



## EGGS

### Production

October table egg production totaled 639 million dozen, up 1 percent from October 2016. On November 1, the number of birds in the table egg flock was 312 million, down 1 percent compared to a year earlier. Egg-type hatching egg production was 73 million eggs, down 15 percent from a year ago. There were 1.08 billion broiler-type hatching eggs produced in October, up 3 percent from last year. The broiler-type laying flock on November 1 was 56.8 million hens, 6 percent above November 2016. Shell eggs broken totaled 198 million dozen during October 2017, down 1 percent from October a year ago but 8 percent above the 184 million broken in September. Pullets for all egg-types added to flocks in October were up 6 percent year-over-year.

### Price

Table egg prices, which began their traditional fall rally in late October, climbed 86 percent from their October levels to reach 186 cents/dozen by mid-November (New York wholesale market for one dozen Grade A large eggs). The price leveled off and remained there through the first week of December. Breaking stock prices also rallied, although not to the extent of table eggs. Breaking stock prices rose 31 percent from mid-October, reaching 97 cents by mid-November, their highest level since December 2015, when prices were still in flux following the HPAI outbreaks of the previous spring.

### International Trade

U.S. exports of shell eggs in October totaled 13 million dozen with a value of \$15 million. Compared with September, this is an increase of 1 percent in volume and 4 percent in value and compared with last October, an increase in volume of 18 percent and in value of 34 percent. Through October, 2017 exports were up 2 percent in volume and unchanged in value compared with the same period in 2016. Egg products in October were valued at \$12.7 million, unchanged from September and up 9 percent from October 2016. For the first 10 months of 2017, total egg products exports were up 40 percent in value compared with 2016. Mexico, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, and Brazil were the five largest importers of U.S. eggs and egg products in October.

## TURKEY

### Production

October U.S. turkey production totaled 550 million pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. October's daily production was 8 percent above September and 2 percent above last October. The month-over-month gain was entirely due to increases in the number of birds slaughtered, as producers increased numbers and reduced average dressed weights in anticipation of consumer demand for Thanksgiving. The year-over-year gain was split evenly between increases in number of birds processed and average dressed weights. Production may increase slightly in the next few months. While the average increase in poultz placed for August through October was less than 1 percent, October's increase was 3 percent over last year, so whether this was the beginning of a trend is unknown.

Holdings of turkey products in cold storage on October 31 were up 14 percent compared with last October. Frozen whole bird stocks were up 29 percent year-over-year, with whole hens up 10 percent and toms for processing up 46 percent. Total inventories of white meat items were up 6 percent, while stocks of dark meat items were down 2 percent.

### Price

Whole frozen turkey prices reached their low for the year in November, with frozen hens reaching 83 cents/lb. before rising slightly at month's end to close at 85 cents/lb. Whole frozen toms fell even further, reaching 80 cents/lb., the lowest value since February 2010 and the lowest level for November since 2005. Boneless/skinless (B/S) breast meat prices were unchanged for November, posting at 154 cents/lb. throughout the month. B/S thigh meat was a relative bright spot, rising 6 percent to 102 cents/lb., while tom drumsticks fell slightly to 65 cents/lb., a decline of 1 percent.

### International Trade

Turkey exports in October totaled 29 thousand metric tons valued at \$64 million. This was an increase of 5 percent in volume and 6 percent in value compared with September and an increase of 23 percent in volume and 12 percent in value compared with last October. Year-to-date exports for the first 10 months up 10 percent in volume and 3 percent in value compared with 2016. The top five destinations for exports of turkey in October were Mexico, Japan, Hong Kong, Canada, and Guatemala.

## Production

Chicken production for October totaled 3.71 billion pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. Daily production for the month was 2 percent below September but 4 percent above October 2017. The year-over-year production increase was driven in roughly equal parts by increases in number of birds slaughtered (up 2.1 percent) and increases in average dressed weight (up 1.5 percent). Production should continue to show modest increases in the weeks ahead; for the four weeks ending November 24, both eggs set in incubators and chicks placed were up 2 percent compared with the same period last year.

Total chicken stocks in cold storage on October 31 were up 6 percent compared with the end of September and up 12 percent compared with October 2016. Whole broiler inventories were down 9 percent month-over-month but up 17 percent year-over-year. Breast meat supplies were 1 percent above September levels and 9 percent above last October. Dark meat stocks were down 4 percent for the month and down 7 percent for the year. Leg quarter holdings were down 8 percent compared with September and down 17 percent compared with 2016. Wing inventories were up 5 percent for the month but down 20 percent for the year.

## Price

Prices for whole broilers and broiler products were down in November as consumers focused on other types of poultry. Whole broilers drifted down 1 percent, closing the month at 86 cents/lb. Boneless/skinless (B/S) breast meat prices continued to slide in November, losing 8 percent during the month and 40 percent since June, to finish the month at 100 cents/lb. Leg quarter prices also fell, by 3 percent, but appeared to plateau in the second half of the month, ending at 30 cents/lb. B/S thigh meat fell 10 percent in value the first half of November, but rose weakly the second half of the month to close at 108 cents/lb. The price of B/S thigh meat has been above the price of B/S breast meat since mid-September. Drumsticks ended November at 43 cents/lb, down 5 percent for the month. Wings fell 12 percent, closing at 167 cents/lb., their lowest value since August 2016.

## International Trade

Chicken exports surged in October. The United States exported 291 thousand metric tons of chicken products with a value of \$312 million, an increase of 23 percent in volume and 19 percent in value compared with September and an increase of 15 percent in volume and 32 percent in value compared with last October. For the first 10 months of 2017, total chicken exports were up 3 percent in volume and 10 percent in value compared with the same period last year. In October, our five largest export destinations for chicken were Mexico, Canada, Taiwan, Cuba, and Hong Kong.

## Production

October beef production was 2.30 billion pounds, 4 percent above 2016 production, and 4 percent above September's. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.80 million head, up 6 percent from October 2016 and up 4 percent from September. The average live weight was down 20 pounds from last year, at 1,361 pounds, and year-to-date beef production was up 4 percent from 2016. Veal production in October totaled 6.4 million pounds, down 3 percent from last October, but up 5 percent from September. Calf slaughter totaled 44,000 head, 9 percent lower than October 2016 but higher than September by less than 1 percent. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from last year, at 251 pounds. Accumulated veal production for 2017 was down 1 percent from last year. Frozen beef supplies at the end of October rose 2 percent from September closing levels, but were down 5 percent from October 2016. Boneless beef in cold storage increased 2 percent compared to the prior month, and fell 7 percent year over year. The inventory of beef cuts gained 7 percent monthly and 16 percent yearly. Frozen veal stocks in cold storage fell 9 percent from the month before but were up 6 percent from last year.

## Price

Live cattle prices (FOB, steers and heifers) gained \$8 in early November to \$123 per cwt., but lost some ground to close with a net gain of \$5 at \$120 per cwt, 6 percent above the 2016 price. The Choice beef cutout value also increased in the first part of the month, but ended up by only \$1 to \$207 per cwt, 11 percent more than in 2016. The 90 percent lean boneless beef was mostly steady but did see a decline of \$2 to \$212 per cwt, up 11 percent from 2016 for the third consecutive month. The 50 percent lean trim price followed the usual pattern of retreat, giving back \$10 to close November at \$65 per cwt, 42 percent above 2016. Packer-owned veal carcasses fell \$8 to \$327 per cwt, 7 percent higher than 2016, while nonpacker-owned veal carcasses added \$1 to \$331 per cwt, 6 percent higher than last year. The veal cutout average remained steady through the month at \$423 per cwt, down 12 percent on a yearly basis.

## International Trade

Compared to October 2016, beef and veal exports (including variety meats) rose 5 percent to 111 thousand MT. The export value was up 18 percent to \$662 million. Export volume and value were both 7 percent above September's exports. In the first ten months of the year beef export volume rose 9 percent from last year, and value rose 16 percent. Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong were our largest export markets in October. Beef import volumes were up 11 percent from 2016 to 90 thousand MT, and were 15 percent higher in value at \$464 million. Compared to September, beef imports rose 7 percent in both volume and value. Year-to-date import volumes of beef and veal were down very slightly, and value was down 2 percent from 2016. Australia, Canada and Mexico were the largest importers of beef to the U.S.

## Production

In October, 2.32 billion pounds of pork were produced, up 5 percent from last year, and 7 percent higher monthly. 11.0 million hogs were slaughtered, 5 percent above last October and 7 percent above September. The average live weight was unchanged from 2016, at 282 pounds. January to October 2017 pork production was 3 percent more than last year.

Stocks of pork in cold storage fell 3 percent from September and were down slightly from last October. Bone-in picnic inventories were down 8 percent month over month, and fell 29 percent year over year. Total frozen ham stocks lost 16 percent in a monthly comparison, but rose 2 percent yearly. Storage of pork trimmings fell 4 percent from September but gained 5 percent from the year before. Frozen loins rose 8 percent on a monthly basis and gained 2 percent annually. Rib stocks were 6 percent higher than the prior month but down 5 percent from October 2016. Pork butts in freezers increased 24 percent from September and 11 percent from the year before. Pork belly stocks were up 54 percent from last month and up 58 percent from 2016.

## Price

While the negotiated carcass price for barrows and gilts lost \$6 per cwt, closing November at \$58 per cwt, it remained up from last year by 30 percent. The pork cutout value continued its upward trend, adding \$4 to end the month at \$83 per cwt, 12 percent above last year's value. Trimmed, bone-in hams, 23-27 pounds had a sharp drop of \$12 to \$60 per cwt before regaining to close at \$64 per cwt, 11 percent below 2016. Picnic meat combos, cushion out varied within a small range through the month, closing up \$1 to \$83 per cwt, 21 percent above last year's price. Pork trim, 72 percent lean steadily added \$4 through the month to \$65 per cwt, 47 percent higher than year earlier prices. Pork belly primal prices added \$35 to close at \$143 per cwt, 39 percent above the price in 2016.

## International Trade

Pork exports in October (including variety meats) were up 4 percent from 2016 to 206 thousand MT, with the value up 7 percent to \$538 million. Pork export volume was 16 percent higher, and the value was 13 percent higher than September. Year-to-date exports increased 7 percent in volume and 10 percent in value compared to 2016. The largest overseas markets for U.S. pork were Japan, Mexico and Canada. Compared to 2016, October pork imports were up 9 percent in volume to 44 thousand MT, and up 10 percent in value to \$150 million. The October import volume rose 5 percent and the value rose 4 percent from September. Cumulative pork imports were 2 percent higher in volume, and 7 percent higher in value compared to last year. The countries of Canada, Poland and Italy imported the largest volumes of pork to the U.S.

## Production

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.9 million pounds, was up 2 percent from October 2016, and was up 6 percent from September. Sheep slaughter totaled 183,900 head, 1 percent lower than last year but up 5 percent monthly. The average live weight was 129 pounds, 1 pound more than last October. 2017 cumulative commercial lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent from 2016. Lamb and mutton cold storage was down 3 percent from the end of September, but was up 3 percent from last October.

## Price

Negotiated live slaughter lamb prices continued the decline they have seen since June, losing \$5 to close at \$132 per cwt, 5 percent below 2016. The lamb cutout was somewhat variable through November, but ended down \$3 to \$387 per cwt, 10 percent above last year. Leg of lamb, trotter-off prices was even more variable than the cutout, but ended down \$1 at \$365 per cwt, an increase of 3 percent year-over-year. Lamb shoulders lost \$25 to close the month at \$590 per cwt, 3 percent above the 2016 price.

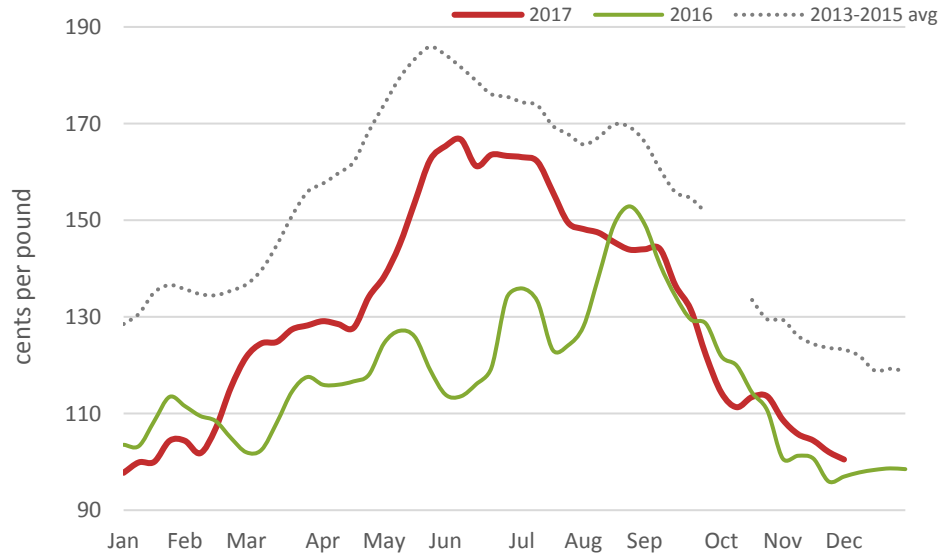
## International Trade

October lamb exports were down 23 percent from 2016 levels to 173 MT, and down 11 percent in value to \$0.9 million. Compared to September, the volume and value were down 36 percent and 41 percent, respectively. Lamb meat export volume for the year so far is 13 percent higher and the value up 19 percent from 2016. China, the Netherlands Antilles and Canada were the largest export markets for lamb and mutton. U.S. lamb imports in October were up 31 percent from 2016 to 7 thousand MT, with the value up 40 percent to \$63 million. The October import volume was up 6 percent from the month before, and the value was up 8 percent. Cumulative lamb import volume was 21 percent above last year, and value was up 26 percent. Australia, New Zealand and Iceland were the largest sources of lamb imports.

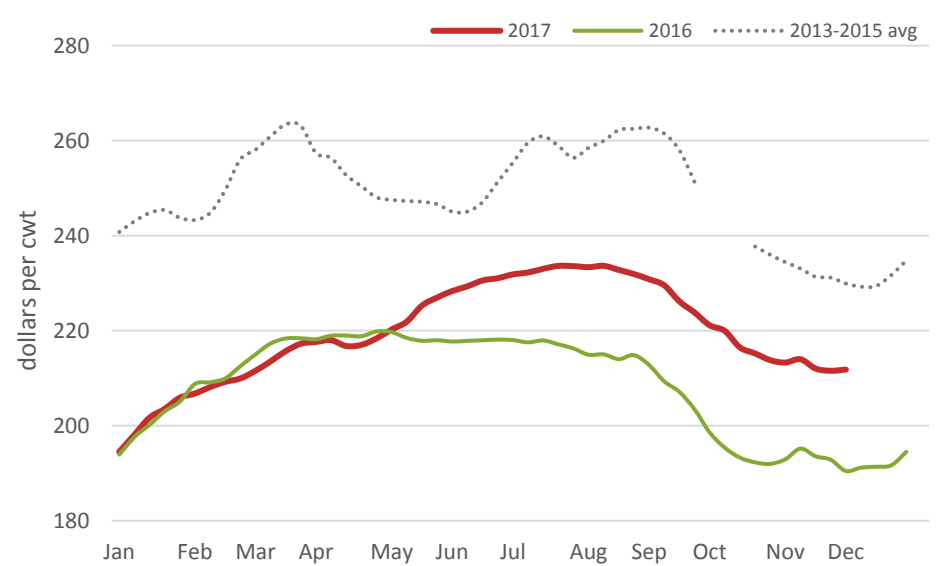
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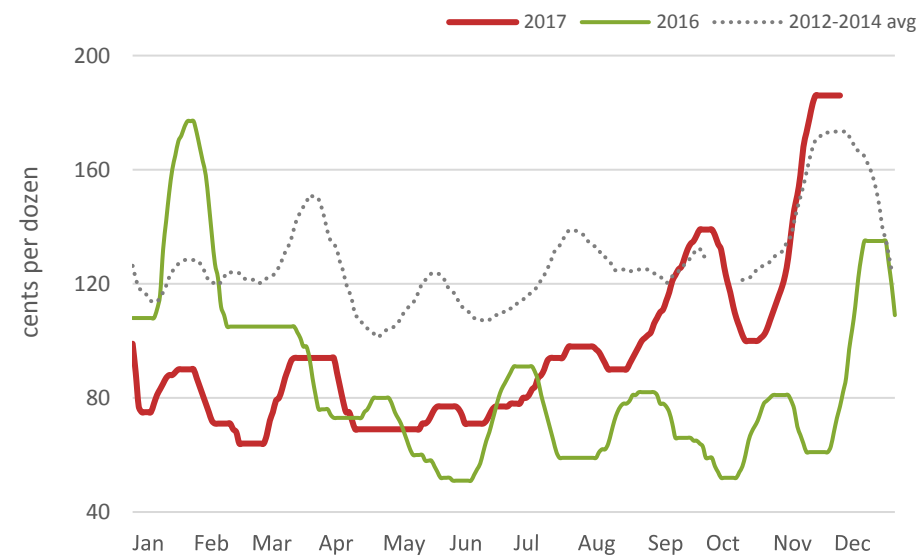
### Northeast B/S Chicken Breasts



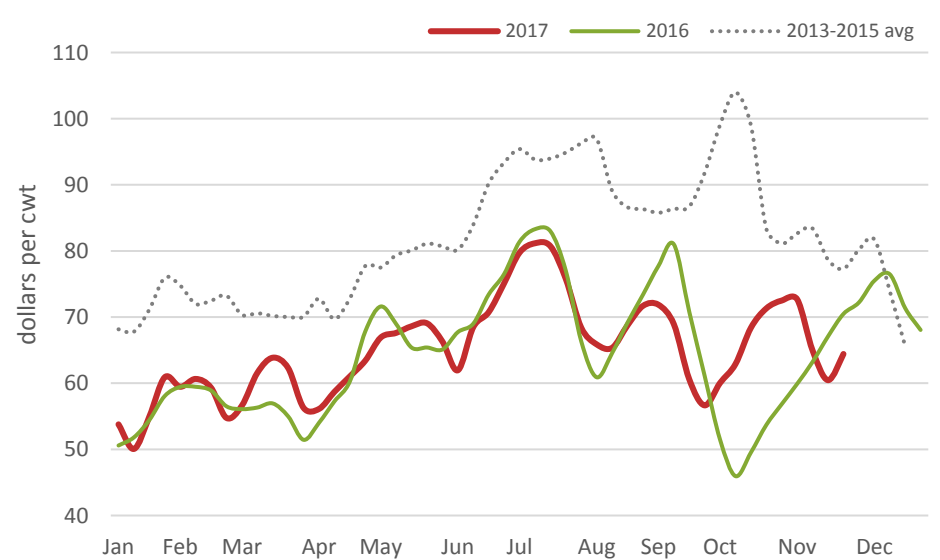
### Fresh Boneless Beef, 90% Lean



### NY Shell Egg Price (Grade A Large - Wholesale)



### Ham, Bone-in, Trimmed 23-27#, Trim Spec 1



# December is Eggnog Month

In 2016, the U.S.  
consumed  
**134,000,000**  
pounds of  
EGGNOG

Eggnog was originally called egg and grog in a noggin (egg with rum in a mug)

Comes from Possethot milk and wine. Beaten eggs were added in Jamestown, VA as early as 1607

To produce this much eggnog using a standard recipe, would

**70,000,000**

**EGGS**  
in the form of sugared liquid yolk and dried yolk

**760,000,000**

lbs. of MILK  
.04%  
of 2016  
production

**29,000,000**  
lbs. of  
**HEAVY CREAM**

2.1%  
of 2016  
production

**13,000,000**

lbs. of  
**WHITE SUGAR**  
0.1%  
of 2016  
production

**140,000**

lbs. of  
**NUTMEG**  
3.1%  
of 2016  
imports

**15,000,000**

lbs. of  
**DARK RUM**  
1.2%  
of the 2016  
supply

**32,000**

lbs. of  
**VANILLA**  
0.9%  
of 2016  
imports

**250,000**

lbs. of  
**CINNAMON**  
0.4%  
of 2016  
imports