



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 29, 2008
VOL. 55 NO. 17

U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Poultry Programs Market News and Analysis Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices in New York remained the same as yesterday's values. Regional prices were unchanged, however asking prices for next's deliveries were trending higher on all sizes. Trade sentiment was mostly fully steady to firm. Retail and distributive was moderate to good. Current supplies were sufficient to at times tight and held with confidence. Breaking stock offerings were tight to short for a fairly good to good demand. Light type hen offerings were light to generally adequate for normal processing schedules.

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

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were higher for all sizes. Midwest delivered prices were unchanged but were trending higher for next week. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm. Cartoned egg sales ranged light to very good, usually moderate to good. Loose egg movement was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to close and held with confidence. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were tight with demand fairly good to mostly good demand. Floor stocks closely balanced. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to instances firm.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged on all sizes when compared to values reported on Thursday. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm entering the weekend. Demand remained moderate. Supplies were sufficient for current buyer and seller requirements.

RANGE MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	140-149	143-146
LARGE	139-148	141-144
MEDIUM	124-133	126-129

IA-MN-WI Prices paid to producers.		
Range	Mostly	
LARGE	128-137	132
MEDIUM	111-115	113
SMALL	75-81	

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	163-167
LARGE	161-165
MEDIUM	140-144

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	147-155	148-150
LARGE	145-153	146-148
MEDIUM	130-138	131-133

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending higher on all sizes. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail and distributive demand was moderate. Supplies were sufficient to in balance for trade needs. Eastern region breaking stock offerings were short to tight for a fairly good demand. Light type hens were adequate for normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	149-164	150-153
LARGE	143-157	148-152
MEDIUM	126-139	131-133

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

WESTERN REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week were 3 cents higher for jumbo, 4 cents higher for extra large, 7 cents higher for large, and 5 cents higher for medium. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Offerings were adequate and held with confidence while demand was in a full range of light to fairly good.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Prices for next week trending higher. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm. Retail demand was moderate to good. Distributive movement was moderate. Supplies were balanced to tight and held with confidence. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were tight to inadequate for the generally good demand. Supplies balanced. Schedules full time. Trade sentiment fully steady to instances firm.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	150.5-159	152-155
LARGE	148.5-157	150-153
MEDIUM	129.5-138	131-134

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

CALIFORNIA Benchmark prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week were 3 cents higher for jumbo, 4 cents higher for extra large, 7 cents higher for large, and 5 cents higher for medium and small. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Demand was in a full range of slow to fairly good with offerings adequate and held with confidence. Small benchmark price \$1.47.

CALIFORNIA Shell egg 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	191
EXTRA LARGE	193
LARGE	185
MEDIUM	167

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending higher. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Demand was moderate. Supplies were adequate for immediate trade requirements and held with confidence. Eastern region breaking stock offerings were short to tight for mostly normal processing schedules. Light hens were adequate for a moderate to fairly good demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	149.5-157	151-154
LARGE	148-155	149-152
MEDIUM	129.5-137	130-134

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

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	175-189
EXTRA LARGE	176-181
LARGE	173-176
MEDIUM	154-157

BREAKING STOCK

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.

CENTRAL REGION Prices were unchanged. Offerings were tight to inadequate with demand fairly good to mostly good. Supplies balanced. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment fully steady to instances firm.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	114-116	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	97-102	97-99
CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION Mostly prices were higher when compared to early week trading. Offerings were short to tight for a fairly good demand. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Processing schedules were mostly normal. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 23-Feb-2008 was 2 percent less than last week and 3 percent less than the same week a year ago.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	107-111	108-110
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	92-100	93-98
EASTERN STATES 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 23-FEB-2008	(lbs. in thousands)		(Excludes Ingredients)			
Total Production	Cases Broken	Liquid Whole	Liquid Whites	Liquid Yolk	Dried	Ined
CW	1,215,577	30,278	11,109	6,047	2,358	4,205
PW	1,227,757	30,870	11,073	5,853	2,559	4,252
LY	1,243,214	30,911	11,716	6,095	2,651	4,185
% PW	-1%	-2%	0%	3%	-8%	-1%
% LY	-2%	-2%	-5%	-1%	-11%	0%
2008	9,869,311	246,646	88,901	47,748	21,003	34,234
2007	9,545,298	237,871	88,359	47,198	19,795	33,452
% YTD	3%	4%	1%	1%	6%	2%
				CW	PW	LY
Average Yield Per Case - (Inedible Included)				42.48	42.39	42.56
Average Yield Per Case - (Inedible Excluded)				39.02	38.93	39.19

IN LINE PRODUCTION (of total production; lbs. in thousands; may include a limited amount of off-line source material.)

	Cases Broken		Liquid Whole	
	Cases	% of Total	Lbs.	% of Total
CURRENT WEEK	616,385	50.7%	16,986	56.1%
PREVIOUS WEEK	613,336	50.0%	16,595	53.8%
LAST YEAR	576,025	46.3%	16,225	52.5%

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized whites and salted yolk were too few to report. Trade sentiment was firm all liquid products. Demand was very good for whole egg and whites and good for yolk. Offerings were tight to adequate for whole egg, tight to short of needs for whites, and unavailable for yolk. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to higher when compared to the past week's reported prices.

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

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	% FROM LW
WHOLE	39	94-103	99.13	5.69
WHITES	10	72-81.5	75.80	3.86
YOLKS		TFEWR		

FROZEN

CENTRAL REGION Frozen whole egg ranged 1 to 4 cents higher with whites unchanged to 1 cent higher. Sugared yolk ranged unchanged to 6 cents higher with salted yolk unchanged to 2 cents higher. Trade sentiment was firm for all frozen products. Demand was good for whole egg, whites, and sugared yolk, with salted yolk demand quiet. Offerings were tight to barely adequate for all products. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to higher when compared to the past week's reported prices.

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

	TRUCKLOTS	
	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	115-121	117-120
WHITES	88-95	88-90
SGRD YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	145-155	146-148
SLTD YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	140-144	140-142

EASTERN REGION Prices were higher on all products when compared to the last week's values. Trade sentiment was fully steady to mostly firm. Offerings remained barely sufficient to tight. Demand was reported in a full range of light to good. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 23-Feb-2008 decreased 7% compared to last week and was 10% less than the same week a year earlier.

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

	TRUCKLOTS		LTL
	RANGE	MOSTLY	(MIN. 25 CONT.)
WHOLE	114-121	115-119	117-125
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		
WHITES	84-95	88-90	91-97
SGRD YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	144-155	145-148	151-159
SLTD YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	140-143		145-155

(/) - Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 28-32% egg solids.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Frozen whole egg prices were 4 cents higher, with whites 3 cents higher. Sugared and salted yolk were 2 cents higher. Demand was fair with offerings adequate. Trade sentiment was firm for all frozen products.

Wholesale selling prices, FOB shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	TRUCKLOTS		LTL
	RANGE	MOSTLY	(MIN. 25 CONT.)
WHOLE	123-127		
WHITES	95-98		
SGRD YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	148-151		
SLTD YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	143-146		

NATIONAL DRIED Prices were higher albumen and whole, unchanged to higher on yolks and blends when compared to a week earlier. Offerings were limited for an irregular demand. Trade sentiment was firm on albumen, fully steady on whole and yolk, and steady on blends. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 23-Feb-2008 were 8% less than the previous week and 11% higher than a year ago. The total year to date production of dried eggs produced was 6% more than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in cont., Trucklot and LTL volumes.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	4.45-4.70	4.55-4.60
YOLKS	3.40-3.70	3.50-3.60
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	6.20-6.89	6.35-6.50
BLENDS (Whole plus sweetener)	3.35-3.50	3.35-3.40

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR FEB 22, 2008-FEB 28, 2008
CURRENT LOADS 77.25 **FUTURE LOADS** 43.50 **TOTAL LOADS** 120.75

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	128.17	133.83	129.40	130.64	129.50	130.25	37.00	GNR W 1	--	138.00	--	--	--	--	4.00
GNR BR 1	--	--	--	--	--	149.00	1.00	GNR BR 1	160.00	--	--	--	--	168.00	1.00
GL W J	144.00	--	--	--	141.42	--	4.00	GL W J	144.50	--	143.50	--	153.00	156.71	7.00
GL W XL	--	147.62	143.29	144.57	138.80	--	23.75	GL W XL	144.00	151.25	--	--	--	152.56	5.25
GL W LG	147.00	148.00	135.00	144.17	140.49	137.50	35.75	GL W LG	--	147.33	145.00	--	--	151.03	13.00
GL W MD	128.00	125.71	118.17	119.43	118.96	117.00	28.50	GL W MD	121.00	126.03	126.00	129.00	--	128.16	25.00
GL W SM	--	--	86.30	89.17	80.00	92.00	6.00	GL W SM	--	86.00	--	--	--	--	1.00
GL BR XL	--	--	--	--	183.67	--	.75								
GL BR LG	--	--	--	--	182.40	--	1.25								
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	116.00	115.92	18.00								

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. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

LIVE 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 Prices were unchanged when compared to the previous week. Demand was moderate to fairly good for the generally adequate offerings of light type hens. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	3-12	5-8

SOUTH CENTRAL Trading levels were TFEWR. Demand was moderate for at least adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were slow. Salvage costs were expected to remain constant.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL Prices unchanged. Demand was moderate to good, with offerings light to adequate. Schedules full time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-10.5	0-5

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	151.50	150.00	132.00
SOUTHEAST	152.50	150.50	132.00
MIDWEST	144.50	142.50	127.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	153.50	151.50	132.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	150.60	148.73	131.04

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Sales of both light and heavy canners were too few to report. Offerings were generally sufficient for current needs with most available supplies being used internally. Demand was moderate to at least moderate. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

WEEKLY U.S./CANADIAN LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER INSPECTION

Week ending 23-Feb-08

	U.S. fowl slaughtered domestically		
	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	-----Thousands-----		
Head	1,204	1,546	2,750
Last Week	1,315	1,576	2,891
Same week yr ago	1,142	1,427	2,569
To-date/2008	10,979	11,777	22,756
To-date/2007	8,735	10,902	19,637

	U.S. fowl slaughtered in Canada		
	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	-----Thousands-----		
Head	126	0	126
Last Week	281	0	281
Same week yr ago	189	0	189
To-date/2008	2,110	4	2,114
To-date/2007	1,625	14	1,639

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

	Total U.S. fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada		
	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	-----Thousands-----		
Head	1,330	1,546	2,876
Last Week	1,596	1,576	3,172
Same week yr ago	1,331	1,427	2,758
To-date/2008	13,089	11,781	24,870
To-date/2007	10,360	10,916	21,276

INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS-**U.S. & CANADA IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE****U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending February 16, 2008	Year-To-Date			
Type	2008	2007 /1	2008 /2	2007
Liquid	0	0	0	621
Frozen	0	0	0	3
Dried	0	0	40	80
Total	0	0	40	704

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

Week Ending February 16, 2008	Year-To-Date			
Type	2008	2007 /1	2008 /2	2007
Liquid	462	421	2,686	1,972
Frozen	1	0	133	66
Dried	0	0	0	36
Total	463	421	2,819	2,074

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

Week Ending February 16, 2008	Year-To-Date			
Type	2008	2007 /1	2008 /2	2007
Jumbo	0	0	0	0
Ex Large	510	0	1,020	390
Large	150	0	300	2,581
Medium	840	750	2,580	1,500
Ungraded	3,840	3,720	18,870	5,880
Misc	0	0	0	0
Total	5,340	4,470	22,770	10,351

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

/2 Includes revisions to previous week(s)

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Source: USDA AMS Poultry Programs, Market News & Analysis Branch

EGG PRODUCTS**Shell Eggs Broken Up 8 Percent from Last Year**

Shell eggs broken totaled 172 million dozen during January 2008, up 8 percent from January a year ago, and 8 percent above the 159 million broken last month.

January 2008 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. January 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Source: USDA/NASS

CHICKENS AND EGGS**January Egg Production Down Slightly**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.66 billion during January 2008, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.52 billion table eggs, and 1.14 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2008 averaged 345 million, down 1 percent from last year. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,220 eggs, up 1 percent from January 2007.

All layers in the U.S. on February 1, 2008 totaled 345 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 345 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.7 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.84 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2008, averaged 70.8 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from February 1, 2007.

Source: USDA/NASS

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT (Receipts From Producers)

W/E 23-FEB-2008	Cases	% Change From	
REGIONS	(In thousands)	LW	LY
North Atlantic	182.6	3	8
East North Central	604.7	-8	-3
West North Central	294.8	-2	6
South Atlantic	178.0	0	-10
South Central	55.2	-1	-19
West	191.2	1	-3
Total	1506.5	-3	-2
Matched plants reporting		81	81
Areas Covered:			
North Atlantic (ME, VT, MA, RI, CT, NH, NY, PA, NJ, MD, DE)			
East North Central (WI, IL, MI, OH, IN)			
West North Central (IA, MN, MO, KS, SD)			
South Atlantic (SC, NC, VA, GA, FL, KY)			
South Central (TN, AL, AR, MS, OK)			
West (CA, CO, WA, OR, UT)			

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 23-FEB-2008	CW		LW		% CHANGE	
Selected Consuming Centers	(Cases in Thousands)		LW	LY		
Atlanta	23.7	23.8	0	-22		
Boston	2.9	2.8	4	-9		
Chicago	59.9	68.4	-12	24		
Detroit	10.3	11.6	-11	0		
Los Angeles	124.6	92.3	35	19		
New Orleans	4.6	5.6	-18	-16		
New York	29.8	29.0	3	10		
St. Louis	47.4	43.2	10	54		
San Francisco	14.7	14.6	1	-18		
Total	317.9	291.3	9	21		
4 Week Moving Avg.	296.1					

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS -

Selected Centers (Inc. Gov't Stocks)		(In Thousands)		
		Frozen Eggs	Processed	
		Lbs	Turkeys	
			other Poultry	
		Lbs	Lbs	
AM	02/25/08	3,074	88,542	79,193
AM	02/01/08	3,210	70,926	85,345
CHG		-136	17616	-6152
PCT CHG		-4%	25%	-7%

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT FEB 26, 2008

Prices paid per doz. Grade A Brown eggs in cartons dlvr'd store door.

	Ex Large	Large	Med	Small
MAINE	217	213	181	117
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	208-212	204-208	174-178	110-114
MOSTLY	210-211	206-207	176-177	112-113
RHODE ISLAND	216-220	212-216	180-184	116-120
MOSTLY	216	212	180	116
VERMONT	217	213	181	-
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS & ANALYSIS BRANCH OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice (202)720-6911	Michael Sheats,	Des Moines, IA	Voice (515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax (202)720-2403	Chief		Fax (515)284-4468	Officer-in-Charge
				Recorded (515)284-4545	
Atlanta, GA	Voice (404)562-5850	Annie Terry,	Long Beach, CA	Voice (562)388-7337	Nettie Andry
	Fax (404)562-5875	Officer-in-Charge		Fax (562)432-8295	
				Recorded (213)534-1335	
Jackson, MS	Voice (601)965-4662	Gary Brown,			
	Fax (601)359-1175	Southern States Area Supervisor			