



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Demand at retail outlets was moderate to very good. Supplies were sufficient to at times tight for current needs. Breaking stock demand was light for adequate to fully adequate offerings. Breaking schedules for the upcoming week were reduced due to the upcoming holiday. Light type fowl were about adequate for the moderate demand.

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 were unchanged. Trade sentiment continued steady. Cartoned egg sales were good to very good going into the holiday week with most distributors reporting improved demand. Loose egg sales were mostly moderate. Supplies were in close balance to instances tight with most operators working from existing inventories and company owned or contractual agreements. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with little interest noted. Schedules full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI Prices paid to producers.	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	89-98	92-95	LARGE	69-73
LARGE	88-96	89-94	MEDIUM	50-54
MEDIUM	69-77	72-74	SMALL	37-41

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. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Demand improved and ranged moderate to very good, as retail outlets began to fill with pre-holiday shoppers. Supplies were adequate. Breaking stock offerings were generally adequate to fully adequate for the light demand. Offerings of spent fowl were about sufficient for reduced holiday slaughter schedules next week.

	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 EGG Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Cartoned egg demand was reported as improving and was rated as good to instances very good and centered around last minute orders. Loose egg trading was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were generally adequate to in close balance. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with little interest shown. Schedules full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	97.5-106	99-102
LARGE	96.5-105	98-101
MEDIUM	76.5-85	78-81

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

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Demand was moderate to good, best where features were a factor. Supplies were sufficient for present trade needs. Breaking stock demand was light and unaggressive for adequate to fully adequate offerings. Light type hens were about sufficient for the mostly moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were reduced due to the upcoming holiday.

	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 EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Demand ranged moderate to good, best where features were planned for the upcoming holiday. Supplies were adequate for current trade needs.

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

CHICAGO EGGS Prices for all sizes unchanged. The market tone was steady. Retail and food service demand was moderate, instances good, best where features are a factor. Offerings adequate.

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

WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 2 cents lower on jumbo, 2-3 cents lower on extra large, and 2 cents lower on large and medium. Retailer demand good. Offerings ample.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was weaker with asking prices for next week 2 cents lower on jumbo, 3 cents lower on extra large, 2 cents lower on large, medium and small. Retailer demand good. Offerings ample. Small benchmark price 88. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- extra large dozen 2 for \$3.

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	133
EXTRA LARGE	132
LARGE	127
MEDIUM	108

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	118-123
EXTRA LARGE	116-122
LARGE	114-117
MEDIUM	95-98

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

	RANGE
JUMBO	289-359
EXTRA LARGE	289-349
LARGE	239-349
MEDIUM	199-299

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with little additional interest noted. Schedules were full-time with schedules sharply reduced at most locations for next week. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady.

Prices paid, 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	50-58	52
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. Trade sentiment was barely steady to cautious at prevailing price levels. Demand was light and unaggressive, as products sales slowed due in part to planned holiday schedules. Supplies were limited but generally adequate to fully adequate for seasonal breaking needs. Current week breaking schedules were less than normal to normal, with next week less than normal due to the holiday. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 13 December 2003 were 4% more than last week, but unchanged when compared to last year.

Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	66-68	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	52-57	
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 13-Dec-03
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,189,328	30,302	10,280	5,552	2,033	4,331
PW	1,199,334	30,491	10,516	5,729	1,975	4,299
LY	1,194,289	29,017	10,564	5,760	2,471	4,213
% CHG PWK	-1	-1	-2	-3	3	1
% CHG LY	0	4	-3	-4	-18	3
2003	58,381,713	1,435,821	525,756	286,145	114,238	208,964
2002	60,211,345	1,409,557	574,108	308,510	138,524	213,819
% CHG YTD	-3	2	-8	-7	-18	-2

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.43	42.55	41.49
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.79	38.97	37.96

NATIONAL LIQUID No pasteurized whites or pasteurized salt yolk reported. Trade sentiment was barely steady to mostly weak for whole egg, fully steady for whites, and weak for yolk. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for whole egg and yolk and usually adequate for whites. Demand was fairly quiet for liquid products while many in-line operators attempted to source regular production outside while regular customers shortened schedules for the approaching holidays. Breaking stock prices were lower when 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	19	49-58.5	54.76	-7.57
WHITES	13	60-64	62.37	
YOLKS	5	59-65	62.90	

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Mostly prices were slightly higher on whites, and usually lower to sharply lower on balance of items when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment remained unsettled to weak on yolks, barely steady on whole and steady to firm on whites. Trading and interest was seasonal with offerings reported as ample on yolks, sufficient on whole, and short to barely adequate on whites. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 13 December 2003 were 8% more than the previous week, and 5% more than last year. According to NASS the Oct. 2003 total cold storage holdings for frozen whole eggs were 33% more than last year, but 11% less than last month.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	72-85	73-75	80-90
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		84-105
WHITES	72-77	73-76	77-84
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	80-92	80-84	88-100
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	77-91	79-83	84-95

(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN All prices ranged sharply lower with whites unchanged to 1 cent lower. Trade sentiment was generally steady for whole egg, steady for whites, with sugared and salted yolk barely steady to mostly weak. Most processors of frozen product remained skeptical that frozen yolk products had finally bottomed. Demand was seasonally limited and continued on a hand to mouth basis with most business continuing to center around less than trucklot volumes. Floor stocks were adequate. Breaking stock prices were lower when compared to last week.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	72-75	
WHITES	73-75	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	79-84	82-84
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	77-82	78-80

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 4 cents lower on whole and yolks, 1 cent higher on whites. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 12/13 was 6% more than the previous week. Frozen demand good with freezer stocks adequate.

Wholesale selling prices, FOB shipping point (cents per pound in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	79-82
WHITES	79-82
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	88-91
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	85-88

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Majority prices were unchanged to higher on albumen, with balance of items sharply lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was only fair and unaggressive as most traders continue to watch further market developments. Trading was still light on most items. Offerings were short on albumen, usually adequate on whole, and fully sufficient on yolks. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 13 December 2003 were 3% more than the previous week, but 18% less than last year. The total year to date dried egg produced was 18% lower than a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, trucklot & less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	2.95-3.50	MOSTLY	3.05-3.15
YOLKS	1.78-2.30	MOSTLY	1.84-1.95
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	5.60-6.10	MOSTLY	5.70-5.80
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.95-2.40	MOSTLY	1.95-2.10

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DEC 12, 2003-DEC 18, 2003

CURRENT LOADS 71.50 FUTURE LOADS 64.00 TOTAL LOADS 135.50

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	73.25	77.60	74.33	75.63	75.00	—	22.00	GNR W 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	71.00	3.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	56.00	59.00	1.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	77.80	1.25
GNR BR XL	—	—	—	103.67	95.50	—	2.25	GL W XL	70.00	80.50	—	—	—	78.45	17.50
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.50	GL W LG	—	89.00	—	—	—	74.76	7.75
GL W J	—	—	88.50	90.00	65.60	—	3.75	GL W MD	—	65.00	—	—	—	66.00	.75
GL W XL	—	—	85.80	86.26	66.76	73.00	38.00								
GL W LG	—	89.25	82.25	85.88	64.68	—	39.00								
GL W MD	70.45	67.40	63.50	65.10	61.67	—	16.50								
GL W SM	49.50	51.00	50.67	52.33	43.00	45.00	5.00								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	60.50	65.47	27.00								

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 when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent fowl were about adequate for processing schedules that were less than normal due to holiday schedules. Demand was mostly moderate. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady. **RANGE MAJORITY**
REMOVAL COST 0-12 10-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values for disposal of leghorn fowl were too few to report. Supplies of raw material were fully adequate for reduced requirements next week. Finished sales were fair. Costs of conveyance for next week were expected to remain constant. **RANGE MAJORITY**
REMOVAL COST TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged to higher. Offerings were adequate to instances tight as some users of spent fowl struggled to obtain enough birds to fulfill their needs. Demand was fairly good. Opinions of value were steady. **RANGE MAJORITY**
REMOVAL COST 6-12.5 10-12.25

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants schedules light to 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	100.00	98.00	78.00
SOUTHEAST	100.50	98.50	77.00
MIDWEST	93.50	91.50	73.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	100.50	99.50	79.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	98.69	96.98	77.00

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged on both light and heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Trading was light to fair at best. Available offerings were clearing. Processing schedules for next week were less than normal due to holiday schedules. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST
LIGHT CANNER HENS **HEAVY CANNER HENS**

(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-25.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24.5 29-36 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED
LIGHT CANNER HENS **HEAVY CANNER HENS**
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) (WITHOUT NECKS)
23-27 MAJORITY 26 31.5-38 MAJORITY 35.5-37.5

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 13-DEC-03
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,379	1,292	2,671
LAST WEEK	1,399	1,437	2,836
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,829	1,342	3,171
TO-DATE/2003	70,637	69,802	140,439
TO-DATE/2002	86,691	70,695	157,386

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	241	3	244
LAST WEEK	250	4	254
SAME WEEK YR AGO	168	0	168
TO-DATE/2003	10,691	148	10,839
TO-DATE/2002	14,959	290	15,249

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.
TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,620	1,295	2,915
LAST WEEK	1,649	1,441	3,090
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,997	1,342	3,339
TO-DATE/2003	81,328	69,950	151,278
TO-DATE/2002	101,650	70,985	172,635

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

	Week Ending December 06, 2003		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Liquid	354	510	16,525	19,788
Frozen	0	0	96	21
Dried	0	40	559	803
Total	354	550	17,180	20,612

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

	Week Ending December 06, 2003		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Liquid	2	34	5,356	5,918
Frozen	7	137	3,604	3,295
Dried	32	80	1,252	5,043
Total	41	251	10,212	14,256

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

	Week Ending December 06, 2003		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002 /1	2003	2002
Jumbo	66	33	570	1,606
Extra Large	2,370	2,405	37,038	50,097
Large	6,390	6,503	135,062	146,790
Medium	1,849	856	65,671	48,953
Ungraded	3,330	18,890	180,852	356,815
Misc	0	0	14,642	14,017
Total	14,005	28,687	433,835	618,278

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	12/15/03	3,343	111,389	44,291	AM	12/01/03	3,395	110,555	45,473	
CHG			-52	834	-1182	PCT CHG			-2%	1%	-3%

MONTHLY COLD STORAGE REPORT

(In Units of 1,000)

FROZEN EGGS:

Monthly Cold Storage Report

	31-Oct		30-Nov	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
FROZEN EGGS:				
Whites	1,835	2,653	1,736	2,654
Yolks	628	1,050	514	846
Whole & Mixed	6,973	9,916	5,913	8,301
Unclassified	3,649	3,235	3,036	3,121
Total Frozen Eggs	13,085	16,854	11,199	14,922

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 13-Dec-2003

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG	
			PW	LY
ATLANTA	28.6	30.0	-5	9
BOSTON	3.9	3.8	3	26
CHICAGO	72.2	60.6	19	10
DETROIT	36.9	26.5	39	-3
KANSAS CITY	5.7	4.0	43	36
LOS ANGELES	101.1	99.0	2	-6
NEW ORLEANS	8.7	8.7	0	-38
NEW YORK	31.9	27.2	17	-12
ST. LOUIS	21.5	17.2	25	-3
SAN FRANCISCO	24.8	22.4	11	2
TOTAL	335.3	299.4	12	-2
4 WK MVG AVG	324.5			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 13-Dec-03

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	222.3	0	-9
E.N. CENTRAL	563.8	4	2
W.N. CENTRAL	302.2	6	4
S. ATLANTIC	191.6	2	0
S. CENTRAL	116.2	0	21
WEST	193.1	7	0
TOTAL	1589.2	4	1
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		86	86

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Dec 16, 2003

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

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	156	151	107	81
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	148-152	143-147	100-104	74-78
MOSTLY	150-151	145-146	102-103	76-77
RHODE ISLAND	152-156	147-151	106-110	80-84
MOSTLY	152	147	106	80
VERMONT	159	150-154	107-111	-
MOSTLY	-	154	111	-

**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	