The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is 19.10, down 5.7 points from last week.

This Week:
Consumer demand for shell eggs recedes slowly as Thanksgiving demand passes and Christmas “cookie” season has yet to get underway. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs are steady for now as supplies are rebuilding while offerings remain light to moderate. Trading is moderate. Prices on the loose egg market are declining from their peak levels as trading has slowed and supplies are increasing. Interest is selective at best. Wholesale breaking stock prices are steady for moderate offerings and light to moderate supplies. Trading is moderate with average interest. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates the post-Thanksgiving decline in feature activity. The average ad price moved lower on the reduced activity.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
U.S. table egg layer flock 330,025,556 (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 326,070,319 (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 82.6% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
Total egg production 269,410,833 (total productive flock * lay rate)
Total eggs into breaking stock 71,465,914 (26.53% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
Table eggs for in-shell use 197,944,918 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) 549,847 (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 1,468,000 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 346,404 (produced by inventory cooperators’ flocks (daily production * 63%))
26-week rolling average of days on hand 5.05 (average of the last 26 week’s days of eggs on hand)
Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing 4.24 (inventory / cases produced per day)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator
19.10 ((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)
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