



The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is -14.20, down 3.3 points from last week.

This Week:

Demand for shell eggs continues on a downward path as consumers have been given little incentive at the grocery store to purchase beyond an "as needed" basis. Retailers continue to focus on cage-free shell eggs with some measure of success. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs is weak to lower as buyers have ample supplies and interest is limited. Trading is slow to moderate. Prices on the loose egg market are weak with more than adequate supplies and limited interest for moderate to heavy offerings and slow trading. Prices for breaking stock are steady with a moderate supplies and offerings. Interest is good and trading is moderate. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates a steady to slightly elevated pace of promotional activity for conventional caged shell eggs but with an increase in the average ad price. May is traditionally Egg Month and it remains to be seen if marketers will use it to leverage increased sales.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -

Table with 3 rows: U.S. table egg layer flock (321,409,545), Percentage flock in molt (1.3%), Productive table egg layer flock (317,178,915)

Current Table Egg Production for In-Shell Use -

(shell egg production less shell eggs for breaking stock)

Table with 3 rows: Table egg layer rate (81.7%), Total egg production (259,063,257), Total eggs into breaking stock (77,828,914), Table eggs for in-shell use (181,234,343), Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases) (503,429)

Current Days of Shell Eggs on Hand for Marketing -

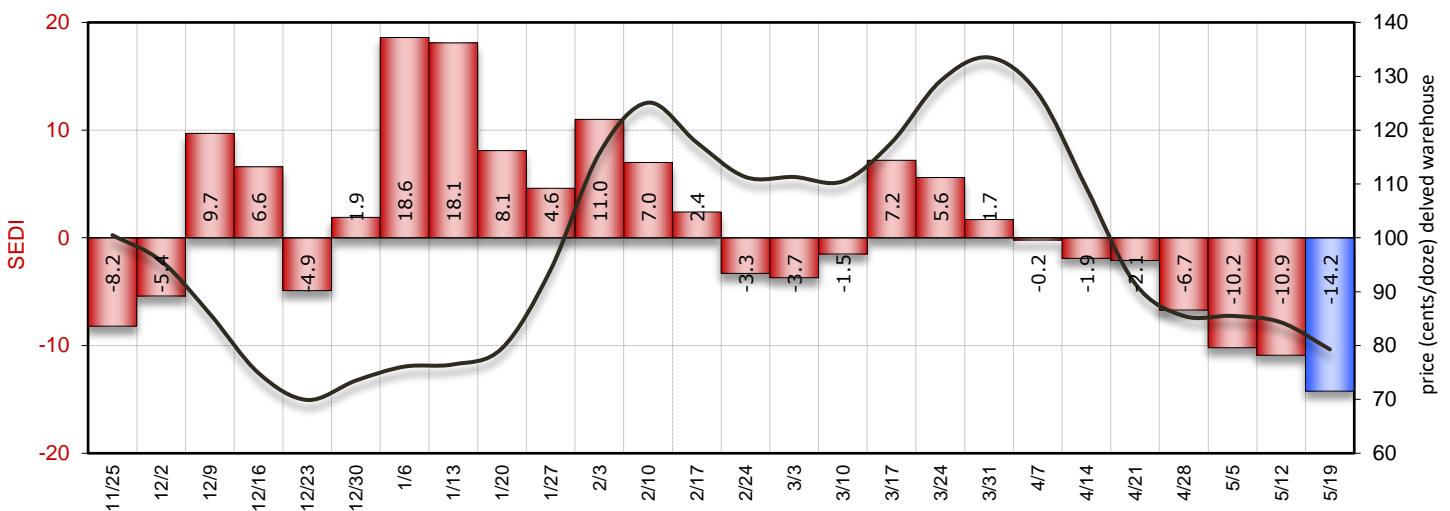
(shell egg inventory cases ÷ shell egg cases per day)

Table with 3 rows: USDA shell egg inventory (1,759,400), Inventory cooperators % of U.S. flock (63.0%), Shell egg cases produced each day (317,160), 26-week rolling average of days on hand (4.76), Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing (5.55)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator

-14.20 ((26-week average ÷ current days on hand) - 1) * 100

Shell Egg Demand Indicator vs. USDA Midwest Large Cartoned Shell Egg



Sources: USDA NASS Monthly Chicken and Eggs (pec-bb); Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type; USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News; SHELL EGGS: Weekly Shell Egg Inventory (Mon); USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News; PROCESSED EGGS: Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection (Wed)

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News 515-284-4460