



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

MONDAY
MARCH 21, 2005
VOL. 52 NO. 23

ISSN 1520-6122

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Prices were unchanged in all locations. The market tone was steady entering the week. Retail demand ranged moderate to very good. Supplies ranged in close balance to instances available for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient to fully adequate for the light to moderate demand. Spent hens were fully adequate for the fair to mostly moderate demand. Processing schedules were normal to at times less than normal for the 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 All prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Retail movement was moderate to very good. Loose egg sales were light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to closely balanced. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Demand was light with offerings fully adequate. Floor stocks adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.	
			RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	45-55	46-52	LARGE	27-36 31
LARGE	44-54	45-48	MEDIUM	14-20 18
MEDIUM	31-41	33-36	SMALL	8-12

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged when compared to the previous week's values. Trade sentiment was steady entering the week. Demand into all channels was moderate to good, best where holiday features were planned or in progress. Supplies were adequate for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for a light to moderate demand. Schedules were mostly normal to reduced. Spent hens were fully adequate for normal to instances less than normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	55-70	56-59
LARGE	49-63	54-58
MEDIUM	35-48	40-42

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

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL All prices were unchanged from last week. Trade sentiment steady. Retail demand moderate to very good and meeting expectations for the upcoming holiday. Distributive movement moderate. Supplies were in close balance. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged to 1 cent lower, checks and undergrades unchanged. Demand light for the fully adequate offers. Some breakers purchased product last week to cover future spot needs. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	58.5-67	60-63
LARGE	56.5-65	58-61
MEDIUM	40.5-49	42-45

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

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged on all sizes when compared to the previous week's values. Trade sentiment was generally steady entering the week. Retail demand was moderate to good. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were about adequate for irregular processing schedules. Light type hens were fully sufficient for the fair to mostly moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	53.5-67	55-58
LARGE	52-65	53-56
MEDIUM	37.5-55	38-42

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 of extra large, large and medium were unchanged when compared to last Friday's prices. Trade sentiment entering the week was steady. Demand was moderate to good. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	63-67
LARGE	61-65
MEDIUM	47-51

MIDWEST REGIONAL

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	52-61	54-58
LARGE	51-60	52-54
MEDIUM	38-47	41-43

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 16% lower with California down 1% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 39%. Retailer demand good. Offerings and floor stocks easily adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged. The California inventory was 1% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand good. Offerings easily adequate. Small benchmark price 53. Ads in Northern California: major- extra large dozen 2 for \$5, large 18 pack buy 1 get 1 free.

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	106
EXTRA LARGE	97
LARGE	87
MEDIUM	73

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

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

	RANGE
JUMBO	249-259
EXTRA LARGE	219-289
LARGE	199-219
MEDIUM	189-205

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

NOT AVAILABLE

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending March 25, 2005 will increase by 29 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending March 18, 2005 were 267,380 cases which was 5 percent above the prior week and 15 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	227,593	39,787	267,380
% change from the prior week.....	+5	+2	+5

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 unchanged to 1 cent lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Demand was light with offerings fully adequate. Many breakers had covered future spot needs with purchases late last week and were awaiting further market adjustments before buying additional breaking stock. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	25-27	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	13-17	14-16

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

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were slightly higher compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Finished sales were fair with schedules sufficient to cover needs. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 21-MAR-05

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.5-15.5 CENTS/LB.	11-13	12.19

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate to at least moderate for the adequate to about adequate offerings. Processing schedules were noted as normal to instances less than normal. Sales of finished product were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 21-MAR-05

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.25-15.5 CENTS/LB.	11.25-13	12.27
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- March 21, 2005

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

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area	
		Northeast	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	14.9	16.9	11.1	12.0	16.6 71.5
	Change	-0.5	-0.9	0.4	-2.6	-0.5 -5%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	22.8	31.9	11.0	24.8	46.4 136.9
	Change	-7.0	-14.1	-2.6	-6.3	0.8 -18%
Large	Curr Wk	77.0	109.9	68.8	114.1	127.2 497.0
	Change	-15.9	-57.3	-42.2	-24.5	-47.5 -27%
Medium	Curr Wk	21.8	43.7	16.9	30.7	36.0 149.1
	Change	11.4	-7.6	-1.2	0.1	4.6 5%
Small	Curr Wk	4.7	9.1	1.9	5.9	3.4 25.0
	Change	2.6	0.4	-0.5	-1.9	0.6 5%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.7	27.2	10.3	16.7	7.0 66.9
	Change	-0.1	-2.3	-1.4	2.1	0.1 -2%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	9.0	36.9	21.7	30.3	30.7 128.6
	Change	-8.5	-4.9	-12.9	-6.2	-7.9 -24%
Total	Curr Wk	155.9	275.6	141.7	234.5	267.3 1075.0
Percent	Change	-10%	-24%	-30%	-14%	-16% -19%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1075.0	-19%	173
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	225.8	-16%	35
Total Shell Egg	1300.8	-19%	208

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 173 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 QUEBEC/MONTREAL: WHOLESALE PRICES- GRADED IN CARTONS (CANADIAN DOLLARS) AS REPORTED BY AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA, AISD, AID, POULTRY SECTION FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 07, 2005

GRADEA	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.86	1.83	1.74	1.16

MINIMUM PRICES FOR PRODUCERS FOB FARM FOR WEEK OF MARCH 07, 2005 AS SET BY ONTARIO EGG PRODUCERS.

GRADEA	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.42	1.42	1.32	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MARCH 18, 2005

CURRENT LOADS							22.00			FUTURE LOADS				8.75		TOTAL LOADS				30.75	
SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS								
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS							
GNR W 1	33.00	—	35.00	35.50	—	—	2.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	43.00	1.00						
GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W XL	—	44.00	—	—	—	—	2.00						
GL W XL	—	—	—	—	36.00	—	6.00														
GL W LG	—	—	42.50	40.50	36.00	—	3.75														
GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00														
GL W SM	—	—	23.00	25.00	—	—	1.00														
NRBS - 48	23.00	24.00	—	—	23.25	24.83	16.00														

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 03/14/05-03/18/05

CURRENT LOADS							55.00			FUTURE LOADS				43.00		TOTAL LOADS				98.00	
SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS								
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS							
GNR W XL	—	—	—	—	—	31.00	4.00	GNR W 1	—	39.00	—	—	—	1.00							
GNR W 1	32.67	35.50	34.33	35.88	—	34.00	22.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	45.00	1.50							
GNR W 2	—	—	—	34.00	—	—	4.00	GL W XL	—	44.00	—	—	—	2.00							
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	53.00	—	—	—	1.25							
GNR BR 1	—	37.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W MD	20.75	—	—	—	29.67	5.25							
GL W J	—	—	55.00	56.00	36.50	—	2.50	GL W SM	18.75	—	—	—	23.75	1.00							
GL W XL	—	48.00	45.92	47.65	36.00	—	31.25														
GL W LG	—	49.00	41.90	43.33	36.00	—	16.00														
GL W MD	34.00	27.00	—	27.75	20.50	27.38	13.50														
GL W SM	24.50	28.00	24.50	26.50	—	—	5.00														
NRBS - 48	23.00	24.00	—	—	23.67	26.24	33.00														
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	25.50	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	03/14/05	03/07/05	03/15/04
PACIFIC COAST	336	368	197
LOS ANGELES	326	358	129

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market was steady on all sizes. Supplies are 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	73.63
LARGE	69.63
MEDIUM	55.63
SMALL	45.00

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	225 - 230
1/2 doz.	115 - 142	125 - 128

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

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Branch 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	

OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 3/17/2005

Report Period: 2/20/2005 - 2/26/2005

State	# Cases	# Cases	# Cases	Total State
	Shipped To Northern CA	Shipped To Central CA	Shipped To Southern CA	
Arizona	0	0	2,112	2,112
Colorado	0	0	1,999	1,999
Illinois	0	0	780	780
Indiana	0	0	840	840
Iowa	7,120	3,480	59,278	69,878
Michigan	0	0	3,288	3,288
Minnesota	7,330	1,930	10,023	19,283
Mississippi	0	0	1,011	1,011
Missouri	0	0	816	816
Nevada	0	0	805	805
Ohio	0	0	1,784	1,784
Oregon	1,720	0	0	1,720
South Dakota	780	810	5,706	7,296
Texas	0	0	4,735	4,735
Utah	680	0	13,004	13,684
Washington	332	0	780	1,112
TOTAL	17,962	6,220	106,961	131,143
SHIPPED TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY	17,962	6,220	106,961	131,143