	55.5-62.5	57.66	1.74
YOLKS	6	82-83	82.67	-.83

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Mostly prices were higher on whites and whole, and generally unchanged on yolks when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on whites, steady to fully steady on whole and steady to about steady on yolks. Demand was light to good with yolk offerings adequate but held with some confidence, whites and whole were tight and less available. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending October 18, 2003 were 2% less than the previous week, and 4% lower than a year ago.

	TRUCKLOTS		LTL
	RANGE	MOSTLY	(MIN. 25 CONT.)
WHOLE	74-83	78-80	86-90
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		93-110
WHITES	64-72	67-69	73-78
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	98-105	99-104	106-115
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	96-100		102-110

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

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg and whites ranged 2 cents higher with the remainder of prices ranging unchanged. Trade sentiment was firm for whole egg and whites and steady on sugar and salt yolk. Many observers felt that yolk values were attempting to stabilize with less separation and reduced breaking schedules seen at many locations. Offerings were adequate for the sporadic demand. Breaking stock prices were higher when compared to last week's reported prices.

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

	TRUCKLOTS	
	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	78-82	78-80
WHITES	68-72	68-70
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	99-105	101-103
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	96-100	99-100

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 2 cents higher on whole and whites, unchanged on yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 10/18 was 21% less than the previous week. Frozen demand moderate with freezer stocks in good balance.

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

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)	
	RANGE	
WHOLE	85-88	
WHITES	73-76	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	106-109	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	103-106	

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Mostly prices were sharply higher on albumen, unchanged to higher on whole but unchanged to lower on the balance of items when compared to a week earlier. The market tone was fully steady to firm on albumen, steady to fully steady on whole, and generally steady on yolks. Albumen offerings were short with TL trading limited, floor stocks of whole were barely adequate, and yolks were usually sufficient. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending October 18, 2003 were 2% less than the previous week, and 21% less than the same week a year ago. The total year to date dried egg produced was 18% lower than a year earlier.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, DOLLARS PER LB, IN CONT., TRUCKLOT & LESS-THAN-TRUCKLOT VOLUMES.

WHOLE	2.95-3.30	MOSTLY	3.08-3.20
YOLKS	2.10-2.40	MOSTLY	2.15-2.25
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	4.98-5.65	MOSTLY	5.15-5.50
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	2.00-2.20	MOSTLY	2.08-2.15

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR OCT 17, 2003-OCT 23, 2003

CURRENT LOADS 57.00	FUTURE LOADS 68.750	TOTAL LOADS 125.75
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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	80.00	84.00	79.00	80.00	—	—	8.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	96.00	2.50
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W XL	86.60	86.00	—	—	—	93.40	8.00
GL W J	—	—	95.00	97.00	83.38	—	3.00	GL W LG	85.00	90.38	—	—	90.00	91.35	11.25
GL W XL	—	96.67	86.90	88.56	85.64	87.00	41.00	GL W MD	79.00	81.50	—	—	85.00	84.26	13.50
GL W LG	—	92.05	83.25	87.67	83.00	85.60	30.50	GL W SM	56.50	60.50	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W MD	—	—	78.67	80.50	75.50	83.00	12.25								
GL W SM	—	—	56.67	58.33	60.00	—	5.00								
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	—	—	82.00	3.25								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	80.33	81.96	38.50								
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	84.00	3.50								
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	74.00	2.25								
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	—	70.00	1.00								

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.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL
WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER
CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were unchanged to slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent fowl were about adequate for current trade needs. Demand was fair to fairly good. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	10-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Salvage costs remained constant. Demand was light from processing operations. Offerings easily covered needs. Finished sales were moderate at best. Disposal values were expected to be steady. **RANGE MAJORITY**
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were unchanged when compared to last week. Offerings were tight to unavailable as strong egg markets cause producers to adjust and hold laying hens. Demand was fairly good to good. Opinions of value were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	8-12.5	10-12.25

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	94.00	92.00	84.50
SOUTHEAST	92.50	90.50	84.00
MIDWEST	90.50	88.50	84.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	94.00	95.50	87.00
COMBINED REGIONAL	92.81	91.83	85.00

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged on both heavy and light canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to moderate but generally unaggressive. Trading was light. Supplies were in a full range of tight to adequate but still sufficient for most needs. Processing schedules were less than normal. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
20-26 MAJORITY 23-23.75	29-36 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
22-27 MAJORITY 25.5-26	31.5-38 MAJORITY 35-37

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 18-Oct-03
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,164	1,378	2,542
LAST WEEK	1,263	1,443	2,706
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,822	1,603	3,425
TO-DATE/2003	61,480	58,923	120,403
TO-DATE/2002	73,819	59,223	133,042

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	92	0	92
LAST WEEK	141	0	141
SAME WEEK YR AGO	294	0	294
TO-DATE/2003	9,720	137	9,857
TO-DATE/2002	13,012	258	13,270

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,256	1,378	2,634
LAST WEEK	1,404	1,443	2,847
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,116	1,603	3,719
TO-DATE/2003	71,200	59,060	130,260
TO-DATE/2002	86,831	59,481	146,312

SOURCE: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch
Washington, DC

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

	Week Ending October 11, 2003		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Liquid	459	450	13,525	16,087
Frozen	0	0	96	21
Dried	0	80	438	754
Total	459	530	14,059	16,862

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

	Week Ending October 11, 2003		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Liquid	55	71	4,781	5,206
Frozen	43	34	2,942	2,927
Dried	0	230	1,024	4,294
Total	98	335	8,747	12,427

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

	Week Ending October 11, 2003		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002 /1	2003	2002
Jumbo	17	0	370	1,307
Extra Large	1,635	2,490	23,742	32,645
Large	3,960	2,300	93,805	116,028
Medium	525	1,260	51,458	40,843
Ungraded	10,718	9,840	145,888	283,085
Misc	0	0	13,862	14,017
Total	16,855	15,890	329,125	487,925

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.

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

		FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM	10/20/03	3,553	194,387	47,102
AM	10/01/03	5,164	205,956	49,344
CHG		-1611	-11569	-2242
PCT CHG		-31%	-6%	-5%

CHICKENS AND EGGS**September Egg Production Down 1 Percent**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.05 billion during September 2003, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.04 billion table eggs and 1.02 billion hatching eggs, of which 961 million were broiler-type and 55.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2003 averaged 332 million, down 2 percent from a year earlier. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,127 eggs, up slightly from September 2002.

September 2003 contained 22 weekdays, one holiday and four Saturdays, compared to September 2002, with 21 weekdays, one holiday and four Saturdays.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2003, totaled 331 million, down 2 percent from a year ago. The 331 million layers consisted of 274 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 54.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.35 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2003, averaged 71.2 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.58 billion eggs during September 2003, down 2 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during September, at 309 million, was down 2 percent from a year ago.

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 18-Oct-03

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW THOUSANDS	PCT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	24.9	25.5	-2	16
BOSTON	3.0	3.5	-14	-17
CHICAGO	46.6	56.1	-17	13
DETROIT	26.7	29.6	-10	-20
KANSAS CITY	8.2	6.8	21	95
LOS ANGELES	91.6	88.2	4	14
NEW ORLEANS	9.2	8.6	7	35
NEW YORK	27.3	28.7	-5	-20
ST. LOUIS	15.4	18.5	-17	-26
SAN FRANCISCO	22.7	22.2	2	9
TOTAL	275.6	287.7	-4	3
4 WK MVG AVG	280.8			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 18-Oct-03

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	216.0	-3	-4
E.N. CENTRAL	539.7	3	-4
W.N. CENTRAL	275.8	0	-5
S. ATLANTIC	187.7	3	10
S. CENTRAL	106.6	-2	21
WEST	184.2	-1	-4
TOTAL	1510.0	1	-1
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		86	86

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Oct 21, 2003

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

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE MOSTLY	141	139	104	76
NEW HAMPSHIRE MOSTLY	134-138	132-136	97-101	69-73
RHODE ISLAND MOSTLY	140-144	138-142	103-107	75-79
VERMONT MOSTLY	140-143	137-140	93-96	-

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	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby,
	Fax	(213)534-1333	Officer-in-Charge
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	