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NATIONAL EGG REVIEW

Prices in New York were slightly higher this period. Early in the week, regional prices increased on all sizes. Next week's regional asking prices were trending higher. The trade sentiment was steady to firm, mostly fully steady to firm. Retail demand ranged moderate to very good. Food service movement was generally moderate. Supplies were closely balanced to tight. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower. Offerings were usually light to adequate for the quiet demand. Floor stocks were adequate to fully adequate. The trade sentiment was mostly steady. North Central regional light hen removal costs were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with demand light to mostly moderate. Processing schedules were full-time. The trade sentiment remained 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 Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were higher for large and medium. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was fully steady to instances firm. Cartoned egg sales were moderate to very good for last minute holiday orders. Loose egg movement was usually moderate. Supplies were closely balanced to tight for current needs. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was quiet for the light to adequate offerings. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate. Schedules were full-time to reduced. Trade sentiment mostly steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	109-118	112-115
LARGE	108-117	110-113
MEDIUM	77-86	79-82

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 fully steady to at times firm. Retail and distributive demand was moderate to good. Current supplies were closely balanced to tight for buyer and seller needs. Eastern region breaking stock floor stocks were adequate to fully sufficient for less than normal holiday schedules. Spent hen demand was fair to mostly moderate for usually adequate offerings.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	116-130	119-123
LARGE	113-127	118-122
MEDIUM	79-92	84-86

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

COMBINED REGIONAL **DECEMBER 19, 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	116.00	115.00	83.00
SOUTHEAST	117.50	115.50	82.00
MIDWEST	108.50	106.50	78.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	117.50	116.50	83.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	114.95	113.49	81.81

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

	12-23-08	12-16-08	12-26-07
Large	90-100	85-95	126-135
Medium	59-63	57-61	119-123

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT

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

DECEMBER 22, 2008		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	5.3	22.2	5.8	9.2	14.6	57.1
	Change	-2.2	2.3	-2.2	-1.0	-2.4	-9%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	17.3	26.7	10.5	21.9	30.8	107.2
	Change	-4.5	-8.5	-7.8	-1.7	-1.7	-18%
Large	Curr Wk	30.6	84.9	52.5	97.3	78.7	344.0
	Change	-15.9	-1.3	-30.8	2.2	-36.7	-19%
Medium	Curr Wk	11.9	35.5	16.2	21.1	30.9	115.6
	Change	-1.5	0.8	-4.0	-2.6	-1.1	-7%
Small	Curr Wk	2.1	5.3	2.1	2.2	5.8	17.5
	Change	0.1	-2.2	0.2	-0.8	2.1	-3%
Misc	Curr Wk	2.3	27.8	10.4	11.7	8.6	60.8
	Change	0.5	0.8	-2.6	0.8	0.3	0%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	7.0	23.8	8.8	18.1	22.8	80.5
	Change	-6.7	-22.5	1.1	-11.4	-1.9	-34%
Total	Curr Wk	76.5	226.2	106.3	181.5	192.2	782.7
Percent	Change	-28%	-12%	-30%	-7%	-18%	-17%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	782.7	-17%	151
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	204.1	-8%	31
Total Shell Egg	986.8	-15%	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 20-DEC-2008 (Lbs In Thousands) (Excludes Ingredients)

Total	Cases Broken	Liquid Whole	Liquid White	Liquid Yolk	Dried	Inedible
CW	1,205,081	30,599	10,559	5,383	2,696	3,891
PW	1,263,850	30,616	11,050	6,044	2,887	4,143
LY	1,237,519	31,310	10,900	6,100	2,304	4,335
% Chg PWK	-5%	0%	-4%	-11%	-7%	-6%
% Chg LY	-3%	-2%	-3%	-12%	17%	-10%
2008	66,674,877	1,644,348	621,967	325,179	148,277	222,668
2007	64,821,924	1,626,692	584,545	313,774	126,306	220,952
% Chg YTD	3%	1%	6%	4%	17%	1%

Average Yield Per Case	Current Week	Previous Week	Last Year
(Inedible Included)	41.85	41.03	42.54
(Inedible Excluded)	38.62	37.75	39.04

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	619,589	51.4%	17,936	58.6%
PREVIOUS WEEK	628,218	49.7%	17,074	55.8%
LAST YEAR	619,233	50.0%	16,883	53.9%

BROILER HATCHERY

19 Selected States STATE	Broiler Eggs Set DEC 13	Broiler Eggs Set DEC 20	Broiler Chicks Placed DEC 13	Broiler Chicks Placed DEC 20
	Thousand			
AL	29,448	28,707	20,849	19,913
AR	24,769	24,266	21,173	20,812
DE	3,274	3,294	4,305	5,086
FL	1,256	1,013	987	1,220
GA	*32,448	32,749	*26,559	27,123
KY	7,538	7,704	6,388	6,065
LA	*3,424	3,424	3,326	3,228
MD	8,512	8,911	6,094	5,138
MS	17,621	17,194	15,672	15,501
NC	19,008	18,739	15,274	15,737
OK	6,795	6,922	4,465	5,545
PA	*4,346	4,031	*3,218	3,355
SC	5,570	5,485	4,818	5,058
TX	*15,265	15,286	12,922	12,990
VA	6,149	5,964	5,225	4,952
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*19,007	19,647	*16,624	16,622
19 State Total	*204,430	203,336	*167,899	168,345
Previous Year Total	217,613	218,612	178,626	179,381
Pct. of Prev. Year	94	93	94	94

* 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 31-Jan-09 is estimated at 154.8 million head. This compares to 153.8 million head the previous week and to 149.2 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 168.1 million head and the composite weighted average price was 74.20 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES – WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/17/08 - 12/23/08

CURRENT LDS 88.75 **FUTURE LDS** 81.25 **TOTAL LDS** 170.00

	SE		NE		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W XL	--	96.50	--	--	--	--	4.00
GNR W 1	90.75	96.17	94.83	93.38	72.00	86.60	103.00
GNR W 2	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.00
GL W J	--	--	115.00	116.00	96.64	--	9.25
GL W XL	--	108.58	104.64	108.70	98.83	105.38	26.25
GL W LG	--	103.50	106.17	106.06	91.16	105.50	46.25
GL W MD	77.33	84.44	71.67	67.00	62.21	--	11.25
GL W SM	--	61.00	--	--	56.00	--	.50
GL BR MD	--	--	--	--	63.00	--	1.00
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	49.00	53.17	3.00
NRBS - 42	--	--	--	--	--	35.00	1.00
NRBS - 39	--	--	--	--	--	33.00	1.00
NRBS - 36	--	--	--	--	--	29.00	1.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 19-Dec-08

Selected Consuming Centers	CW Cases, in thousands	PW Cases, in thousands	PCT PW	CHG LY
Atlanta	31.0	25.2	23	-23
Boston	3.0	2.9	3	-9
Chicago	66.6	65.6	2	-27
Detroit	9.6	8.1	19	-25
Los Angeles	100.5	97.6	3	12
New Orleans	5.0	5.6	-11	-31
New York	40.2	33.3	21	14
St. Louis	80.6	72.4	11	73
San Francisco	15.5	15.2	2	1
Total	352.0	325.9	8	11
4 Week Moving Avg.	338.4			

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 20-Dec-08

	YOUNG HENS	YOUNG TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD	TOTAL TURKEYS
Head	2,280	2,694	20	15	5,009
Avg Wt	16.53	40.89	28.75	30.12	29.72
Last week	2,351	2,763	25	3	5,142
Same wk yr ago	1,929	2,412	3	22	4,366
Avg Wt	16.12	39.71	28.10	26.38	29.17
To-date/2008	103,826	140,420	1,441	481	246,168
To-date/2007	102,049	135,495	1,244	286	239,074
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	30,151	88,126	437	343	119,057
Last week	31,146	90,892	557	149	122,744
Same wk yr ago	24,876	76,624	64	441	102,005
Dressing %	80.0%	80.0%	76.0%	76.0%	

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

W/E 20-Dec-08 (Preliminary)

	---Young turkeys--- Thousand Head	Pct chg PW	Avg Live wt	Old Banded -Thousand head-	Total	Turkeys Avg Live wt
North East	785	-1	23.99	(A)	788	23.99
South Atlantic	752	-3	37.42	(A)	755	37.42
North Central	2,075	-2	34.99	(A)	2,078	34.99
South Central	945	-3	19.60	(A)	948	19.60
West	437	-9	23.15	(A)	440	23.15
U.S. total	4,994(B)	-3	29.72	15	5,009	29.72
To-date 2008	245,687 (B)			481	246,168	
To-date 2007	238,788 (B)			286	239,074	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turkeys included: this week 20,000; for the current year to date 1,441,000; for last year to date 1,244,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

(PRELIMINARY) W/E 20-DEC-2008	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	----------Thousands----------				
Head	153,795	1,380	1,411	2,791	435
Avg Wt	5.48	3.20	7.71	5.48	6.65
Last week	158,061	1,350	1,460	2,810	440
Same wk yr ago	174,400	1,475	1,570	3,045	511
Avg Wt	5.45	3.34	7.91	5.70	6.73
To-date/2008	8,288,513	69,213	82,476	151,689	22,379
To-date/2007	8,279,134	56,984	74,813	131,797	25,242
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	627,883	2,274	7,234	9,508	2,083
Last week	641,767	2,246	7,427	9,673	2,119
Same wk yr ago	708,108	2,537	8,258	10,795	2,476
	---	---	---	---	--
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 147.8 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 155.7 million head, or 7.9 million more 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
Nov	15	161.8	154.4	105%	5.51
	22	158.9	151.8	105%	5.52
	29	118.3	151.9	78%	5.56
Dec	6	162.3	149.2	109%	5.59
	13	160.0	147.4	109%	5.45
	20	155.7	147.8	105%	5.48
Year to date		8389.4	8360.9	100%	
Dec	27		146.6		
Jan	3		145.5		

*Based on chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 27-DEC-08

Class	Current Week 12/27/08 (1)	Previous Week 12/20/08
	---------- Thousand head ---------	
Broiler/fryer	122,413 (2)	158,193
Light hens	1,052	1,513
Heavy hens	730	1,305
Total	124,195	161,011

(1)ESTIMATED
(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Dec-08 is 146.6 million head compared to 124.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 122.7 million head or 23.9 million less than estimated available. For the week of 03-Jan-09 the estimated available is 145.5 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: 22-DECEMBER-2008

(cents per lb)	U.S. GRADE A MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS		COMPOSITE WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	71.00-74.00	75.21	19	:	74.46	46
Los Angeles	95.00	93.65	65	:	89.58	166
New York	76.00-79.00	77.64	22	:	78.12	43

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

WEEKLY 22-DEC-2008	Change from 15-DEC-2008	15-DEC-2008	24-DEC-2007
81.59	-.25	81.84	72.35
NUMBER OF LOADS	505		

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/	69-75	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	69-75	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	73.5-75	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION	69-74	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	69-74	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	73.5-74	-	-	-

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 12/22/08	3,128	75,524	87,897
AM 12/01/08	3,007	73,775	90,520
CHG	121	1749	-2623
PCT CHG	4%	2%	-3%

LIVE HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE

(7 pounds and up)* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 22-DEC-08

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
Southeast (1)	8.75-19 CENTS/LB.		11.54
Southeast (2)	TFEWR		
South Central (1)	7-14.75 CENTS/LB.		10.58

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

LIGHT TYPE – REMOVAL COSTS

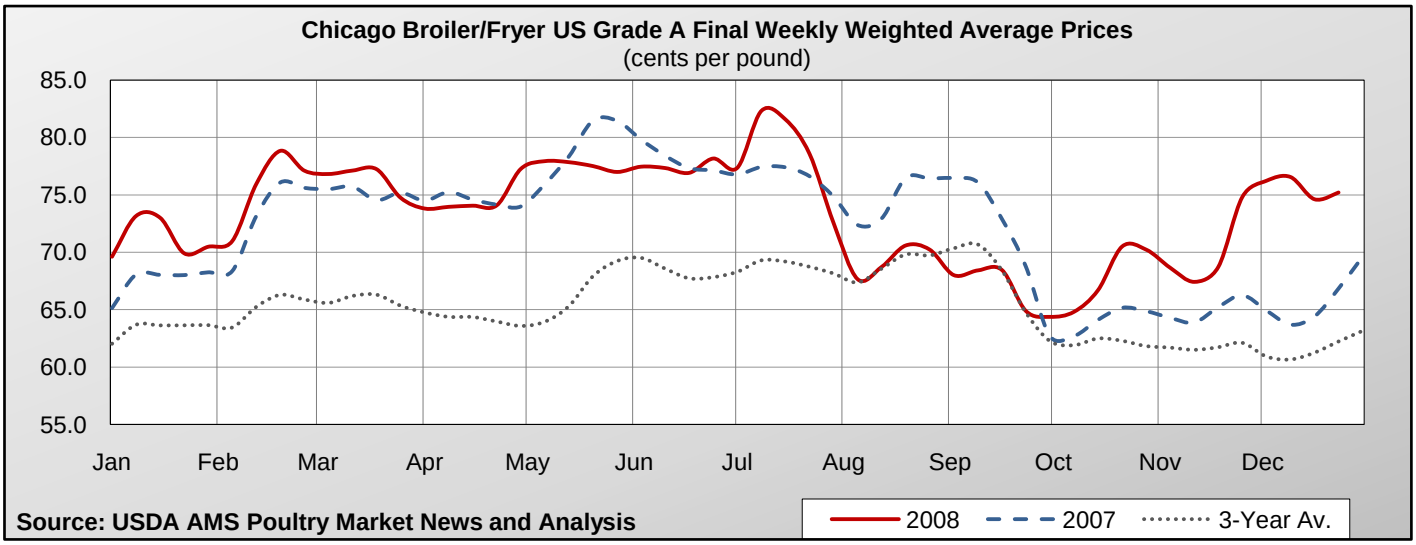
Cents per head, generally for removal within the next 10 days, (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds) 24-DEC-08

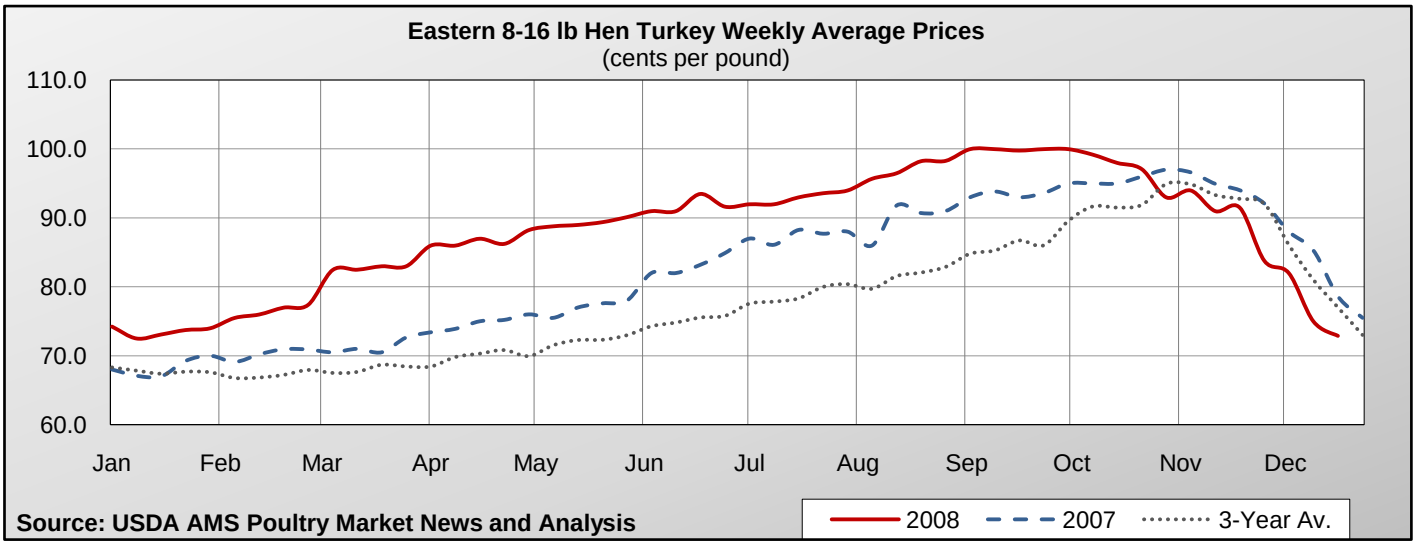
REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	3-12	4-8
South Central	Too Few To Report	
North Central	0-10.5	0-5

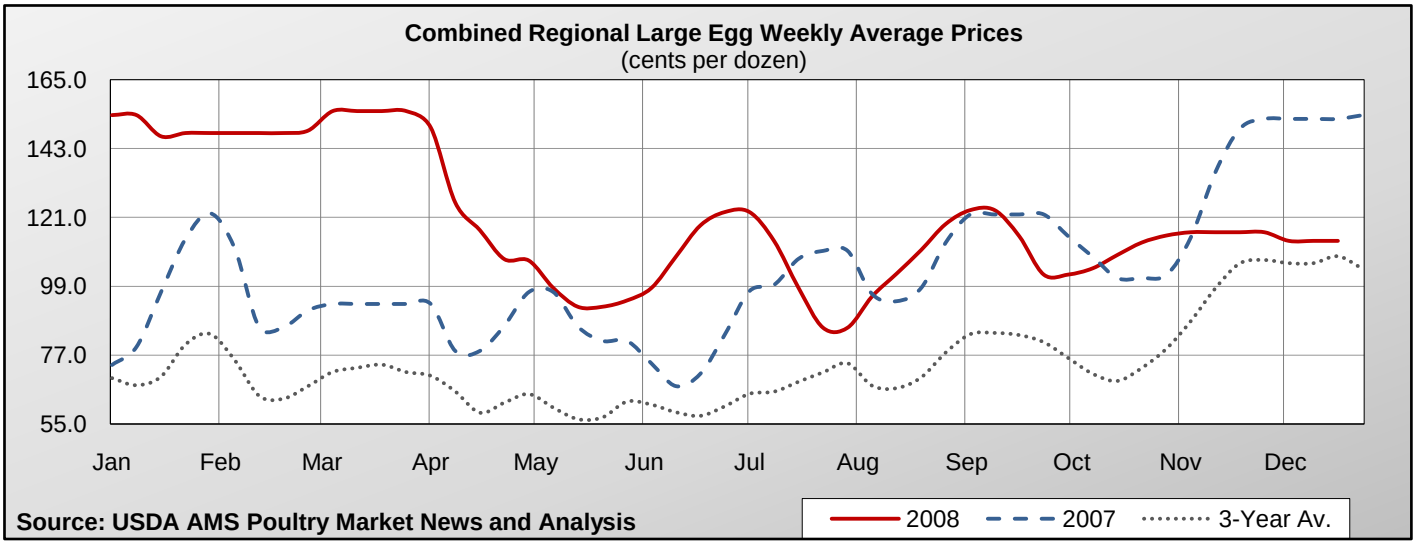
COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT (Receipts From Producers)

W/E 20-DEC-2008 REGIONS	Cases (In thousands)	% Change From LW	LY
North Atlantic	195.9	2	1
East North Central	695.9	-1	9
West North Central	334.5	1	16
South Atlantic	189.1	1	-1
South Central	60.1	11	2
West	209.4	2	4
Total	1684.9	1	7
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