



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



All prices were unchanged in New York. In Chicago, prices were two cents lower on all sizes. Elsewhere, weekly prices were sharply lower on all weights. The market tone was mixed entering the week. Retail and distributive demand ranged light to at times good. Wintry weather hampered parts of the Northeast over the weekend, however, most businesses did not encounter any problems. Supplies were generally adequate to available for trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were usually adequate to fully adequate for the light demand. Spent hen supplies were at least sufficient for mostly normal processing 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 Midwest warehouse prices sharply lower compared to last Monday. Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI lower for large and medium and unchanged for small. Trade sentiment steady to at times barely steady. Retail demand remained mixed, still light in some areas and improved in others to at times fairly good. Food service movement ranged light to at times good, usually moderate. Supplies remained adequate to fully adequate. Central states nest run breaking stock prices lower. Offerings mostly fully adequate with demand continuing light. Schedules generally full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	89-98	92-95
LARGE	88-96	89-94
MEDIUM	69-77	72-74

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS

	RANGE
LARGE	69-73
MEDIUM	50-54
SMALL	37-41

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices sharply lower on all sizes when compared to last week's pricing. Trade sentiment reported as mixed entering the week. Demand in a full range of light to good, mostly light to moderate. Wintry weather hampered the area through the weekend, however, normal business routines were not disrupted. Supplies generally adequate to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings usually sufficient for the light demand. Offerings of spent fowl at least adequate for mostly normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	95-109	98-102
LARGE	91-106	96-100
MEDIUM	72-87	77-79

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

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices sharply lower compared to last Monday's reported prices. Trade sentiment steady to at times barely steady. Retail demand moderate to fairly good. Food service movement mostly moderate to instances good. Supplies adequate to fully adequate. Central state breaking stock prices lower. Offerings mostly fully adequate with demand continuing light. Schedules generally full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	97.5-106	99-102
LARGE	96.5-05	98-101
MEDIUM	76.5-85	78-81

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

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices sharply lower on all sizes when compared to the previous week. Trade sentiment entering the week was mixed. Demand into all channels was light to occasionally good. Supplies adequate to available for present trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings usually sufficient for the light demand. Light type hens were at least adequate for the fair to moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	96-120.25	99-102
LARGE	95-119.25	97-100
MEDIUM	74-96.25	75-79

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 Prices were unchanged entering the week. Trade sentiment was barely steady to steady. Demand into all channels was light to moderate. Although winter weather hampered the area during the weekend, overall effects were reported as minimal. Supplies were generally adequate to available for trade needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	103-107
LARGE	101-105
MEDIUM	82-86

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes dropped 2 cents. The market tone was barely steady to weak. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate. Offerings moderate to heavy.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	92-98
LARGE	91-96
MEDIUM	73-80

WESTERN Prices throughout the region 12 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 14 cents lower on medium. The Pacific region inventory was unchanged from than last Monday with California down 4% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 7%. Retailer demand seasonally fairly good. Offerings ample.

CALIFORNIA Prices 12 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 14 cents lower on medium and small. The California inventory was 4% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand fairly good. Offerings ample. Small benchmark price 88. Ads in Northern California: major-jumbo dozen 219, large dozen buy 1 get 1 free, 18 pack 259, buy 1 get 1 free, brown large dozen 279; smaller outlets- large 18 pack 221.

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	133
EXTRA LARGE	132
LARGE	127
MEDIUM	108

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	299-359	JUMBO	309-389
EXTRA LARGE	289-349	EXTRA LARGE	309-369
LARGE	239-299	LARGE	275-339
MEDIUM	199-259	MEDIUM	179-299

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 19, 2003 will decrease by 10 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 12, 2003 were 279,180 cases which was 13 percent above the prior week and 06 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	239,823	39,357	279,180
% change from the prior week.....	+15	+2	+13

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices were lower when compared to previously reported prices. Offerings were mostly fully adequate with demand continuing light. Schedules generally full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

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	62-68	62-63
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	53-61	55

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 higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for the generally about adequate to adequate offerings. Processing schedules were mostly normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 15-DEC-03.

RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD
6-9	8.5-9	8.60

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 Trading levels were slightly higher compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for available offerings of spent heavy hens. Finished sales were seasonally active. Schedules were usually normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
 FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 15-DEC-03

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-11.5	8.75-9.25	8.98

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM DEC 15, 2003

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	11.9	17.9	11.7	16.3	13.1	70.9
	Change	1.9	3.0	1.2	0.9	-0.3	10%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	27.9	65.7	14.7	26.4	30.1	164.8
	Change	5.0	-17.7	-0.9	2.6	-3.9	-8%
Large	Curr Wk	45.8	146.9	99.8	101.8	122.7	517.0
	Change	3.0	-11.9	-9.2	-4.2	3.8	-3%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.4	46.1	13.5	20.4	36.4	131.8
	Change	-1.4	-8.1	-1.0	-1.1	-3.5	-10%
Small	Curr Wk	2.6	5.0	3.3	6.6	5.7	23.2
	Change	-0.5	-0.5	-1.0	1.3	0.3	-1%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.8	24.9	10.0	16.1	6.3	62.1
	Change	0.4	2.8	0.0	-0.4	-0.3	4%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	27.9	33.0	21.8	35.6	31.8	150.1
	Change	7.1	-5.1	-2.7	-7.7	2.9	-4%
Total	Curr Wk	136.3	339.5	174.8	223.2	246.1	1,119.9
	Change	13%	-10%	-7%	-4%	0%	-4%
TOTAL		Number of Cases		Percent Change		Number of Cooperators	
Shell Egg		1,119.9		-4%		171	
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/		232.0		5%		36	
Total Shell Egg		1,351.9		-3%		207	

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 01, 2003

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	197.2	194.1	185.1	114.6

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING DECEMBER 01, 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 AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 12, 2003

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	LOADS	
GNR W 1	74.00	77.00	74.00	75.00	—	—	5.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	81.00	.25
GL W J	—	—	89.00	91.00	72.00	—	1.75	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	78.00	1.50
GL W XL	—	—	86.00	88.00	67.33	—	5.00	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	76.80	1.25
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	66.60	—	4.25	GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	66.00	.50
GL W MD	—	—	64.00	66.00	57.00	—	1.50								
GL W SM	—	—	53.00	55.00	—	—	1.00								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	58.50	67.11	13.00								

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/08/03-12/12/03

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS			
SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		MW		LOADS		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	
GNR W 1	81.17	78.75	80.33	82.45	—	—	21.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	87.00	.75
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W XL	86.00	—	—	—	—	85.41	11.25
GNR W 3	—	60.00	—	—	57.50	62.00	2.00	GL W LG	78.50	88.00	—	—	—	81.50	10.75
GNR BR XL	—	—	—	113.00	—	109.00	1.75	GL W MD	72.00	—	61.00	—	—	72.82	6.25
GL W J	—	—	92.50	94.50	76.67	—	3.25	GL W SM	—	54.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W XL	—	95.00	93.33	91.78	77.09	86.75	34.25	GL BR MD	64.00	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W LG	—	90.89	87.00	87.91	72.66	80.50	31.00								
GL W MD	72.00	68.00	68.17	70.86	63.80	—	14.50								
GL W SM	—	—	53.00	55.00	—	—	1.00								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	73.67	64.50	67.87	17.75								
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	73.00	—	2.00								
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	64.00	.50								
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	—	46.00	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.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/08/03	12/01/03	12/09/02
PACIFIC COAST	92	92	658
LOS ANGELES	51	51	597

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is lower on all sizes. The supply is adequate to meet the moderate demand.

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	113.17
LARGE	112.17
MEDIUM	92.88
SMALL	74.00

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

Receipts from the mainland:	11/30/03-12/06/03
30-dozen case	5,712
Receipts from the mainland:	11/23/03-11/29/03
30-dozen case	5,499

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OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 12/12/2003

Report Period: 12/01/2003 - 12/06/2003

State	Number Cases	Number Cases	Number Cases	Total State
	Shipped to Northern California	Shipped to Central California	shipped to Southern California	
Arizona	0	0	4,353	4,353
Colorado	690	0	1,608	2,298
Iowa	4,770	6,265	27,860	38,895
Maine	0	1,560	810	2,370
Michigan	0	0	780	780
Minnesota	1,470	2,277	7,245	10,992
Nevada	0	0	1,572	1,572
North Carolina	0	0	378	378
Oregon	1,054	960	0	2,014
South Dakota	528	0	0	528
Utah	0	2,100	12,764	14,864
Wisconsin	0	0	750	750
TOTAL	8,512	13,162	58,120	79,794
SHIPPED TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY	8,512	13,162	58,120	79,794