The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is -2.10, up 4.2 points from last week.

This Week:
Consumer demand for egg improves as the market enters the homestretch of the December holiday season. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs are moving higher with light to moderate offerings and moderate supplies. Demand is moderate to fairly good and movement is slow to moderate. Prices on the loose egg market are advancing on limited trading. Interest is moderate to good for light to moderate offerings and moderate supplies. Wholesale breaking stock prices remain steady with light to moderate demand, light offerings, and light to moderate supplies. Schedules are full and trading is slow to moderate. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates continued limited activity for conventional eggs with a declining focus on specialty types. The average ad price declines sharply on the limited test.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
U.S. table egg layer flock 324,724,445 (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Percentage flock in molt 2.28% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Productive table egg layer flock 317,305,131 (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 82.9% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Total egg production 263,074,178 (total productive flock * lay rate)
Total eggs into breaking stock 75,225,857 (28.59% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
Table eggs for in-shell use 187,848,321 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) 521,801 (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 1,551,800 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 328,735 (produced by inventory cooperators’ flocks (daily production * 63%))
(821,836 cases expected weekend (2.5 days) carryover)
26-week rolling average of days on hand 4.62 (average of the last 26 week’s days of eggs on hand)
Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing 4.72 (inventory ÷ cases produced per day)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator -2.10 ((26-week average ÷ current days on hand) - 1) * 100

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