



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged. Elsewhere, weekly prices were higher on all sizes when compared to the previous week. The market tone was mostly steady to at times fully steady. In the Southeast, Hurricane Jeanne damaged several facilities and disrupted plant operations. Retail and distributive demand ranged light to good. Supplies were sufficient to occasionally tight for full trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were short to adequate for the fair to good demand. Light type hens were fully sufficient for the at least moderate demand.

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Midwest warehouse delivered prices were 3 cents higher for all sizes. Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Cartoned egg sales were moderate to good. Loose egg demand was mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to at times close with the larger sizes the least available. Central states breaking stock prices were irregular when compared to previously reported prices with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were light for the fair to fairly good demand. Floor stocks were usually tight to closely balanced. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	54-63	58-60	LARGE	37-44	39
LARGE	54-62	56-59	MEDIUM	20-24	22
MEDIUM	37-43	40-42	SMALL	5-7	

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were slightly higher on all sizes when compared to last week's values. Trade sentiment was mostly steady to occasionally fully steady. Demand into all channels ranged light to fairly good. Supplies were sufficient for current trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were about adequate for irregular breaking schedules. Spent hens were fully sufficient for the at least moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	62-76	62-67
LARGE	56-70	61-65
MEDIUM	37-50	42-44

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

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were higher for all sizes. Trade sentiment was steady to at times fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to good. Loose egg movement was usually moderate. Supplies were adequate to tight with the larger sizes the least available in most areas. Central states breaking stock prices were irregular when compared to previously reported prices with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were light for the fair to fairly good demand. Floor stocks were usually tight to closely balanced. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	64.5-73	66-69
LARGE	60.5-69	62-65
MEDIUM	40.5-49	42-45

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

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on all sizes when compared to previous week's values. The market tone was steady beginning the week. In parts of Florida and Georgia, former Hurricane Jeanne disrupted plant operations and damaged several facilities. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were sufficient to occasionally tight for current requirements. Breaking stock offerings were short to adequate for the moderate to good demand. Light type hens were fully sufficient for the at least moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	54.25-69	63-66
LARGE	52.25-67	61-64
MEDIUM	33.25-47	40-44

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 on all sizes entering the week. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand ranged light to good. Supplies were usually adequate for trade needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	70-74
LARGE	68-72
MEDIUM	49-53

CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS Prices on all sizes increased 3 cents. The trade sentiment was steady. Retail and food service demand was moderate to good, best where features are a factor. Supplies were adequate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	60-68	62-64
LARGE	59-67	60-63
MEDIUM	44-51	45-47

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices 1-2 cents higher on jumbo, 4 cents higher on extra large, 3 cents higher on large, and 3-4 cents higher on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 18% higher than last Monday with California up 20% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 15%. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices 1 cent higher on jumbo, 4 cents higher on extra large, and 3 cents higher on large, medium, and small. The California inventory was 20% higher than last week. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings adequate. Small benchmark price 59. Ads and prices to consumers in Northern California were not available.

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	108
EXTRA LARGE	105
LARGE	95
MEDIUM	79

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	249-347	JUMBO	
EXTRA LARGE	219-309	EXTRA LARGE	NOT AVAILABLE
LARGE	199-239	LARGE	
MEDIUM	99-205	MEDIUM	

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending October 01, 2004 will decrease by 24 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending September 24, 2004 were 275,798 cases which was 18 percent above the prior week and 3 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	236,721	39,077	275,798
% change from the prior week.....	+22	-1	+18

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

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Breaking stock prices were irregular when compared to previously reported prices with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were light with demand fair to fairly good as breakers assess current needs and schedules. Floor stocks were tight to closely balanced in most instances. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment 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	37-40	39
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	24-30	24-26

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 when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate for at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules were noted as mostly normal. Sales of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 27-SEP-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.25-15	10.25-12	11.20
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 Trading levels were generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 27-SEP-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.75-15	9.75-10.25	10.20

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM SEP 27, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/

(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area		
		Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	13.5	20.4	5.0	14.3	11.0	64.2
	Change	3.4	3.9	-0.9	3.7	1.0	21%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	28.7	47.8	12.6	21.3	37.7	148.1
	Change	4.1	11.3	-0.2	1.3	3.4	15%
Large	Curr Wk	54.3	133.1	66.2	90.6	111.3	455.5
	Change	17.0	23.4	-0.7	11.8	21.2	19%
Medium	Curr Wk	17.1	52.3	16.5	23.7	42.8	152.4
	Change	3.1	-11.3	-1.5	-3.9	5.5	-5%
Small	Curr Wk	6.1	12.9	5.8	5.0	8.1	37.9
	Change	1.0	1.4	-1.5	-0.4	-0.7	-1%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.3	34.5	8.0	20.5	5.3	73.6
	Change	-1.1	-3.8	-2.0	1.1	-0.7	-8%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	25.3	35.6	25.7	34.5	29.9	151.0
	Change	10.0	4.9	4.8	-2.2	8.4	21%
Total	Curr Wk	150.3	336.6	139.8	209.9	246.1	1082.7
Percent	Change	33%	10%	-1%	6%	18%	12%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
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Shell Egg	1,082.7	12%	171
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	250.4	-3%	35

Total Shell Egg	1,333.1	9%	206
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1/ Information supplied by a universe of 171 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.

Northeast- CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
 North Central - IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI
 South Central - AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX
 South Atlantic - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV
 Pacific- AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

CANADIAN EGGS

MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2004.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	2.00	1.97	1.88	1.16

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 13, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.57	1.57	1.47	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 24, 2004

CURRENT LOADS		8.00		FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS		8.00					
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	41.00	—	41.50	43.00	—	—	2.00	GL W XL	55.00	60.00	—	—	—	63.00	1.75
GL W J	—	—	62.50	64.00	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	52.00	57.00	—	—	—	61.00	1.25
GL W XL	—	—	53.00	55.00	50.40	—	2.25								
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	50.00	—	.75								
GL W SM	—	—	25.00	27.00	—	—	1.00								

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 09/2004-09/24/04

CURRENT LOADS		62.75		FUTURE LOADS				33.75		TOTAL LOADS		96.50					
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	40.75	44.00	40.25	44.17	—	44.00	19.00	GNR W 1	—	46.80	—	—	—	55.00	6.00		
GNR W 2	—	—	39.50	41.00	—	43.00	4.00	GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	55.00	1.00		
GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	22.00	24.50	1.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00		
GNR BR 1	—	49.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W J	58.00	—	—	—	—	64.40	1.25		
GL W J	—	—	62.75	64.50	50.00	59.00	4.00	GL W XL	53.80	60.00	—	—	65.00	64.44	7.50		
GL W XL	—	58.82	52.86	55.61	55.02	56.00	32.25	GL W LG	52.67	59.06	—	62.50	—	58.62	18.00		
GL W LG	—	54.89	44.17	44.00	53.22	—	19.00	GL W MD	31.83	—	—	44.50	—	39.83	4.50		
GL W MD	36.00	—	30.25	33.47	35.00	35.33	9.50	GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	58.50	62.00	1.25		
GL W SM	26.75	28.75	24.80	27.00	—	—	6.00										
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	37.00	38.50	39.09	16.25										
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	35.00	—	—	.25										
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	29.00	—	—	4.50										
NRBS - 39	—	24.50	—	—	21.50	—	2.00										

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	09/20/04	09/13/04	09/22/03
PACIFIC COAST	107	176	136
LOS ANGELES	70	136	76

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is steady on small sizes, higher on the balance. Supplies are adequate. Retail demand is fair to fairly good.

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	81.63
LARGE	77.63
MEDIUM	57.63
SMALL	43.00

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 - 260	239 - 240
1/2 doz.	120 - 151	130 - 134
Large doz.	217 - 250	227 - 230
1/2 doz.	115 - 142	128 - 133

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OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 9/21/2004

Report Period: 9/5/2004 - 9/11/2004

State	# Cases			Total State
	Shipped To	Shipped To	Shipped To	
	Northern CA	Central CA	Southern CA	
Arkansas	0	0	900	900
Colorado	0	0	1,738	1,738
Illinois	0	0	810	810
Indiana	0	0	878	878
Iowa	5,924	8,670	54,149	68,743
Michigan	0	0	810	810
Minnesota	5,380	0	4,695	10,075
Missouri	0	0	1,560	1,560
Nevada	0	0	613	613
Ohio	0	0	2,638	2,638
Oregon	3,557	0	0	3,557
South Dakota	750	0	1,120	1,870
Texas	0	0	1,820	1,820
Utah	392	1,614	7,402	9,408
TOTAL	16,003	10,284	79,133	105,420
SHIPPED TO				
MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO				
NONMILITARY	16,003	10,284	79,133	105,420

OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 9/24/2004

Report Period: 9/12/2004 - 9/18/2004

State	# Cases			Total State
	Shipped To	Shipped To	Shipped To	
	Northern CA	Central CA	Southern CA	
Arizona	0	0	1,600	1,600
Colorado	0	0	4,031	4,031
Florida	0	725	0	725
Indiana	0	0	890	890
Iowa	7,574	9,877	51,317	68,768
Michigan	0	0	2,530	2,530
Minnesota	3,545	780	3,112	7,437
Missouri	0	0	1,530	1,530
Montana	0	0	1,016	1,016
Nevada	0	0	780	780
Oregon	2,300	230	0	2,530
South Dakota	810	0	840	1,650
Texas	0	0	1,404	1,404
Utah	193	1,413	8,618	10,224
Virginia	0	0	720	720
Wisconsin	0	0	683	683
TOTAL	14,422	13,025	79,071	106,518
SHIPPED TO				
MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO				
NONMILITARY	14,422	13,025	79,071	106,518