EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

ISSN 1520-6114

THURSDAY
MARCH 26, 2009
VOL. 60 NO. 12

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

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW

In New York prices increased for extra large and large, mediums remained unchanged. Regional prices increased on the larger sizes. Next week's asking prices were trending higher on the heavier weights and unchanged for the lighter weights. The trade sentiment was firm on the larger sizes and steady on the smaller sizes. Retail demand ranged moderate to very good. Food service demand was light to moderate. Supplies were tight to adequate for the larger sizes and confidently held while the lighter weights were adequate to available. Breaking stock prices, along with checks and undergrades, were higher. Demand was light to moderate with offerings limited to barely adequate. Processing schedules were full-time. The trade sentiment was mostly steady. North Central regional light hen removal costs were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate with offerings adequate. Processing schedules were normal to reduced. 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 2 cents higher for the larger sizes. Other reported prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was firm for the larger sizes and steady for medium and small. Cartoned egg demand was fairly good to very good. Loose egg movement was light. Supplies of the larger sizes were barely adequate to close while the lighter weight eggs were adequate to available. Central states breaking stock prices were higher. Offerings were light to barely adequate for the light to moderate demand. Schedules were full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	87-96	90-93
LARGE	86-95	88-91
MEDIUM	71-80	73-76

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 firm on larger sizes, steady on mediums. Retail and distributive demand was mixed in a range of fair to fairly good, better where limited features were in place. Supplies were close balanced to instances tight on larger sizes, adequate to fully adequate on the balance. Eastern region breaking stock offerings were barely adequate for a light to fair demand. Spent hen offerings were sufficient for normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	92-106	95-99
LARGE	89-103	94-98
MEDIUM	74-87	79-81

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

COMBINED REGIONAL MARCH 20, 2009

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	90.00	89.00	80.00
SOUTHEAST	92.50	90.50	81.00
MIDWEST	84.50	82.50	74.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	93.50	92.50	81.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	90.25	88.78	79.32

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

	03-24-09	03-17-09	03-25-08
Large	69-79	61-72	128-137
Medium	53-57	53-57	109-113

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT

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

MARCH 23, 2009		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	11.7	20.8	10.3	9.2	20.8	72.8
	Change	1.0	1.4	1.3	-1.3	2.8	8%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	29.0	34.5	11.3	25.8	49.3	149.9
	Change	0.2	2.1	-1.4	-2.1	1.6	0%
Large	Curr Wk	58.5	134.1	91.2	116.9	166.4	567.1
	Change	8.0	11.7	14.3	-5.0	44.9	15%
Medium	Curr Wk	13.3	44.6	20.1	16.5	44.7	139.2
	Change	-4.8	-4.3	-0.1	-3.0	7.7	-3%
Small	Curr Wk	5.4	9.6	2.0	3.6	3.1	23.7
	Change	-0.2	-0.9	1.2	1.7	-1.4	2%
Misc	Curr Wk	2.5	25.5	7.3	10.7	6.7	52.7
	Change	1.3	-3.7	-1.3	-6.3	-1.4	-18%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	15.5	46.0	10.3	24.7	29.7	126.2
	Change	6.2	-4.3	0.8	10.4	2.0	14%
Total	Curr Wk	135.9	315.1	152.5	207.4	320.7	1131.6
Percent	Change	9%	1%	11%	-3%	21%	8%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1131.6	8%	149
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	233.1	-5%	31
Total Shell Egg	1364.7	5%	180

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 149 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 21-MAR-2009 (Lbs In Thousands) (Excludes Ingredients)

Total	Cases Broken	Liquid Whole	Liquid White	Liquid Yolk	Dried	Inedible
CW	1,243,197	31,481	11,411	5,644	2,337	4,254
PW	1,219,470	30,907	10,995	5,562	2,062	4,055
LY	1,232,354	30,407	11,383	6,097	2,409	4,364
% Chg PWK	2%	2%	4%	1%	13%	5%
% Chg LY	1%	4%	0%	-7%	-3%	-3%
2009*	13,655,368	337,553	127,768	65,040	28,987	46,760
2008*	13,576,095	339,385	122,743	65,590	27,651	47,182
% Chg YTD	1%	-1%	4%	-1%	5%	-1%

Average Yield Per Case -	Current Week	Previous Week	Last Year
(Inedible Included)	42.46	42.25	42.40
(Inedible Excluded)	39.04	38.92	38.86

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	644,774	51.9%	18,009	57.2%
PREVIOUS WEEK	643,344	52.8%	17,974	58.2%
LAST YEAR	633,773	51.4%	17,216	56.6%

Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

BROILER HATCHERY

19 Selected States STATE	Broiler Eggs Set MAR 14	Broiler Eggs Set MAR 21	Broiler Chicks Placed MAR 14	Broiler Chicks Placed MAR 21
	Thousand			
AL	28,575	29,734	*19,791	19,798
AR	23,551	22,783	22,082	22,095
DE	3,525	3,454	4,517	5,014
FL	987	970	724	704
GA	*31,779	30,699	27,577	28,238
KY	7,452	7,780	6,129	6,732
LA	2,230	2,230	3,196	3,465
MD	9,204	8,572	*6,158	6,640
MS	18,129	17,779	16,793	16,762
NC	19,218	18,967	15,048	15,383
OK	6,752	6,649	4,282	3,999
PA	*4,057	4,032	*3,250	3,242
SC	5,941	5,805	4,659	4,602
TX	15,417	14,864	13,285	13,287
VA	*5,969	5,989	*4,873	4,308
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*19,242	19,211	*16,942	16,784
19 State Total	*202,028	199,518	*169,306	171,053
Previous Year Total	219,153	215,850	180,426	181,091
Pct. of Prev. Year	92	92	94	94

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 02-May-09 is estimated at 156.7 million head. This compares to 155.1 million head the previous week and to 170.1 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 170.7 million head and the composite weighted average price was 80.57 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES – WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 03/19/09 – 03/25/09

CURRENT LDS 79.25 **FUTURE LDS** 70.25 **TOTAL LDS** 149.50

	SE		NE		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	67.50	74.63	70.20	71.91	--	--	56.00
GL W J	--	--	92.00	93.50	84.29	--	6.75
GL W XL	--	87.93	85.70	88.81	85.12	--	26.50
GL W LG	97.25	87.63	93.38	86.14	85.01	--	76.50
GL W MD	76.00	75.00	64.00	66.90	62.00	63.67	15.75
GL W SM	43.50	46.50	46.50	48.00	37.00	--	4.00
GL BR J	--	--	--	--	82.25	--	.50
GL BR LG	--	--	66.00	69.00	--	--	1.00
NRBS - 50	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.00
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	52.50	52.50	3.75
NRBS - 39	--	--	--	--	44.00	--	1.00
NRBS - 36	--	--	33.71	37.41	35.00	--	2.75

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 21-Mar-09

Selected Consuming Centers	CW Cases, in thousands	PW Cases, in thousands	% CHANGE LW	% CHANGE LY
Atlanta	21.9	24.6	-11	-36
Boston	2.7	2.7	0	-25
Chicago	65.5	67.7	-3	-37
Los Angeles	58.0	65.7	-12	-44
New Orleans	5.2	5.6	-7	-19
New York	34.5	34.1	1	0
St. Louis	80.1	83.6	-4	59
San Francisco	18.9	21.8	-13	23
Total	286.8	305.8	-6	-19
4 Week Moving Avg.	297.4			

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 21-Mar-09

	YOUNG HENS	YOUNG TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD	TOTAL TURKEYS
Head	1,739	2,678	33	5	4,455
Avg Wt	16.66	38.05	23.94	44.15	29.60
Last week	1,743	2,672	27	3	4,445
Same wk yr ago	1,809	2,547	11	3	4,370
Avg Wt	16.38	38.05	24.13	42.34	29.05
To-date/2009*	20,645	28,978	274	78	49,975
To-date/2008*	21,022	30,720	181	107	52,030
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	23,179	81,511	604	169	105,463
Last week	24,887	82,005	539	92	107,523
Same wk yr ago	23,705	77,531	203	97	101,536
To-date/2009*	277,402	908,539	5,523	1,895	1,193,359
To-date/2008*	271,585	965,361	3,541	2,377	1,242,864
Dressing %	80.0%	80.0%	76.5%	76.5%	

*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

W/E 21-Mar-09 (Preliminary)

	---Young turkeys--- Thousand Head	Pct chg PW	Avg Live wt	Old Breeders -Thousand head-	Total	Turkeys Avg Live wt
North East	665	2	25.50	(A)	665	25.50
South Atlantic	857	15	33.35	(A)	859	33.35
North Central	1,879	-5	34.16	(A)	1,880	34.16
South Central	719	-6	19.00	(A)	721	19.00
West	330	9	25.05	(A)	330	25.05
U.S. total	4,450 (B)	0	29.60	5	4,455	29.60
To-date 2009*	49,897 (B)			78	49,975	
To-date 2008*	51,923 (B)			107	52,030	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turkeys included: this week 33,000; for the current year to date* 274,000; for last year to date* 181,000.
*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

(PRELIMINARY) W/E 21-MAR-2009	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	----------Thousands----------				
Head	154,153	1,152	1,497	2,649	405
Avg Wt	5.37	3.22	7.61	5.70	6.73
Last week	153,780	1,244	1,457	2,701	433
Same wk yr ago	160,412	1,389	1,392	2,781	432
Avg Wt	5.45	3.24	7.89	5.57	6.74
To-date/2009*	1,704,774	13,622	16,582	30,204	4,533
To-date/2008*	1,815,864	15,113	16,620	31,733	5,036
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	616,712	1,873	7,576	9,449	1,962
Last week	619,803	2,023	7,499	9,522	2,079
Same wk yr ago	651,313	2,273	7,304	9,577	2,096
To-date/2009*	6,965,775	22,653	86,028	108,681	21,693
To-date/2008*	7,436,804	25,037	88,207	113,244	24,319
Dressing %	74.5%	50.5%	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 157.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 156.0 million head, or 1.5 million less than estimated available.
(B) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.
*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

	Week Ending	Million Head Slaughtered	Million Head Available*	Pct	Avg Wt
Feb	14	156.4	157.6	99%	5.48
	21	156.7	158.5	99%	5.48
	28	156.9	158.1	99%	5.52
Mar	7	155.3	157.6	99%	5.53
	14	155.6	157.1	99%	5.41
	21	156.0	157.5	99%	5.37
Year to date		1725.4	1719.5	100%	
Mar	28		157.7		
Apr	4		155.5		

*Based on chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER of U.S. BROILER/FRYERS AND FOWL
UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 28-Mar-09

Class	**Current Week** 03/28/09 (1)	**Previous Week** 03/21/09
	---------- Thousand head ---------	
Broiler/fryer	158,873 (2)	153,932
Light hens	1,311	1,242
Heavy hens	1,498	1,447
Total	161,682	156,621

(1) Estimated
(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 28-Mar-09 is 157.7 million head compared to162.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 159.2 million head or1.5 million more than estimated available. For the week of 04-Apr-09 the estimated available is 155.5 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS –
Selected Centers (Inc. Gov't Stocks) (In Thousands)

	Frozen Eggs Lbs	Proc. Turkeys Lbs	Proc. other Poultry Lbs
AM 03/23/09	3,268	129,248	76,468
AM 03/01/09	3,120	116,137	77,989
CHG	148	13111	-1521
PCT CHG	5%	11%	-2%

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

WEEKLY 23-MAR-2009	Change from 16-MAR-2009	16-MAR-2009	24-MAR-2008
76.67	1.15	75.52	78.16
NUMBER OF LOADS	513		

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/	74-77	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	74-76	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	74-77	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	74-77	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	74-76	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	74-77	-	-	-

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% broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6% broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6% broth basting

LIVE HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE (7 pounds and up)* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 23-MAR-09

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
Southeast (1)	8-18.25 CENTS/LB.		11. 42
Southeast (2)		TFEWR	
South Central (1)	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

(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) 20-MAR-09

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	2-11	3-7
South Central	Too Few To Report	
North Central	0-10.5	0-5

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT (Receipts From Producers)

W/E 21-MAR-2009 REGIONS	Cases (In thousands)	% Change From LW	LY
North Atlantic	189.9	2	2
East North Central	662.2	2	0
West North Central	301.4	-1	-9
South Atlantic	186.6	5	2
South Central	52.4	-6	-8
West	159.4	-7	-25
Total	1551.9	0	-5
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)

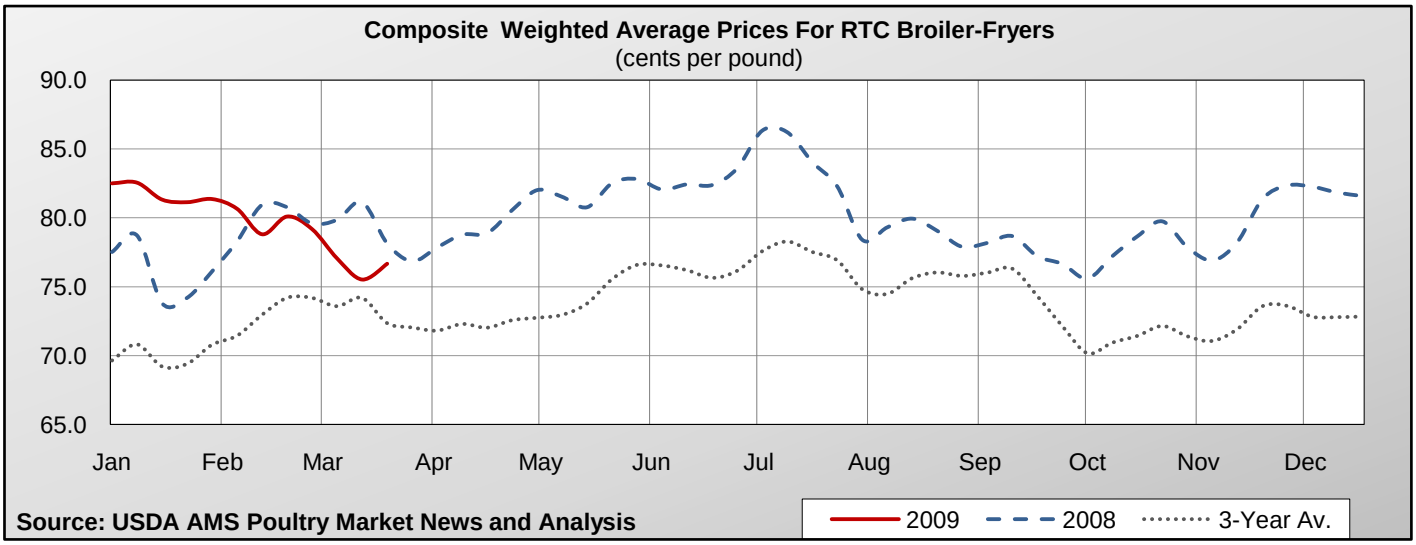
FINAL BROILER/FRYER REPORT
Prices negotiated for truck-lot sales of RTC ice-packed broiler/fryers (includes branded product) to be delivered to first receivers at major market centers week of: 23-MAR-2009 (cents per lb)

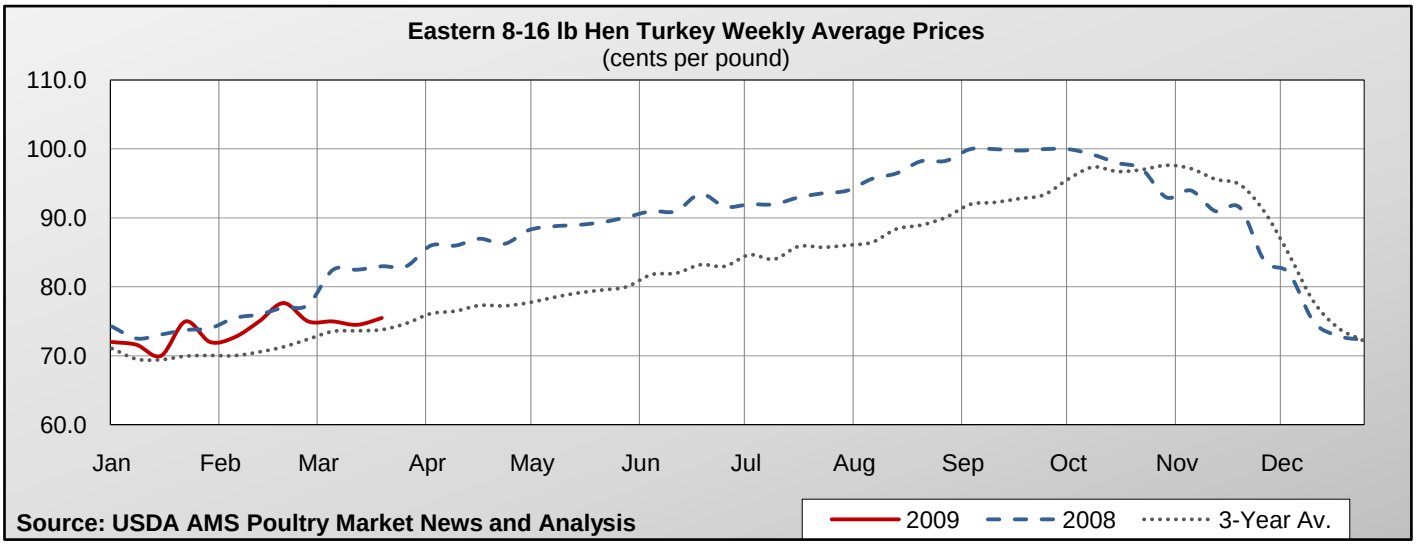
	Grade A Maj	Wtd Avg	Lds	:	Composite Wtd Avg	Lds
Delivered to First Receivers 1/:						
Los Angeles	94.00	92.16	56	:	86.37	156
New York	70.00-73.00	71.43	21	:	74.35	47

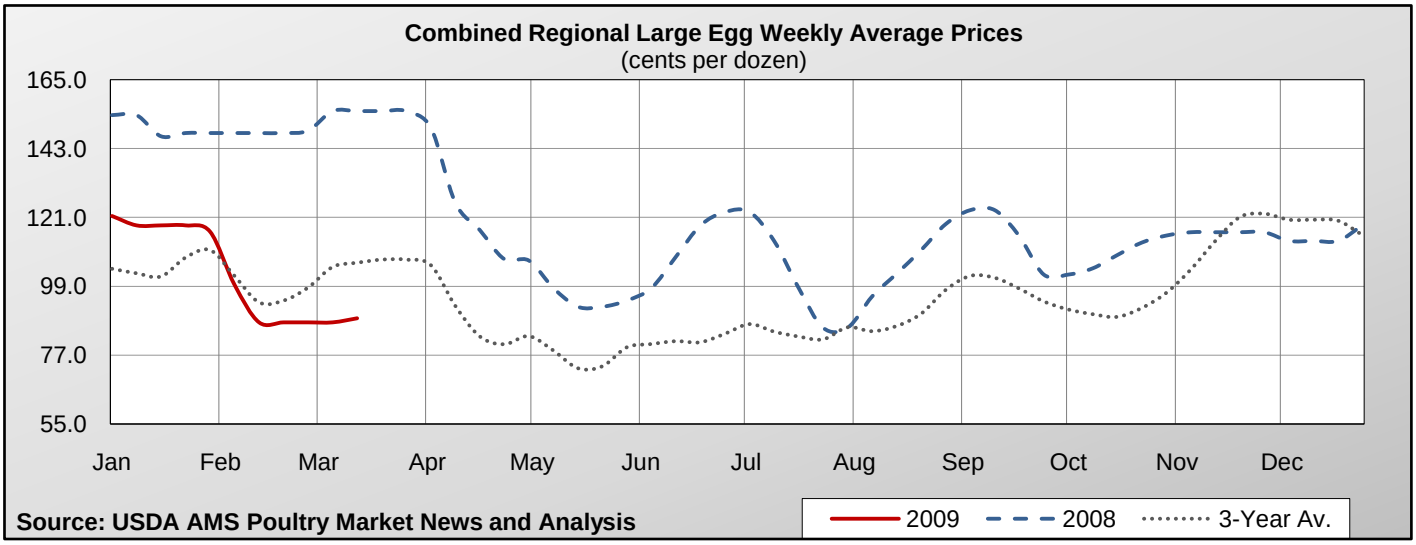
Delivered to First Receivers 1/:

	Whole Body 2/: Maj	Wtd Avg	Lds	:	Composite Wtd Avg	Lds
Chicago	56.00-68.00			:	62.58	52

1/: Includes branded product.
2/: Whole Body category includes whole body birds with or without giblets, all grades, brands, and packaging.


Composite Weighted Average Prices For RTC Broiler-Fryers
(cents per pound)
90.0
85.0
80.0
75.0
70.0
65.0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Source: USDA AMS Poultry Market News and Analysis
2009
2008
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
2009
2008
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
2009
2008
3-Year Av.

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

Washington, DC Michael Sheats, Chief	Voice…….	(202)	720-6911
	Fax…….	(202)	720-2403
Atlanta, GA Annie Terry, Officer-in-Charge	Voice…….	(404)	562-5850
	Fax ……	(404)	562-5875
	Recorded……..	(404)	562-5856
Jackson, MS Gary Brown, Southern States Area Supervisor	Voice……..	(601)	965-4662
	Fax…….	(601)	965-4661
Des Moines, IA Mary L. Adkins, Officer-in-Charge	Voice……..	(515)	284-4471
	Fax…….	(515)	284-4468
	Recorded……..	(515)	284-4545
Los Angeles, CA Nettie Andry	Voice……..	(562)	388-7337
	Fax…….	(562)	432-8295
	Recorded……..	(213)	534-1335