The Shell Egg Demand Indicator for this week is - 3.40, up 5.8 points from last week.

This Week:
Shell egg demand is on the rise as the holiday baking demand season is underway. Wholesale price levels are posting daily increases on light to moderate offerings. Supplies are sufficient for needs while trading is moderate to active. Breaking stock prices are steady for light to moderate offerings and supplies, trading is moderate. The preliminary sample of featuring by retail outlets indicates a decline in activity as retailers focus on specialty types in their ads. The average ad price is unchanged. Shell egg ads are breaking in store circulars across the country but retailers are focusing more of their features on specialty shell eggs rather than conventional. This should change into the next week as the holiday period approaches.

Current U.S. Productive Table Egg Layer Flock -
- U.S. table egg layer flock: 315,548,401 (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
- Percentage flock in molt: 2.8% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
- Productive table egg layer flock: 306,713,046 (total flock - (total flock * molt))

Current Table Egg Production for In-Shell Use -
(shell egg production less shell eggs for breaking stock)
- Table egg layer rate: 79.3% (derived from NASS Monthly Chicken & Eggs report)
- Total egg production: 243,223,445 (total productive flock * lay rate)
- Total eggs into breaking stock: 78,804,396 (32.40% of daily shell egg production to breakers)
- Table eggs for in-shell use: 164,419,049 (egg production * (100% - % to breaking stock))
- Table eggs for in-shell use (in cases): 456,720 (eggs for table use - 360 eggs per case)

Current Days of Shell Eggs on Hand for Marketing -
(shell egg inventory cases + shell egg cases per day)
- USDA shell egg inventory: 1,310,100 (30-dozen cases (from USDA Weekly Shell Egg Inventory report)
- Inventory cooperators % of U.S. flock: 61.0% (shell egg inventory cooperators control 61% of productive flock)
- Shell egg cases produced each day: 278,599 (produced by inventory cooperators’ flocks (daily production * 60%))
- 26-week rolling average of days on hand: 4.54 (average of the last 26 weeks’ days of eggs on hand)
- Days of shell eggs on hand for marketing: 4.70 (inventory cases produced per day)

Shell Egg Demand Indicator: -3.40 ((26-week average - current days on hand) - 1) * 100

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News (515) 284-4471