



EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

FRIDAY
MARCH 01, 2013
VOL. 60 NO. 17

U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Livestock, Poultry & Seed Programs Market News

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

New York prices are 1 cent higher on larger sizes and Mediums. Regional prices are steady. Asking prices for next week's deliveries are trending higher, steady to higher in the Southeast and Western regions. The undertone is steady to firm. Retail and food service demand is moderate to at times good. Offerings are light to moderate and held with confidence. Supplies are in full range, mostly moderate for trade needs. Market activity is moderate, while slow to moderate in the Western region. Breaking stock demand is light to moderate; offerings are usually light to moderate. Spent hen offerings are at least sufficient for normal processing schedules.



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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Midwest delivered asking prices for next week are 1 cent higher for all reported sizes. Daily producer prices are 1 cent higher for Large and Medium. The undertone is firm. Demand is moderate to fairly good. Offerings are light and held with confidence. Supplies are moderate. Market activity is moderate. Breaking stock prices are steady to higher. The undertone is steady to fully steady. Demand is moderate on light to moderate offerings. Supplies are moderate to instances heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	RANGE	MOSTLY
Extra Large	93-102	96-99
Large	92-101	94-97
Medium	74-83	76-79
Prices delivered to store door:	RANGE	MOSTLY
Extra Large	100-108	101-103
Large	98-106	99-101
Medium	80-88	81-83

Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin Eggs

Prices paid to producers, cents per dozen:	RANGE	MOSTLY
Large	75-85	79
Medium	57-61	59
Small	42-48	

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

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices are steady with a fully steady undertone. Next week's asking prices are 1 cent higher for Extra Large, Large, and Medium. Demand is reported as moderate to fairly good. Offerings are light, while supplies are light to moderate. Market activity is moderate. Breaking stock prices are steady to higher. The undertone is steady to fully steady. Offerings are light to moderate on moderate demand. Supplies are moderate to instances heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	RANGE	MOSTLY
Extra Large	106.5-115	108-111
Large	102.5-111	104-107
Medium	78.5-87	80-83

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

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices are steady. The undertone is firm. Asking prices for next week's deliveries are trending steady to higher. Demand into the retail and distributive channels is moderate to fairly good. Offerings are light to moderate and held with confidence. Market activity is moderate. Eastern region breaking stock offerings are light for the light demand. Light type hen offerings are at least sufficient; demand is light to moderate.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	RANGE	MOSTLY
Extra Large	103.5-123	105-108
Large	102-119	103-106
Medium	79.5-97	80-84

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices are steady. Asking prices for next week's deliveries are trending higher on Medium and larger sizes. The undertone is firm. Supplies are mostly moderate. Offerings are light and continued held with increased confidence. Retail demand is usually moderate. Distributive demand is moderate. Market activity is moderate. Eastern region breaking stock offerings and demand are light. Light hen offerings are at least sufficient for normal to less than normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
Extra Large	101-117	103-106
Large	95-109	100-104
Medium	80-93	85-87

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

NEW YORK EGGS Prices are 1 cent higher on Medium and larger sizes. The undertone is fully steady to firm. Supplies are moderate and offerings are light. Retail demand is mixed, but mostly moderate. Distributive demand is moderate. Market activity is moderate.

	RANGE
Extra Large	111-115
Large	109-113
Medium	94-98

WESTERN REGIONAL Prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are unchanged on Jumbo, 1 cent higher for Extra Large, 2 cents higher for Large and 1 cent higher for Medium and Small. Trade sentiment is steady to fully steady. Demand is moderate to good on moderate offerings. Supplies are moderate to heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate.

CALIFORNIA Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are unchanged for Jumbo, 1 cent higher for Extra Large, 2 cents higher for Large and 1 cent higher for Medium and Small. Trade sentiment is steady to fully steady. Offerings are moderate on moderate to good demand. Supplies are moderate to heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate. Small benchmark price 94 cents.

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	159
Extra Large	141
Large	134
Medium	114

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	141-153
Extra Large	123-131
Large	111-123
Medium	94-102

WEEKLY NATIONAL EGG PRODUCTS

F.O.B. Shipper Dock Basis; Wholesale prices; cents per pound unless otherwise noted.

LIQUID EGGS

Liquid whole egg prices are steady to higher with whites firm and yolk irregular. The undertone is firm for whole egg and whites and steady for yolk. Offerings are light for whole egg and whites and moderate for yolk. Demand is good for whole egg and whites and light for yolk. Contractual add-ons are limiting spot offerings of whole egg and yolk while graded shell egg needs for Easter limit product into breaking channels. Market activity is moderate to active.

Non-pasteurized in trucklots; current trading for delivery within 14 days.

Class	Current Week			Last Week			Feb Averages	
	Range	Loads	Wtd Avg	Range	Loads	Wtd Avg	Loads	Wtd Avg
Whole	52.00 - 63.00	11	55.32	52.00 - 53.00	13	52.46	52	54.64
Whites	52.00 - 63.00	15	59.33	49.00 - 56.00	25	52.42	78	53.65
Yolk	80.00	4	80.00	75.00 - 84.00	9	77.56	17	78.97

FROZEN EGGS

Frozen whole egg and sugared yolk prices are steady to lower with whites steady to higher and frozen salted yolk prices lower. The undertone is steady to fully steady for whole egg, fully steady to firm for whites and barely steady to settling for yolk products. Offerings are moderate on light to moderate demand. Floor stocks are moderate. Market activity is slow.

Packed in 30-pound containers; less-than-trucklot reflects a minimum volume of 25 containers.

Trucklot	Current Week		Last Week		Feb Averages	
	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly	This Month	Last Month
Whole	68.00 - 78.00	72.00 - 75.00	69.00 - 78.00	72.00 - 74.00	73.38	74.20
Whites	69.00 - 78.00	72.00 - 76.00	64.00 - 78.00	69.00 - 74.00	70.75	69.90
Sugar Yolk ^{1/}	101.00 - 110.00	104.00 - 105.00	101.00 - 113.00	104.00 - 107.00	108.88	117.40
Salt Yolk ^{1/}	99.00 - 107.00	103.00 - 105.00	101.00 - 110.00	104.00 - 105.00	106.25	114.50

Less-than-Trucklot	Current Week		Last Week		Feb Averages	
	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly	This Month	Last Month
Whole	73.00 - 75.00	75.00	73.00 - 75.00	75.00	74.00	76.40
Whites	70.00 - 72.00	72.00	70.00 - 72.00	72.00	71.00	71.00
Sugar Yolk ^{1/}	108.00 - 112.00	112.00	110.00 - 112.00	112.00	112.75	119.10
Salt Yolk ^{1/}	108.00 - 112.00	112.00	110.00 - 112.00	112.00	112.75	119.10

^{1/}Minimum 43% solids.**DRIED EGGS**

Prices for dried egg products are steady to lower on whole and yolk, steady to higher on blends and mixed on albumen. The undertone is steady to barely steady on whole and yolk, steady to firm on albumen and blends. Demand is mixed, generally moderate as inquiries increase for 3rd and 4th quarter contracts. Spot sales were limited. Offerings and supplies are mostly moderate for current needs. Market activity is moderate.

Prices in dollars per pound; in containers; includes trucklot and less-than-trucklot volumes.

Class	Current Week		Last Week		Feb Averages	
	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly	This Month	Last Month
Whole	2.60 - 2.88	2.70 - 2.75	2.60 - 2.95	2.75 - 2.80	2.77	2.87
Yolk	2.25 - 2.75	2.40 - 2.45	2.35 - 2.75	2.45 - 2.50	2.58	2.77
Albumen ^{2/}	4.75 - 5.15	4.90 - 4.95	4.60 - 5.23	4.80 - 4.85	4.88	4.86
Blends ^{3/}	2.60 - 3.19	2.65 - 2.70	2.60 - 2.65		2.66	2.63

^{2/}Spray Dried; ^{3/}Whole plus sweetener.**EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

W/E 23-Feb-2013 (Lbs. In Thousands) (Excludes Ingredients)

Total	Cases	Liquid	Liquid	Liquid	Dried	Inedible
Production	Broken	Whole	White	Yolk		
CW	1,359,261	32,922	13,402	6,614	2,714	4,505
PW	1,371,608	32,283	14,009	7,112	2,928	4,419
LY	1,264,314	30,208	12,642	6,642	2,330	4,461
% PW	-1%	2%	-4%	-7%	-7%	2%
% LY	8%	9%	6%	0%	16%	1%
2013	10,811,092	251,919	112,430	56,201	23,541	35,329
2012	10,488,632	247,834	107,308	55,640	23,733	36,124
% YTD	3%	2%	5%	1%	-1%	-2%

	CW	PW	LY
Average Yield Per Case - (inedible included)	42.26	42.16	42.67
Average Yield Per Case - (inedible excluded)	38.95	38.94	39.14

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	788,128	58.0%	20,389	61.9%
PREVIOUS WEEK	795,313	58.0%	19,599	60.7%
LAST YEAR	680,807	53.8%	17,716	58.6%

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 Breaking stock prices are steady to higher. Trade sentiment is steady to fully steady. Demand is moderate on light to moderate offerings. Supplies are moderate to instances heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	60-65	60-62
CHECKS	43-52	43-47
CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR, CO, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, NM, ND, NE, OH, OK, SD, TX, & WI		

EASTERN REGION Prices are higher on breaking stock, steady on checks and undergrades. Supplies are more than adequate for current trade needs. Offerings and demand are light. Breaking schedules are normal. Market activity is slow to at times moderate. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for week ending 23-Feb-2013 are 4 percent less than the previous week and 21 percent less than the same week last year.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	56-64	61-62
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	44-53	48
EASTERN STATES AREA: AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, KY, ME, MD, MA, MS, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, SC, TN, VT, VA, & WV		

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES Weekly Weighted Average Prices (cents/dozen) National Trading for Feb 22, 2013 – Feb 28, 2013**CURRENT LOADS 114.00****FUTURE LOADS 41.75****TOTAL LOADS 155.75**

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	77.63	81.71	77.50	79.33	--	--	38.00	GNR W 1	--	83.67	--	--	--	--	15.00
GNR W 2	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00	GNR W 2	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00
GL W J	--	--	110.00	112.00	101.19	--	7.00	GL W J	105.50	111.30	--	--	112.00	118.50	8.75
GL W XL	85.00	98.17	90.83	95.11	87.48	91.00	40.50	GL W XL	91.75	100.86	--	101.50	--	102.87	26.50
GL W LG	--	90.53	83.45	84.84	82.23	91.00	43.75	GL W LG	--	92.24	--	--	93.50	96.07	19.75
GL W MD	--	72.00	67.50	69.20	63.75	--	11.75	GL W MD	71.00	76.50	71.33	--	72.00	77.13	15.00
GL W SM	--	51.00	52.50	54.70	44.25	--	9.00	GL W SM	42.00	--	--	--	--	56.00	2.00
GL BR J	--	--	--	--	101.00	--	.25	GL BR J	--	--	--	--	--	119.00	.25
GL BR XL	--	--	--	--	96.75	--	.50	GL BR XL	--	--	--	--	--	112.75	.50
GL BR LG	--	--	--	--	93.83	--	2.50	GL BR LG	--	102.89	--	--	--	110.75	2.50
GL BR MD	--	--	--	--	59.00	65.00	.50								
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	62.00	65.00	10.00								

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.

NATIONAL FOWL MARKET**LIVE SPENT LIGHT FOWL**

Prices are trending no better than steady for the light to moderate demand. Offerings of light type hens are at least sufficient for current needs. Processing schedules are normal to less than normal. Movement of finished product sales are clearing well. Market activity is moderate. The majority price for removal costs is unchanged at 0-7 cents per head.

(live hens are predominately egg-layers averaging about 3.5 lbs. live weight per bird.)

Eastern region = AL, CT, DE, GA, KY, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, and WV; North Central = IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI; South Central = AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX.

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	104.50	102.00	86.00
SOUTHEAST	106.50	104.50	82.00
MIDWEST	97.50	95.50	77.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	109.50	105.50	81.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	104.71	102.01	81.69

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

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

Week ending 23-Feb-13

U.S. fowl slaughtered domestically

Thousands	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	1,495	1,171	2,666
Last Week	1,310	1,433	2,743
Same week yr ago	1,302	1,457	2,759
To-date/2013*	12,659	11,480	24,139
To-date/2012*	12,192	12,371	24,563

U.S. fowl slaughtered in Canada

Thousands	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	87	0	87
Last Week	200	0	200
Same week yr ago	182	0	182
To-date/2013*	2,262	0	2,262
To-date/2012*	2,062	36	2,098

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

Total U.S. fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada

Thousands	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	1,582	1,171	2,753
Last Week	1,510	1,433	2,943
Same week yr ago	1,484	1,457	2,941
To-date/2013*	14,921	11,480	26,401
To-date/2012*	14,254	12,407	26,661

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

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

Type	Year-To-Date*			
	2013	2012 /1	2013 /2	2012
Liquid	0	0	337	151
Frozen	0	0	0	0
Dried	0	0	3	0
Total	0	0	340	151

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

Type	Year-To-Date*			
	2013	2012 /1	2013 /2	2012
Liquid	288	400	1,342	2,186
Frozen	19	10	229	214
Dried	0	0	4	0
Total	307	410	1,575	2,400

INSPECTED SHELL EGGS**U.S Exports to Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Year-To-Date*			
	2013	2012 /1	2013 /2	2012
Jumbo	0	0	0	0
Extra Large	3,290	570	6,770	5,250
Large	3,640	630	6,120	2,196
Medium	1,590	1,560	3,333	3,300
Ungraded	1,170	1,344	8,699	7,806
Misc	0	0	0	0
Total	9,690	4,104	24,922	18,552

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

/2 Includes revisions to previous week(s)

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

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

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

Selected Centers (INCL. GOV'T STOCKS)	(IN THOUSANDS)		
	Frozen Eggs LBS	Processed Turkeys LBS	Processed Other Poultry LBS
AM 02/25/13	2,920	134,870	58,011
AM 02/01/13	3,097	121,849	75,600
CHG	-177	13021	-17589
PCT CHG	-6%	11%	-23%

CHICKENS AND EGGS**January Egg Production Up 2 Percent**

United States egg production totaled 7.99 billion during January 2013, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.94 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 985 million were broiler-type and 74 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2013 averaged 344 million, up 1 percent from last year. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,326 eggs, up slightly from January 2012.

All layers in the United States on February 1, 2013 totaled 344 million, up 2 percent from last year. The 344 million layers consisted of 290 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 51.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.96 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2013, averaged 74.8 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from February 1, 2012.

Egg-Type Chicks Up 5 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during January 2013 totaled 42.2 million, up 5 percent from January 2012. Eggs in incubators totaled 39.7 million on February 1, 2013, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 350 thousand during January 2013, up 33 percent from January 2012.

Source: USDA/NASS

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT

Week ending 23-Feb-2013 (Receipts from Producers)

Regions	Cases (In Thousands)	Percent Change From	
		Last Week	Last Year
North Atlantic	203.5	11	1
East North Central	729.0	1	4
West North Central	301.6	-5	4
South Atlantic	125.3	-2	-16
South Central	53.2	3	12
West	35.8	1	-15
Total	1448.4	1	1
Matched plants reporting		69	69
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

Week ending 23-Feb-2013 (Cases, in thousands)

Selected Consuming Centers	CW	LW	% LW	
			% LW	% LY
Atlanta	18.5	17.7	5	10
Boston	2.4	2.9	-17	-11
Chicago	61.3	57.0	8	6
Los Angeles	67.1	65.2	3	23
New Orleans	6.8	6.6	3	3
New York	36.6	35.2	4	7
St. Louis	97.5	103.5	-6	33
San Francisco	19.5	17.1	14	47
Total	309.7	305.0	2	20
4 Week Moving Avg.	296.0			

WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS February 26, 2013

Prices paid per dozen grade a brown eggs in cartons delivered store door.

	Extra Large	Large	Medium	Small
Maine	158	145	106	96
Mostly	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	151-155	138-142	99-103	89-93
Mostly	153-154	140-141	101-102	91-92
Rhode Island	157-161	144-148	105-109	95-99
Mostly	157	144	105	95
Vermont	158-159	145-149	106-109	-
Mostly	-	-	-	-

EGG PRODUCTS**Shell Eggs Broken Up 2 Percent from Last Year**

Shell eggs broken totaled 173 million dozen during January 2013, up 2 percent from January a year ago, but 3 percent below the 179 million broken last month.

Data presented in this report were compiled from Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) inspection reports. The best available data at the time of publication were used.

During calendar year January 2012 contained 22 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays. January 2013 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Source: USDA/NASS