



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

In the Southeast region, prices were irregular when compared to previous week's values. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged on a sizes. The market tone was mixed and ranged cautiously steady to instances barely steady entering the week. Demand into all outlets was light to moderate, best where features were in progress or planned for this week. Supplies were adequate to instances ample for trade needs. Breaking stock demand was light for fully adequate offerings. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for processing schedules that were reported as normal.

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Cartoned egg sales were light to at best moderate and reported as somewhat disappointing. Loose egg demand was moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample. Breaking stock and checks and undergrade prices ranged lower. Demand was light with offerings fully adequate. Floor stocks adequate to ample. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	69-78	73-75
LARGE	69-77	71-74
MEDIUM	60-66	63-65

IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.		
	RANGE	MOSTLY
LARGE	52-59	54
MEDIUM	43-47	45
SMALL	31-33	

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. The market tone was cautiously steady entering the week. Demand into all outlets was light to moderate, best where features were in progress or planned for this week. Supplies ranged adequate to very available for current trade needs. Breaking stock demand was light for fully adequate offerings. Breaking schedules were noted as generally normal. Spent hens were fully sufficient for slaughter schedules that were reported as normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	77-91	77-80
LARGE	71-85	76-80
MEDIUM	60-73	66-67

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

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was cautiously steady. Cartoned egg sales were light to instances moderate with loose egg demand mostly moderate. Supplies were balanced to adequate. Central states breaking stock prices ranged lower. Demand was light with offerings fully adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	78.5-87	80-83
LARGE	74.5-83	76-79
MEDIUM	64.5-73	66-69

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

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were irregular when compared to previous week's values. Trade sentiment was mixed and highly unsettled. Demand was reported as mostly light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for current needs. Breaking stock demand was light for sufficient offerings. Light type hens were fully adequate for normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	75.5-83	77-80
LARGE	74-81	75-78
MEDIUM	61.5-69	62-66

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 Prices were unchanged entering the week. Trade sentiment was mixed. Retail demand ranged light to moderate, best where sporadic promotional activities were planned or in progress. Supplies ranged adequate to available for current needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	85-89
LARGE	83-87
MEDIUM	72-76

CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady. Retail and food service demand was moderate. Supplies were adequate with larger sizes increasingly available.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	75-83	77-79
LARGE	74-82	75-78
MEDIUM	65-74	68-70

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices unchanged. The Pacific region inventory was 10% higher than last Monday with California up 8% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 13%. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings easily adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged. The California inventory was 8% higher than last Monday. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings fully adequate. Small benchmark price 80. Ads in Northern California: major- large dozen 219, 18 pack 2 for \$5.

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	121
EXTRA LARGE	117
LARGE	109
MEDIUM	100

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

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	279-349	JUMBO	279-409
EXTRA LARGE	259-309	EXTRA LARGE	269-399
LARGE	239-249	LARGE	239-389
MEDIUM	199-219	MEDIUM	189-329

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending April 30, 2004 will increase by 3 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending April 23, 2004 were 198,377 cases which was 16 percent below the prior week and 13 percent below estimates. .

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	163,474	34,903	198,377
% change from the prior week.....	-16	-18	-16

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices ranged lower. Demand was light as breakers watched current markets for further adjustments. Offerings fully adequate. Supplies adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	59-61	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	46-52	46-48

CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged to slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Offerings were generally adequate to at least adequate. Processing schedules were normal. Supplies of finished product were well cleared. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) * FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 26-APR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-10.5	9-9.5	9.33
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING		TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT		TOO FEW TO REPORT	

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were slightly higher when compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for generally adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Traded sentiment was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) * PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 26-APR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.5-12.25	9-9.75	9.56

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM APR 26, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/ (30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area		
		Cent	Cent	Atl	Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	7.9	14.9	4.5	10.1	10.1	47.5
	Change	-0.1	-1.8	1.1	-0.9	0.9	-2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	21.4	51.9	20.1	23.4	34.1	150.9
	Change	0.8	4.4	4.3	-0.7	3.3	9%
Large	Curr Wk	49.5	144.1	86.4	110.8	125.3	516.1
	Change	5.6	28.9	-1.0	14.7	12.8	13%
Medium	Curr Wk	12.9	37.0	12.2	17.8	25.7	105.6
	Change	1.4	-5.9	-1.1	-1.1	4.3	-2%
Small	Curr Wk	3.7	8.1	1.3	4.2	6.5	23.8
	Change	1.6	4.2	-1.8	-1.3	1.1	19%
Misc	Curr Wk	6.0	23.5	10.1	14.6	5.4	59.6
	Change	1.3	1.6	1.6	-2.0	-0.3	4%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	15.8	70.8	18.1	31.3	23.5	159.5
	Change	3.2	16.8	1.8	2.7	-1.5	17%
Total	Curr Wk	117.2	350.3	152.7	212.2	230.6	1,063.0
Percent	Change	13%	16%	3%	6%	10%	10%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1,063.0	10%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	278.0	1%	35
Total Shell Egg	1,341.0	8%	205

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS

MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.97	1.94	1.85	1.16

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING APRIL 12, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.51	1.51	1.41	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 23, 2004

CURRENT LOADS							17.25			FUTURE LOADS			2.75			TOTAL LOADS			20.00		
SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS								
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS						
GNR W 1	—	—	58.33	61.33	—	—	3.00	GL W XL	64.00	67.00	—	—	—	—	80.00 2.50						
GNR W 4	—	—	—	51.00	47.50	—	1.00	GL W LG	61.00	—	—	72.00	—	—	64.67 4.75						
GL W J	—	—	74.00	75.00	—	—	1.00	GL W MD	59.00	—	—	—	—	—	65.50 2.50						
GL W XL	—	—	69.00	71.00	62.77	61.50	5.75														
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	55.50	—	2.75														
GL W MD	—	—	58.50	60.00	—	—	2.50														

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 04/19/04-04/23/04

CURRENT LOADS							88.25			FUTURE LOADS			93.25			TOTAL LOADS			181.50		
SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS								
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS						
GNR W 1	55.75	—	56.83	58.45	—	—	11.00	GL W J	74.00	—	—	80.00	—	—	83.00 1.75						
GNR W 4	—	47.50	—	51.00	46.00	48.50	4.00	GL W XL	64.57	68.80	98.00	—	—	72.91 23.50							
GL W J	—	—	74.17	75.33	71.00	66.00	4.25	GL W LG	62.86	66.67	96.00	72.00	—	68.56 22.00							
GL W XL	—	68.36	67.83	69.51	65.49	74.88	60.00	GL W MD	57.50	—	—	66.00	—	64.25 17.25							
GL W LG	—	67.00	—	66.50	69.71	91.60	14.25	NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	— 11.00							
GL W MD	56.13	—	57.58	58.63	56.05	57.00	31.50														
GL W SM	—	—	41.00	43.50	—	44.33	1.75														
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	84.75	98.00	1.00														
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	59.00	64.28	61.47	85.00														
NRBS - 45	—	—	54.00	55.00	—	—	2.25														

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.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	04/19/04	04/12/04	04/21/03
PACIFIC COAST	260	143	89
LOS ANGELES	199	78	57

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

UNAVAILABLE

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is steady on all sizes. The supply is adequate. Retail demand is moderate.

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	95.63
LARGE	91.63
MEDIUM	79.63
SMALL	69.00

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 – 250	225 – 240
1/2 doz.	123 – 151	125 – 134
Large doz.	200 – 250	217 – 227
1/2 doz.	120 – 142	128 – 133

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OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 04/26/2004

Report Period: 04/04/2004 - 04/10/2004

State	# Cases	# Cases	# Cases	Total State
	Shipped to Northern CA	Shipped to Central CA	shipped to Southern CA	
Arizona	0	0	2,525	2,525
Arkansas	0	0	600	600
Colorado	0	0	638	638
Indiana	0	0	840	840
Iowa	4,810	8,520	27,517	40,847
Maine	0	0	810	810
Michigan	0	1,650	1,458	3,108
Minnesota	3,870	3,890	10,091	17,851
Missouri	0	0	720	720
Montana	0	0	648	648
Nevada	0	0	826	826
North Carolina	0	0	1,152	1,152
Oregon	3,977	1,086	1,822	6,885
South Dakota	1,522	0	600	2,122
Texas	0	0	3,050	3,050
Utah	1,100	300	10,913	12,313
Washington	0	0	1,643	1,643
TOTAL	15,279	15,446	65,853	96,578
SHIPPED TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY	15,279	15,446	65,853	96,578