USDA

EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

ISSN 1520-6114

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 04, 2008
VOL. 59 NO. 49

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

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW

New York prices were unchanged on the larger sizes and 5 cents lower on medium. All regional prices were lower. Next week's regional asking prices were trending lower on mediums. The trade sentiment was in a full range steady to weak. Retail demand was mixed light to good, usually moderate to fairly good. Food service demand was mostly light to instances moderate. Supplies in the South Central and Western regions were adequate. Other regional supplies were adequate to available, with mediums in the longest position. Breaking stock prices, along with checks and undergrades, declined this week. Offerings were fully adequate for the quiet demand. Floor stocks were adequate to fully adequate. The trade sentiment was weak. North Central regional light hen removal costs were unchanged. Demand was light to mostly moderate with offerings adequate for most needs. Processing schedules were varied due to the holiday. The trade sentiment was steady.

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Producer prices were lower for medium. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was in a full range of steady to weak, steady to usually barely steady for the larger sizes and weak for medium. Cartoned egg sales were light to instances good. Loose egg movement was mostly light. Supplies were adequate to available with mediums in the longest position. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower. Demand was quiet for the fully adequate offerings. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate. Trade sentiment weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	104-113	107-110
LARGE	103-112	105-108
MEDIUM	81-90	83-86

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was at best steady on larger sizes, occasionally weak on mediums. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for buyer and seller needs. Eastern region breaking stock floor stock were adequate for mostly normal processing schedules. Spent hens were at best sufficient for the fair to mostly moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	111-125	114-118
LARGE	108-122	113-117
MEDIUM	82-95	87-89

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

COMBINED REGIONAL NOVEMBER 28, 2008

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	118.50	117.00	97.00
SOUTHEAST	120.50	118.50	96.00
MIDWEST	111.50	109.50	92.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	122.50	119.50	97.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	118.42	116.25	95.81

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN Prices paid to producers for loose eggs at farm, cases exchanged, grade yield basis, cents per dozen

	12-02-08	11-25-08	12-04-07
Large	85-95	88-98	125-134
Medium	63-67	69-73	114-118

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT

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

DECEMBER 01, 2008		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	5.2	16.8	8.1	9.1	16.5	55.7
	Change	0.4	-0.8	1.0	1.9	0.5	6%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	21.7	36.0	17.8	23.3	30.8	129.6
	Change	-2.4	-0.8	2.4	3.3	-3.0	0%
Large	Curr Wk	42.9	100.8	88.4	90.0	102.1	424.2
	Change	0.4	9.8	17.7	-1.9	-12.9	3%
Medium	Curr Wk	11.3	46.4	23.1	20.8	37.5	139.1
	Change	-3.5	2.6	1.0	-1.8	1.7	0%
Small	Curr Wk	1.2	7.9	1.6	2.9	5.9	19.5
	Change	-1.1	-1.5	0.3	0.7	0.5	-5%
Misc	Curr Wk	1.2	27.3	12.9	10.2	10.6	62.2
	Change	-0.5	2.5	1.3	-0.5	2.7	10%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	25.3	63.5	12.4	28.6	29.4	159.2
	Change	5.8	23.4	-0.9	6.6	6.3	35%
Total	Curr Wk	108.8	298.7	164.3	184.9	232.8	989.5
Percent	Change	-1%	13%	16%	5%	-2%	7%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	989.5	7%	151
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	257.4	17%	31
Total Shell Egg	1246.9	9%	182

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 151 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. This is a representative sample of the U.S. inventory and 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

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

W/E 29-NOV-2008 (Lbs In Thousands) (Excludes Ingredients)

Total	Cases Broken	Liquid Whole	Liquid White	Liquid Yolk	Dried	Inedible
CW	1,143,574	28,505	10,684	5,532	2,376	3,845
PW	1,305,503	32,875	11,511	6,052	2,669	4,296
LY	1,283,440	33,508	10,468	5,527	2,808	4,433
% Chg PWK	-12%	-13%	-7%	-9%	-11%	-11%
% Chg LY	-11%	-15%	2%	0%	-15%	-13%
2008	62,940,463	1,551,175	588,680	307,799	139,750	210,421
2007	61,041,521	1,528,607	552,939	296,543	119,731	207,625
% Chg YTD	3%	1%	6%	4%	17%	1%

Average Yield Per Case -	Current Week	Previous Week	Last Year
(Inedible Included)	42.47	41.93	42.02
(Inedible Excluded)	39.11	38.64	38.57

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

	CASES BROKEN		LIQUID WHOLE	
	Cases	% of Total	Lbs.	% of Total
CURRENT WEEK	632,139	55.3%	17,217	60.4%
PREVIOUS WEEK	627,126	48.0%	18,157	55.2%
LAST YEAR	650,338	50.7%	17,965	53.6%

BROILER HATCHERY

19 Selected States	Broiler Eggs Set NOV 22	Broiler Eggs Set NOV 29	Broiler Chicks Placed NOV 22	Broiler Chicks Placed NOV 29
STATE	Thousand			
AL	*29,439	29,322	*18,125	18,394
AR	24,943	24,550	*20,357	20,408
DE	3,370	3,274	3,919	4,682
FL	1,242	1,244	987	1,083
GA	*31,166	31,565	*23,818	24,084
KY	*7,725	7,892	*5,771	5,787
LA	3,307	3,419	3,257	2,939
MD	8,959	8,675	5,744	5,472
MS	17,400	17,851	13,611	15,893
NC	18,670	18,639	15,002	14,769
OK	*6,687	7,035	*4,444	4,499
PA	*4,232	4,003	*3,063	2,973
SC	5,443	5,817	*4,733	4,892
TX	15,300	15,281	11,094	12,980
VA	6,185	5,448	4,220	3,891
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*19,109	19,272	14,313	16,003
19 State Total	*203,177	203,287	*152,458	158,749
Previous Year Total	219,089	221,543	168,349	177,182
Pct. of Prev. Year	93	92	91	90

* Revised
Source: NASS, USDA

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 10-Jan-09 is estimated at 143.2 million head. This compares to 142.2 million head the previous week and to 154.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 170.2 million head and the composite weighted average price was 77.53 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES – WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 11/27/08 - 12/03/08

CURRENT LDS 95.25 **FUTURE LDS** 57.25 **TOTAL LDS** 152.50

	SE		NE		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	87.50	92.00	88.20	89.63	--	--	30.00
GNR BR 1	--	--	--	--	88.00	--	3.00
GL W J	--	--	106.80	108.00	89.11	--	3.25
GL W XL	--	101.70	97.20	99.19	84.65	--	25.75
GL W LG	104.00	99.50	83.00	92.80	82.56	--	48.00
GL W MD	77.00	71.28	65.00	66.33	59.41	--	33.00
GL W SM	--	--	62.00	65.00	--	--	1.00
GL BR J	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.00
GL BR XL	--	--	--	--	83.67	93.00	1.50
GL BR LG	--	--	--	--	80.71	93.00	2.25
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	68.25	69.00	17.00
NRBS - 42	--	--	--	58.00	--	--	1.00
NRBS - 39	--	--	56.00	57.00	57.00	--	4.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 29-NOV-08

Selected Consuming Centers	CW Cases, in thousands	PW Cases, in thousands	PCT PW	CHG LY
Atlanta	28.5	28.6	0	-6
Boston	2.8	2.9	-3	-7
Chicago	77.6	78.4	-1	-6
Detroit	8.5	8.0	6	-27
Los Angeles	101.7	123.5	-18	-8
New Orleans	5.5	5.8	-5	-11
New York	29.8	38.0	-22	27
St. Louis	67.2	68.4	-2	104
San Francisco	15.3	15.6	-2	6
Total	336.9	378.7	-11	13
4 Week Moving Avg.	336.5			

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 29-Nov-08

	YOUNG HENS	YOUNG TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD	TOTAL TURKEYS
Head	1,101	1,781	8	8	2,898
Avg Wt	16.60	39.72	27.35	27.53	30.87
Last week	2,205	2,899	19	7	5,130
Same wk yr ago	2,163	2,827	49	7	5,046
Avg Wt	16.23	38.74	26.71	28.30	28.96
To-date/2008	97,096	132,031	1,370	443	230,940
To-date/2007	95,891	127,400	1,180	250	224,721
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	14,621	56,593	166	167	71,547
Last week	29,547	87,990	351	183	118,071
Same wk yr ago	28,084	87,614	995	151	116,844
Dressing %	80.0%	80.0%	76.0%	76.0%	

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

W/E 29-Nov-08 (Preliminary)

	---Young turkeys--- Thousand Head	Pct chg PW	Avg Live wt	Old Banded -Thousand head-	Total	Turkeys Avg Live wt
North East	482	-46	25.77	(A)	484	25.77
South Atlantic	414	-44	36.58	(A)	416	36.58
North Central	1,564	-32	33.16	(A)	1,566	33.16
South Central	273	-65	18.07	(A)	274	18.07
West	157	-60	31.00	(A)	158	31.00
U.S. total	2,890 (B)	-44	30.87	8	2,898	30.87
To-date 2008	230,497 (B)			443	230,940	
To-date 2007	224,471 (B)			250	224,721	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turkeys included: this week 8,000; for the current year to date 1,370,000; for last year to date 1,180,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

(PRELIMINARY) W/E 29-NOV-2008	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	----------Thousands----------				
Head	116,875	832	1,104	1,936	332
Avg Wt	5.56	3.31	7.65	5.78	6.75
Last week	156,960	1,300	1,737	3,037	455
Same wk yr ago	169,092	1,228	1,418	2,646	500
Avg Wt	5.66	3.31	7.90	5.77	6.98
To-date/2008	7,816,299	65,116	78,032	143,148	21,026
To-date/2007	7,767,006	52,662	70,214	122,876	23,742
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	484,120	1,418	5,616	7,034	1,614
Last week	645,482	2,156	8,790	10,946	2,188
Same wk yr ago	713,010	2,093	7,449	9,542	2,513
	---	---	---	---	--
Dressing %	74.5%	51.5%	66.5%		72.0%

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 151.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 118.3 million head, or 33.6 million less than estimated available.
(B) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

	Week Ending	Million Head Slaughtered	Million Head Available	Pct	Avg Wt
Oct	25	165.3	160.2	103%	5.57
Nov	1	164.0	159.3	103%	5.41
	8	165.2	157.0	105%	5.59
	15	161.8	154.4	105%	5.51
	22	158.9	151.8	105%	5.52
	29	118.3	151.9	78%	5.56
Year to date		7911.4	7916.5	100%	
Dec	6		149.2		
	13		147.4		

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 06-DEC-08

	Current Week 12/06/08 (1)	Previous Week 11/29/08
Class	---------- Thousand head ---------	
Broiler/fryer	164,685 (2)	121,773
Light hens	1,485	848
Heavy hens	1,582	1,003
Total	167,752	123,624

(1)ESTIMATED
(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 06-Dec-08 is 149.2 million head compared to 171.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 165.0 million head or 15.8 million more than estimated available. For the week of 13-Dec-08 the estimated available is 147.4 million head.

FINAL BROILER/FRYER REPORT

Prices negotiated for truck-lot sales of RTC ice-packed broiler/fryers (includes branded product) to be delivered to first receivers at major market centers week of: 01-DECEMBER-2008

(cents per lb)	U.S. GRADE A MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	COMPOSITE WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	71.00-74.00	76.23	22	75.15	47
Los Angeles	95.00	93.12	50	91.17	138
New York	76.00-79.00	77.86	22	78.64	43

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

WEEKLY 01-DEC-2008	Change from 24-NOV-2008	24-NOV-2008	03-DEC-20077
82.36	.99	81.37	70.36
NUMBER OF LOADS	482		

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	79-82	82	82.00	80
CENTRAL REGION 4/	79-82	82	82.00	80
WESTERN REGION 5/	79-80	-	-	
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION	79	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	78	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	78	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F.
2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.
3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting.
4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting.
5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS –

Selected Centers (Inc. Gov't Stocks) (In Thousands)

		Frozen Eggs Lbs	Processed Turkeys Lbs	Processed other Poultry Lbs
AM	12/01/08	3,007	73,775	90,520
AM	11/01/08	3,142	111,299	91,669
CHG		-135	-37,524	-1,149
PCT CHG		-4%	-34%	-1%

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of October 31, 2008 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on December 1, 2008 are:

Frozen Eggs	20	MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
Processed Turkeys	379	MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
Processed Other Poultry	775	MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE

(7 pounds and up)* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 01-DEC-08

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
Southeast (1)	8.5-18.25	CENTS/LB.	11.11
Southeast (2)		TFEWR	
South Central (1)	7-14.5	CENTS/LB.	10.37

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading
*Weights under 7 lbs. subject to discount.

LIGHT TYPE – REMOVAL COSTS

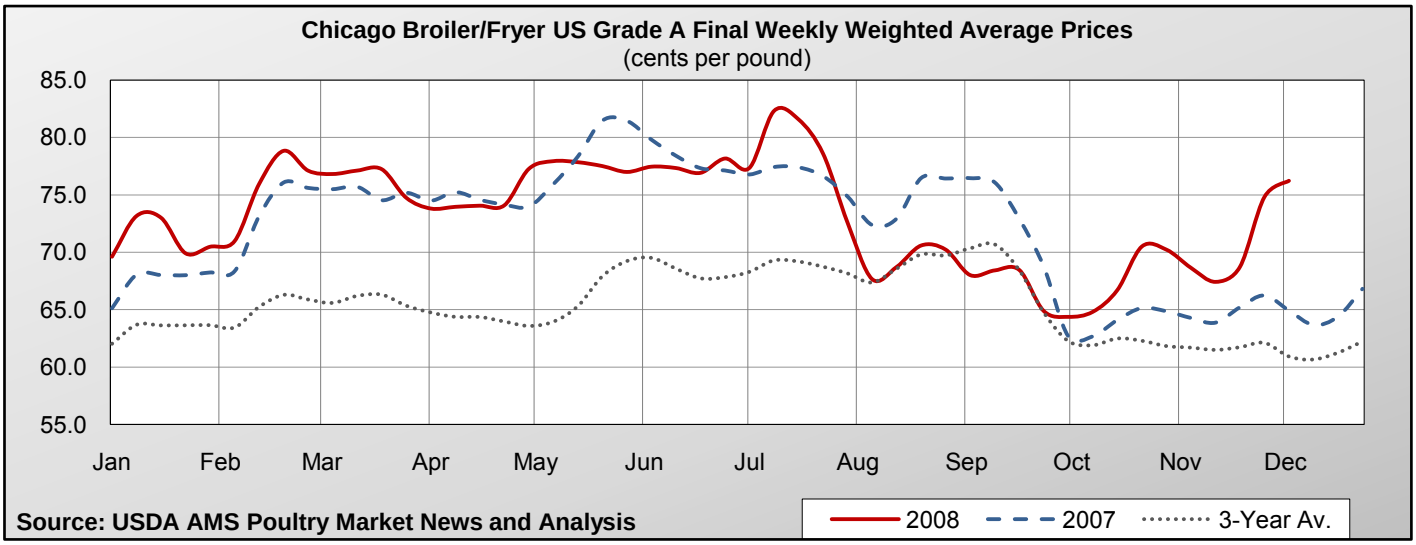
Cents per head, generally for removal within the next 10 days, (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds) 28-NOV-08

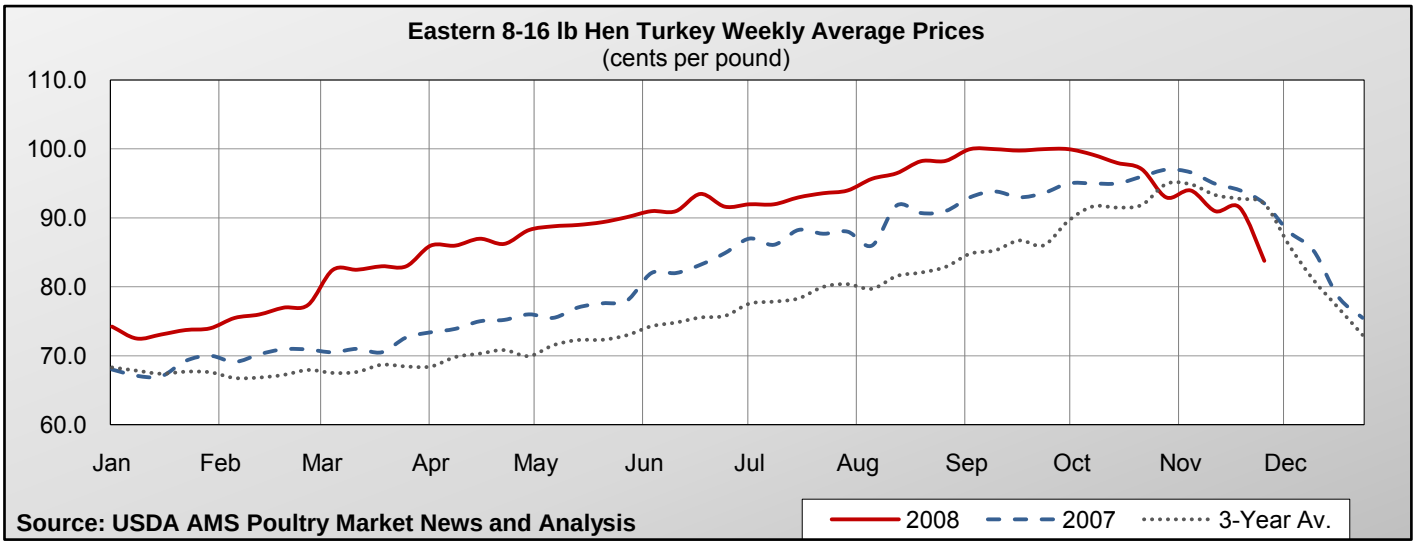
REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	3-12	4-8
South Central	Too Few To Report	
North Central	0-10.5	0-5

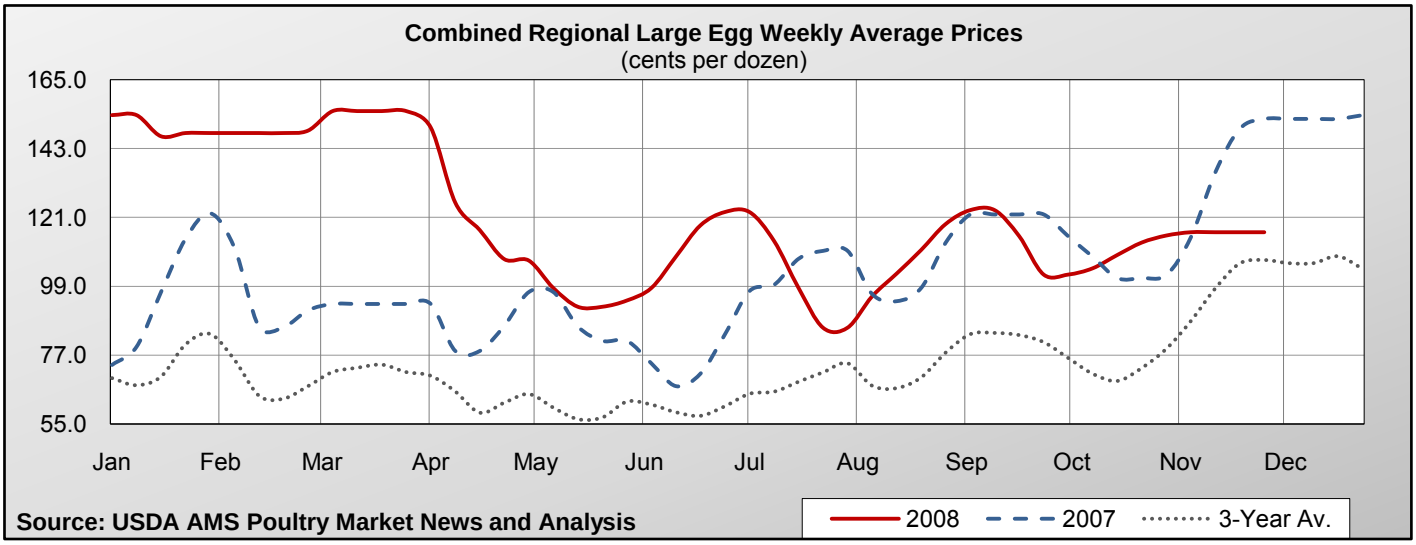
COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT (Receipts From Producers)

W/E 29-NOV-2008 REGIONS	Cases (In thousands)	% Change From LW	LY
North Atlantic	186.8	1	2
East North Central	631.3	-9	4
West North Central	295.8	-10	7
South Atlantic	192.3	-4	0
South Central	58.6	-2	2
West	207.6	-5	9
Total	1572.4	-6	4
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)


Chicago Broiler/Fryer US Grade A Final Weekly Weighted Average Prices
(cents per pound)
85.0
80.0
75.0
70.0
65.0
60.0
55.0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Source: USDA AMS Poultry Market News and Analysis
2008
2007
3-Year Av.


Eastern 8-16 lb Hen Turkey Weekly Average Prices
(cents per pound)
110.0
100.0
90.0
80.0
70.0
60.0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Source: USDA AMS Poultry Market News and Analysis
2008
2007
3-Year Av.


Combined Regional Large Egg Weekly Average Prices
(cents per dozen)
165.0
143.0
121.0
99.0
77.0
55.0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Source: USDA AMS Poultry Market News and Analysis
2008
2007
3-Year Av.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

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