The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is 2.20, down 1.3 points from last week.

This Week:
Consumer demand for shell eggs has begun to slow as the Christmas cookie demand season is well underway. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs are higher on moderate supplies and light to moderate offerings. Trading is moderate to active. Prices on the loose egg market are on the rise on light to moderate supplies and mostly light offerings. Trading is moderate to active on moderate to good interest. Wholesale breaking stock prices are steady on light to moderate supplies and light offerings as carton business remains strong. Demand is moderate to good on moderate to active trading. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates continued strong feature activity, particularly for specialty types. The average ad price moves higher.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
U.S. table egg layer flock 330,739,911 (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Percentage flock in molt 1.2% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Productive table egg layer flock 326,764,460 (total flock - (total flock * molt))

Current Table Egg Production for In-Shell Use -
Table egg layer rate 82.4% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Total egg production 269,194,141 (total productive flock * lay rate)
Total eggs into breaking stock 80,868,446 (30.04% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
Table eggs for in-shell use 188,325,695 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) 523,127 (eggs for table use + 360 eggs per case)

Current Days of Shell Eggs on Hand for Marketing -
USDA shell egg inventory 1,620,200 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 329,570 (produced by inventory cooperators' flocks (daily production * 63%))
26-week rolling average of days on hand 5.03 (average of the last 26 week's days of eggs on hand)
Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing 4.92 (inventory - cases produced per day)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator 2.20 ((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