The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is 4.90, up 10.9 points from last week.

This Week:
Demand for shell eggs rises sharply as marketers have begun to stockpile product with an eye towards the coming Easter demand period and concerns over product availability. Wholesale prices are posting sharp daily advances with no relief in sight at midweek. Offers are limited and held confidently. Interest is good on light to moderate supplies. Similarly, breaking stock prices are advancing daily on limited offerings and good interest. Supplies are light to moderate on moderate to active trading. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates a slight uptick in activity for conventional shell eggs with a decline in the average ad price. Easter Sunday is now just three weeks away.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
U.S. table egg layer flock 338,048,147 (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Percentage flock in molt 2.0% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Productive table egg layer flock 331,287,184 (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 81.1% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Total egg production 268,673,906 (total productive flock * lay rate)
Total eggs into breaking stock 79,527,476 (29.60% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
Table eggs for in-shell use 189,146,430 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) 525,407 (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 1,448,700 30-dozen cases (from USDA Weekly Shell Egg Inventory report)
Inventory cooperators % of U.S. flock 61.0% (shell egg inventory cooperators control 61% of productive flock)
Shell egg cases produced each day 320,498 (produced by inventory cooperators’ flocks (daily production * 61%))
(801,245 cases expected weekend (2.5 days carryover)
26-week rolling average of days on hand 4.74 (average of the last 26 week’s days of eggs on hand)
Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing 4.52 (inventory / cases produced per day)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator
4.90
((26-week average - current days on hand) / 1) * 100

Shell Egg Demand Indicator vs. USDA Midwest Large 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