The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is -10.90, down 0.3 points from last week.

This Week:
Demand for shell eggs over the past week remains weak and well below average. Retailers have been focusing their efforts on cage-free shell eggs and are offering limited incentives on caged types. This weakness has permeated the wholesale carton market and prices are on the decline. Supplies are moderate to heavy and offerings moderate. Trading has slowed. Similarly, prices on the loose egg market are weak to lower with moderate to heavy offerings and available offerings. The pace of trading has picked up as buyers respond to the lower prices. Prices for breaking stock are lower as offerings are more than adequate and supplies are moderate. The preliminary survey of retail outlets shows retailers are making an effort to increase purchase incentives on conventional eggs with increased featuring and a sharp reduction in the average ad price while reducing their focus on specialty shell eggs.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
U.S. table egg layer flock 322,525,841 (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Percentage flock in molt 1.3% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Productive table egg layer flock 318,282,286 (total flock - (total flock * molt))

Current Table Egg Production for In-Shell Use -
(shell egg production less shell eggs for breaking stock)
Table egg layer rate 81.7% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Total egg production 259,877,807 (total productive flock * lay rate)
Total eggs into breaking stock 75,315,960 (28.98% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
Table eggs for in-shell use 184,561,847 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) 512,672 (eggs for table use ÷ 360 eggs per case)

Current Days of Shell Eggs on Hand for Marketing -
(shell egg inventory cases ÷ shell egg cases per day)
USDA shell egg inventory 1,723,800 30-dozen cases (from USDA Weekly Shell Egg Inventory report)
Inventory cooperators % of U.S. flock 63.0% (shell egg inventory cooperators control 63% of productive flock)
Shell egg cases produced each day 322,983 (produced by inventory cooperators' flocks (daily production * 63%))
26-week rolling average of days on hand 4.76 (average of the last 26 week's days of eggs on hand)
Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing 5.34 (inventory ÷ cases produced per day)
Shell Egg Demand Indicator -10.90 ((26-week average ÷ current days on hand) - 1) * 100

Shell Egg Demand Indicator vs. USDA Midwest Large Cartoned Shell Egg

Sources:
USDA NASS Monthly Chicken and Eggs (pec-bb): Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type
USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News; SHELL EGGS: Weekly Shell Egg Inventory (Mon)
USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News; PROCESSED EGGS: Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection (Wed)

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News 515-284-4460