The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is 24.80, up 20.1 points from last week.

This Week:
Consumer demand for shell eggs responds favorably to last minute shopping and to active retail promotional activity as folks looked at their calendars and realized Thanksgiving is here at last. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs have steadied following recent sharp gains. Supplies and offerings are light to moderate on moderate trading and good interest. Prices on the loose egg market have peaked and are seeing some downward adjustment as marketers take stock of their needs and slow their purchasing activity. Supplies and offerings are in a light to moderate balance and trading has slowed. Wholesale breaking stock prices are steady to weak with light to moderate supplies and offerings and moderate trading. Schedules are short to full-time due to the holiday disruption. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates a continued slowdown in retail featuring as retailers look past Thanksgiving to the start of cookie season. The average ad price is lower on the reduced activity.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
U.S. table egg layer flock - 329,668,957 (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 - 325,723,789 (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 - 82.7% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Total egg production - 269,519,233 (total productive flock * lay rate)
Total eggs into breaking stock - 78,029,743 (28.95% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
Table eggs for in-shell use - 191,489,490 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) - 531,915 (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 - 1,365,600 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 - 335,107 (produced by inventory cooperators’ flocks (daily production * 63%))
26-week rolling average of days on hand - 5.09 (average of the last 26 week’s days of eggs on hand)
Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing - 4.08 (inventory ÷ cases produced per day)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator -
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