EGGS

Production
April table egg production totaled 580 million dozen, up 3 percent from April 2013. There were 967 million broiler-type hatching eggs produced, down 2 percent from last year. The broiler-type laying flock on May 1 was 53.5 million hens, even with 2013. Egg-type hatching egg production was 75 million eggs, down 6 percent from a year ago. Shell eggs broken totaled 186 million dozen during April 2014, up 4 percent from April a year ago, and 2 percent above the 183 million broken in March. On May 1, the number of birds in the table egg flock was 295 million, up 3 percent compared to a year earlier.

Price
Egg prices had their normal late spring bounce in May. After their inevitable post-Easter crash, the price of one dozen large Grade A eggs rose 15 cents during May, closing the month at 138 cents/dozen. The price of breaking stock followed suit, rising 16 cents during the month and ending at 112 cents/dozen. Liquid egg white prices have recently seen record highs. The average weekly price for liquid egg whites between April and mid-May (the latest available reported price) was 121 cents/lb, 79 percent above the 67 cents/lb average for the same period in 2013 and the last reported price of 127 cents/lb, is an all-time high value. Demand for egg whites has risen steadily as several fast food chains have added egg white-based menu items over the past year in response to a mini health craze driven by concerns over cholesterol in egg yolks. The price for liquid egg yolks, in contrast, has fallen sharply this year. In response to egg-white supply shortages and increased prices, the Netherlands currently has an equivalence request in process with the Food Safety and Inspection Service to allow it to export egg products to the U.S. The process is expected to be completed over the next 60–90 days.

International Trade
Table egg exports in April were 13.7 million dozen valued at $15.5 million, up 13 percent in volume and 16 percent in value compared to March, but down 24 percent and 5 percent, respectively, compared to April 2013. Egg product exports in April were valued at $14.3 million dollars, up 2 percent from March but down 2 percent from April 2013. Year-to-date, table egg exports are down 4 percent in volume but up 12 percent in value compared to the same period in 2013, while egg products are up 6 percent in value.

LAMB

Production
April lamb and mutton production rose to 15.2 million pounds, up 13 percent from both March 2014 and April 2013. Sheep slaughter totaled 221,000 head, 15 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 3 pounds from April a year ago. Lamb and mutton in cold storage was 4 percent lower than the month before, but 25 higher than year earlier levels.

Price
Negotiated slaughter lamb prices (Domestic Prime & Choice, under 170 pounds) dropped more than $10/cwt to $145 at the end of May, and closed the month 10 percent below the historical average price for 2010-2012, but 21 percent above last year’s price. The lamb cutout value fell $9 in May to $360, 29 percent higher than in 2013 and 1 percent higher than the 2010-2012 average. Leg of lamb prices dropped $15 since the start of May to $367 per cwt, less than 1 percent below the historical average, but 20 percent above the price in 2013. Boneless lamb shoulder meat fell $20 through May to $516 per cwt, however, this remains 17 percent about the 2013 value, and 32 percent above the 2010-2012 average.

International Trade
The export market for lamb increased 80 percent in volume to 246.7 MT from March to April, while value of exports increased 24 percent to $1.4 million. Relative to 2013, this was a decline of 34 percent in volume and 9 percent in value. Canada and Mexico were the largest markets for U.S. lamb and mutton. The U.S. imported 9.9 thousand MT of lamb in April, worth just under $74 million, an increase in volume and value of 5 and 4 percent, respectively, over March. On a year-over-year basis, lamb import volumes rose 19 percent, and in value, rose 30 percent. Australia and New Zealand were the U.S.’s largest importing countries.

There were 22 weekdays, 4 Saturdays and no holidays in April 2014.
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Chicken exports fell sharply in April, with total exports of 260 thousand metric tons valued at $324 million. This represents a drop of 9 percent in volume and 5 percent in value compared to March and a drop of 7 percent and 11 percent, respectively, compared to April 2013. For the first 4 months of 2014, exports were up 1 percent in volume but down 6 percent in value compared to the same period in 2013. The top five export destinations for chicken products in April were Mexico, Canada, Angola, Cuba, and Hong Kong.

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Using the provided text, we can extract the following information for PORK:

### Production
April pork production was up 3 percent from March, to 1.91 billion pounds, but down 2 percent from 2013. Cumulative pork was down slightly from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.85 million head, up 2 percent from March and down 5 percent from April 2013. As with cattle, the average live hog weight was up 10 pounds from 2013, at 287 pounds, offsetting lost slaughter numbers.

Pork in cold storage was up 1 percent from March but down 17 percent from April 2013. Bone-in picnics were 49 percent higher than ending inventory levels for March, but were down 36 percent from the previous year. Total hams in cold storage were also down 36 percent on a year-over-year basis, and were down 9 percent on a monthly basis. Likewise, pork trimmings were 36 percent lower than April 2013, although stocks were up 14 percent for the month. Loins were also up 14 percent on a monthly basis, and were 2 percent higher than year earlier stocks. Inventories of ribs were 3 percent lower than both last month and last year. Pork belly stocks were 4 percent higher than last month and up 47 percent from the previous April.

### Price
The National negotiated carcass price, Live FOB Plant, continued its downward trend, ending down $3 at $107 per cwt, up 17 percent from the 2013 price and 44 percent above the 2010-2012 average. The pork cutout value remained relatively steady through May, ending at $114 per cwt, 21 percent higher than 2013’s level and 45 percent above the historical average. Bone-in, 17-20 pound ham prices rebounded somewhat from $108 per cwt to $115 per cwt. Pork trimmings (72%) prices troughed at $110 per cwt but ended the month at $118. Picnic cushion meat prices also dropped, then returned to $182 per cwt at the end of May. Pork belly stocks were 4 percent higher than last month and up 47 percent from the previous April.

### International Trade
U.S. pork exports fell 8 percent from last month to 189.7 thousand MT, with a decline in value of 2 percent to $583 million. On a year-over-year basis, pork export volume and value increased 11 and 27 percent, respectively. The largest overseas markets for U.S. pork were Japan, Mexico and Canada. From March to April, imports of pork to the U.S. were down 2 percent to 33.9 thousand MT, but on a value basis were up 7 percent to $155 million. Compared to 2013, April imports were up 13 percent in volume and 38 percent in value. Canada, Denmark and Italy were the largest importers of pork.

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For TURKEY:

### Production
Turkey production continues to lag last year. In April, processors produced 469 million pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. Daily production for the month was down 2 percent compared to March and 7 percent compared to 2013. For the first 4 months of 2014, total turkey production is down 8 percent compared to 2013. Poult’s placed in April were unchanged from last year, but eggs in incubators on May 1 were up 8 percent compared to 2013, the first year-over-year increase since February 1, 2013. It is possible that this is the beginning of the long-awaited increase in turkey production, or this may simply be a short-lived increase for birds to be sold for the Thanksgiving holiday.

All turkey in cold storage on April 30 was down 18 percent compared to 2013, the sixth month in a row that total stocks were more than 10 percent below prior-year levels. Whole hen inventories were only down 4 percent as processors build inventories for the fall holidays. Whole toms, on the other hand, were down 28 percent. Processing meat was down even more, with white meat down 30 percent and dark meat down 54 percent year-over-year.

### Price
Whole turkey prices continue to rise seasonally. Hen and tom prices are not at the record levels set for this time of year in 2012, but with lower feed costs, producers are seeing welcome margins. Hens and toms sold for 105 and 106 cents/lb, respectively, at the end of May. Boneless/skinless (B/S) breast meat ended May at 367 cents/lb, 10 cents below the all-time high set in September 2006. B/S thigh meat reached an all-time high value of 171 cents/lb in May, and ended the month at 170 cents/lb. Drumsticks traded within a penny of 90 cents/lb all month.

### International Trade
The U.S. exported 26 thousand metric tons of turkey in April valued at $56 million. This represents a drop of 4 percent in volume and 2 percent in value compared to March, but is an increase of 4 percent and 9 percent, respectively, compared to April 2013. Year-to-date, turkey exports were down 5 percent in volume but up 4 percent in value compared to the first 4 months of 2013. The top five markets for U.S. turkey in April were Mexico, China, Japan, Canada, and Benin.
On April 25, 1972, Richard Nixon designated the 3rd Sunday in June as Father’s Day.

Sonora Smart Dodd
“The Mother of Father’s Day”
First to promote it as a national holiday.

Most popular meats and vegetables for grilling on Father’s Day
(item ranking and feature percentage based on share of annual supermarket advertising occurring at Father’s Day 2013)

- PORK RIB CHOP
  #1 week in 2013
  (6.9% of 2013 ads)
  $3.32/lb. on sale

- BONE-IN RIBEYE
  #1 week in 2013
  (3.8% of 2013 ads)
  $6.94/lb. on sale

- SWEET CORN
  #7 week in 2013
  (4.9% of 2013 ads)
  $.35/ear on sale

- CHICKEN DRUMSTICK
  #4 week in 2013
  (3.5% of 2013 ads)
  $1.73/lb. on sale

- GROUND CHUCK
  #3 week in 2013
  (3.1% of 2013 ads)
  $3.24/lb. on sale

- BNLS RIBEYE STEAK
  #1 week in 2013
  (4.3% of 2013 ads)
  $8.13/lb. on sale

- BOTTOM ROUND STEAK
  #1 week in 2013
  (4.0% of 2013 ads)
  $3.80/lb. on sale

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Source: USDA AMS Agricultural Analytics and Market News