

Update on Avian Influenza

In the last couple of weeks, there have been 5.5 million birds nationally lost to Avian Influenza and in the last 7 days 1.2 million birds were lost to fire. In February the national cage-free bird count number was at 124.9 million birds and since has decreased 10% down to about 112.20 million birds. We are continuing to evaluate the situation but as of this week the losses are starting to have a major impact and markets are skyrocketing due to the lack of supply. Both Cage-Free shell eggs and liquid whole eggs are experiencing higher market costs due to this news and are expected to rise.

Vendors are now shorting orders to customers because availability has tightened up so much for them (article below). We continue to be in communication with our suppliers and will provide updates as deemed necessary.

<https://www.agriculturediver.com/news/bird-flu-egg-post-holdings-cpg-michael-foods/717507/>