



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 06, 2004
VOL. 51 NO. 11

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged. The market tone ranged steady to barely steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to instances good. Supplies were sufficient to occasionally ample for current needs. Breaking stock demand was light to moderate for short to fully adequate offerings. Light type fowl were usually sufficient for the moderate demand. Processing schedules were reported as normal for next week.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI lower for all sizes. Other reported prices unchanged. Trade sentiment about steady to barely steady. Retail demand ranged light to good, usually moderate to fairly good. Institutional sales light to instances moderate. Supplies usually adequate to fully adequate. Central states breaking stock prices unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings adequate to fully adequate and included heavy graded loose shell eggs. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	112-121	116-118	LARGE	74-81	76
LARGE	112-120	114-117	MEDIUM	60-64	62
MEDIUM	99-105	102-104	SMALL	36-38	

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries trending sharply lower. The market tone cautiously steady to barely steady. Demand ranged light to moderate, slightly improved in areas where features were in progress. Large eggs advertised for \$1.09 per dozen. Supplies adequate to instances available for immediate trade needs. Breaking stock supplies short to adequate for less than normal to normal breaking schedules. Demand ranged light to moderate. Spent hen offerings mostly sufficient for the moderate demand. Processing schedules noted as normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	116-129	119-122
LARGE	111-126	116-120
MEDIUM	99-114	104-106

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG Prices unchanged. The trade sentiment about steady. Retail demand light to good. Distributive movement slow to mostly moderate. Supplies in a full range of balanced to fully adequate. Central states breaking stock prices unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings adequate to fully adequate and included heavy graded loose shell eggs. Demand light as many buyers hold for lower values. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	119.5-128	121-124
LARGE	117.5-126	119-122
MEDIUM	102.5-111	104-107

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries trending sharply lower on all sizes. The market tone cautiously steady to barely steady entering the weekend. Demand light to moderate. Supplies sufficient to available for full trade needs. Breaking stock demand was light to moderate for short to adequate offerings. Breaking schedules normal to reduced. Light type fowl usually sufficient the moderate demand. Processing schedules reported as normal for the upcoming week.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	102.25-126	120-123
LARGE	101.25-124	118-121
MEDIUM	81.25-109	102-106

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was cautiously steady to barely steady entering the weekend. Demand remained light to moderate. Supplies of all sizes were fully adequate to available.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	108-112
LARGE	106-110
MEDIUM	92-96

CHICAGO AND MIDWEST EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was mostly steady. Retail demand was moderate instances good. Food service movement was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	118-126	120-122
LARGE	117-126	118-121
MEDIUM	104-113	107-109

WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was very weak with asking prices for next week 21-23 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 22-23 cents lower on medium. Retailer demand light. Offerings ample.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was very weak with asking prices for next week 21 cents lower on jumbo, extra large and large, 22 cents lower on medium and small. Retailer demand light. Offerings ample. Small benchmark price 121. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- extra large 20 pack 2 for \$3.

CALIFORNIA California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	168
EXTRA LARGE	164
LARGE	154
MEDIUM	141

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	145-159
EXTRA LARGE	143-154
LARGE	141-144
MEDIUM	128-131

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	299-399
EXTRA LARGE	289-399
LARGE	239-349
MEDIUM	199-299

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate and included heavy graded loose shell eggs. Demand was light as many buyers hold for lower values. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady.

Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	77-80	80
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	66-72	66-68
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Mostly prices were unchanged on undergrades, but unchanged to slightly lower on breaking stock when compared to early week trading. The undertone was barely steady to steady with traders closely watching further market developments. Supplies were short to adequate for processing schedules that ranged from less than normal to normal. Demand was light to moderate with most buyers cautious in anticipation that offerings would continue to increase next week. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 31 January 2004 were 11% lower than last week, and 1% lower than a year ago. Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	75-81	77-80
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	62-71	65-69
EASTERN REGION AREA:		
AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 31-JAN-04
(Lbs in thousands) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,118,124	25,723	11,045	6,112	2,584	3,906
PW	1,127,852	26,152	11,283	6,152	2,724	4,160
LY	1,131,969	25,475	11,463	6,385	2,588	4,286
% CHG PW	-1	-2	-2	-1	-5	-6
% CHG LY	-1	1	-4	-4	0	-9

2004	4,533,778	106,452	44,021	24,383	10,753	16,378
2003	4,559,686	106,227	43,361	24,199	11,332	16,991
% CHG YTD	-1	0	2	1	-5	-4

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE - (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	41.84	42.33	42.06
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.35	38.65	38.27

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized whites and salt yolk were too few to report. Trade sentiment was steady for all liquid products. Offerings were adequate to instances fully adequate on all products with demand fair to fairly good. Processing schedules were mixed, mostly full-time. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower than the previous week.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	14	64.75-66.25	65.59	-.19
WHITES	15	69-70	69.23	-.84
YOLKS	5	58	58.00	-.63

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were unchanged on sugar yolks, but unchanged to slightly higher on balance of items when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was about steady on yolks, steady on whole and fully steady on whites. Demand and trading was light. However, interest had improved over a week earlier. Overall, supplies were short on whites, with balance of items usually adequate for needs. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 31 January 2004 were 13% less than the previous week, and 4% less than last year.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	LTL TRUCKLOTS (MIN. 25 CONT.)		
	RANGE	MOSTLY	RANGE
WHOLE	71-80	75-77	83-89
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		84-105
WHITES	81-84	82-83	86-91
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	74-78	75-77	81-92
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	65-75	71-74	77-87

(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetner, generally 20-32% egg solids.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg prices ranged 1 cent higher with the balance of prices ranging unchanged to higher. Trade sentiment was fully steady for whole egg, firm for whites with sugared and salted yolk about steady. Offerings were adequate for the light to occasionally moderate demand. Breaking stock prices were unchanged when compared to the prior week.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	TRUCKLOTS	
	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	76-78	76
WHITES	81-85	81-83
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	75-77	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	72-74	

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices unchanged. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 1/31 was 10% less than the previous week. Frozen demand and freezer stocks light.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)	
	RANGE	
WHOLE	82-85	
WHITES	86-89	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	81-84	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	78-81	

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Majority prices were unchanged on whole, yolks, and albumen, but unchanged to lower on blends when compared to a week earlier. Trucklot trading was fair but generally limited, however LTL volume was fairly active with trading on albumen noted at 6.45 plus. Trade sentiment was steady to full steady on albumen, improved on whole, and generally steady on yolks. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 31 January 2004 were 5% less than the previous week, and unchanged from last year. The total year to date dried egg produced were 5% less than a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, trucklot & less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	2.93-3.45	MOSTLY	3.00-3.15
YOLKS	1.66-2.10	MOSTLY	1.70-1.75
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	5.95-6.60	MOSTLY	6.00-6.25
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.98-2.30	MOSTLY	2.00-2.05

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR JAN 30, 2004-FEB 5, 2004**CURRENT LOADS** 57.75**FUTURE LOADS** 51.00**TOTAL LOADS** 108.75

CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	CLASS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST			ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	82.00	92.75	77.00	84.00	—	—	11.00	GNR W 1	—	94.50	—	—	—	105.00	5.00
GNR W 4	—	—	47.00	67.00	—	—	3.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR BR 1	—	102.00	—	—	—	—	2.75	GL W J	86.00	—	—	—	—	95.00	2.25
GL W J	—	—	107.50	108.50	84.00	—	3.00	GL W XL	80.74	87.00	—	—	—	90.08	13.25
GL W XL	—	111.00	102.33	102.81	84.25	—	22.25	GL W LG	83.89	84.00	—	—	—	94.59	9.00
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	77.50	—	6.75	GL W MD	77.38	—	—	—	—	84.05	3.75
GL W MD	—	91.00	82.92	82.56	69.67	—	14.25	GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	131.50	.50
GL W SM	—	—	49.83	51.33	—	53.00	5.50	GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	131.50	.50
GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50	NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	112.00	1.25								
NRBS - 48	—	79.00	—	—	—	80.17	42.00								
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	73.50	77.18	2.75								
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	63.50	65.00	.50								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL
WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS
(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER
CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority values were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were mostly adequate. Processing schedules were noted as normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	9-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of light hens. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were only fair. Opinions of salvage costs were about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal costs were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with demand moderate to good. Opinions of value were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-7	5.5-7

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	120.50	118.00	105.00
SOUTHEAST	121.50	119.50	104.00
MIDWEST	117.00	115.50	103.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	122.50	120.50	105.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	120.47	118.47	104.43

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged on both heavy and light canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Trading was limited. Available offerings were well cleared. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-26.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24.5	31.5-37.5 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
23-29 MAJORITY 26-27	33-39 MAJORITY 36.5-37.5

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 31-JAN-04
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
THOUSANDS			
HEAD	1,274	1,255	2,529
LAST WEEK	1,429	1,228	2,657
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,579	1,443	3,022
TO-DATE/2004	5,487	5,073	10,560
TO-DATE/2003	6,902	5,653	12,555

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
THOUSANDS			
HEAD	221	0	221
LAST WEEK	309	18	327
SAME WEEK YR AGO	337	14	351
TO-DATE/2004	1,219	18	1,237
TO-DATE/2003	1,528	29	1,557

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,495	1,255	2,750
LAST WEEK	1,738	1,246	2,984
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,916	1,457	3,373
TO-DATE/2004	6,706	5,091	11,797
TO-DATE/2003	8,430	5,682	14,112

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending January 24, 2004		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
LIQUID	293	268	392	1,047
FROZEN	0	0	0	0
DRIED	9	0	9	44
TOTAL	302	268	401	1,091

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

	Week Ending January 24, 2004		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
LIQUID	225	182	344	403
FROZEN	0	43	3	132
DRIED	195	0	195	40
TOTAL	420	225	542	575

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending January 24, 2004		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002 /1	2003	2002
JUMBO	0	0	50	0
EXTRA LARGE	0	0	0	0
LARGE	0	0	2,093	905
MEDIUM	0	0	30	20
UNGRADED	0	0	0	1,470
MISC	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	2,173	2,395

Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding+.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)**SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 02/02/04	3,118	141,357	40,964
AM 01/01/04	3,162	119,108	43,610
CHG	-44	22249	-2646
PCT CHG	-1%	19%	-6%

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of December 31, 2003 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on February 1, 2004 are:

FROZEN EGGS	18 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
TURKEYS	419 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
POULTRY	905 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 31-Jan-2004

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG	LY
ATLANTA	25.8	28.7	-10	11
BOSTON	3.3	3.5	-6	-3
CHICAGO	62.0	60.3	3	37
DETROIT	26.8	25.5	5	-11
KANSAS CITY	7.3	3.6	103	92
LOS ANGELES	87.0	90.3	-4	3
NEW ORLEANS	7.5	7.7	-3	-40
NEW YORK	31.1	31.6	-2	-6
ST. LOUIS	17.0	17.8	-4	13
SAN FRANCISCO	22.2	19.8	12	0
TOTAL	290.0	288.8	0	6
4 WK MVG AVG	303.5			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 31-Jan-04

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	211.9	-3	-4
E.N. CENTRAL	555.4	-2	10
W.N. CENTRAL	293.2	2	8
S. ATLANTIC	178.2	0	-1
S. CENTRAL	104.0	-5	12
WEST	181.2	2	-2
TOTAL	1523.9	-1	4
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Feb 03, 2004

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE MOSTLY	170	164	130	86
NEW HAMPSHIRE MOSTLY	160-164	154-158	119-123	76-80
	162-163	156-157	121-122	78-79
RHODE ISLAND MOSTLY	166-170	160-164	124-128	82-86
	166	160	124	82
VERMONT MOSTLY	170-173	164-167	130-133	-
	173	167	133	-

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats,
	Fax	(202)720-2403	Chief
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman,
	Fax	(404)562-5875	Officer-in-Charge
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown,
	Fax	(601)965-4661	Southern States Area Supervisor
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins,
	Fax	(515)284-4468	Officer-In-Charge
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby,
	Fax	(213)534-1333	Officer-in-Charge
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	