



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices trended higher in the East and Midwest; unchanged in the West. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand was fair to good, mostly moderate to good. Supplies of all sizes were generally in close balance to tight with 4 pound sizes in the East adequate to available. Truck availability was still an issue and continued to cause product shortages and delivery complications. In the parts structure, trading was fair to moderately good. Wings and tenders were more than sufficient for trade needs and competitively priced in some instances. Breast and leg items were good balance to tight and well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at irregular weights.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 5/17/04-05/21/04 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
(Including branded product)				
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	77.00-80.00	71.75-87.00	79.06	31
Los Angeles	81.00			
New York	81.00-83.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	75.50-77.00	74.00-81.00	76.53	86

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 76.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
938	73.00-78.00	76.02

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	255.00	1,219
BREASTS - B/S	243.00	5,358
BREASTS - WHOLE	129.50	1,783
THIGH MEAT - B/S	120.50	991
LEG QUARTERS	36.50	7,395
WINGS	121.00	2,913

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority price in Chicago increased 4 cents from last Monday's final majority price. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was fully steady to firm. Offerings continued short on lighter weights along with trucking and delivery problems. Retail and food service demand was in a full range, mostly fair to good with best interest into features and fast food. Floor stocks were closely balanced to short. Weights were desirable to on the heavy side. Supplies of wings and tenderloins were fully sufficient and remaining parts were adequate to short of full trade needs. The market tone was barely steady to weak on wings and tenders with balance fully steady to firm.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was firm. Retail and food service demand was moderate to good, best for fast food promotions and retail ad activity. Supplies were in close balanced to tight. With the limited number of trucks available, problems occurred with spot deliveries and product availability. In the parts structure, movement was fair to good. Wings and tenders were slow to clear. Breast items and dark meat cuts were in good balance to tight and well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged through the region. Light early trading reported for next weeks' deliveries at unchanged to higher prices. Offerings were adequate. Small sized product was in the closest position and very confidently held. Retailer demand was moderate to good best to cover feature activities. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend

clearances. The market tone was barely steady to weak on wings with balance of parts fully steady to firm.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Arizona - whole body 79, roaster 119-129, boneless breast 249-429, boneless thigh meat 199, split breast 199, leg quarter 79-99, thigh 119-129, drumstick 119-129;

Colorado - whole body 69, cornish hen 22 ounce 300, boneless breast 188-349, drumstick 99-139, thigh 99-139,

(deli food service - fried 8 piece mixed 399, 50 piece mixed 2499, 100 piece 4899, 150 piece 7399, whole rotisserie chicken 499 each);

Northern California - whole cut-up 129-159, boneless breast 399-499, breast fillets 449, thigh fillets 99, split breast 169-199;

Southern California - whole body 59-99, whole body seasoned 119, whole cut-up 119-159, Roaster 159, boneless breast 197-499, boneless breast marinated 247, boneless breast fillets 399, boneless breast piece 128, boneless thigh meat 199, boneless leg meat 99-168, boneless leg meat marinated 129, grill pack contains breast/thigh/leg quarter 128, picnic pack include drumstick and thigh 98, split breast 139-199, split breast 4# bagged IQF 356, leg quarter 77-89, leg quarter seasoned 87, leg quarter marinated 68, leg quarter 10# bag 499, wing 169, wing 4# bagged IQF 516, thigh 77-79, thigh 4# bagged IQF 250-396, drumstick 77-99, drumstick 5# bag 295, drumstick 4# bagged IQF 250-396,

(deli food service - fried 8 piece mixed 399-499, 50 piece mixed 2399, 100 piece mixed 4799, 150 piece mixed 7199, 8 piece drumstick and thigh 298, tenders 10 piece 299, drumettes or buffalo wings 348 per pound, whole rotisserie chicken 399-499 each).

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was at least moderate to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings of the 2.5 to 3.5 pound birds were in good balance, however, the 4 pound sizes were slightly more available. Retail and distributive draw was at least moderate. The market tone was fully steady to firm. In the parts complex, breast items were closely cleared. Legs and leg quarters were balanced. Wings and tenders were adequate to fully adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was good entering the weekend. Offerings were adequate to short of immediate needs. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to light. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 82 to 92 cents. Trade sentiment remained generally firm. In the parts complex, wings were at least adequate to instances short. Tenders were fully adequate. Other items were generally noted as in manageable balance to well cleared.

***BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.**

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE		78-92
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		85.06
NO. OF BOXES		6,833
CUMULATIVE	05/10/04-05/14/04	82.78
	05/12/03-05/16/03	58.05
NO. OF BOXES	05/10/04-05/14/04	33,683
	05/12/03-05/16/03	41,375

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

MAY 13

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 14

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	923	235.00-315.00	235-238	244.97	958	235.00-315.00	238-242	245.41	4,319	246.07
TENDERLOINS	228	225.00-278.00	225-230	232.94	226	220.00-278.00	220-228	230.15	1,881	234.73
BREAST - LINE RUN	87	124.00-131.00	124-127	126.94	82	124.00-131.00	125-128	127.63	480	127.17
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				270	118.26
LEGS	63	45.00-57.00	45-47	47.79	63	44.00-58.00	44-47	47.68	417	48.58
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	550	33.00-35.00	34-35	34.38	574	34.00-36.00	35-36	35.46	2,914	35.00
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	928	36.00-40.00	37-38	37.24	1,056	36.00-40.00	37-38	37.59	4,263	37.15
WINGS (WHOLE)	117	102.00-105.00	102-104	103.57	297	102.00-117.00	-	107.15	1,305	107.63
WINGS (CUT)	928	116.00-123.00	118-121	119.39	686	112.00-125.00	115-121	118.04	3,653	119.43
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				39	45.00-59.00	-	49.82	189	51.66
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				140	55.06
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				83	120.00-127.00	-	121.75	503	120.08

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR MAY 13, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR MAY 14, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
72.50 - 78.00	75.69	74.00 - 80.50	78.23	76.61

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying interest increased entering the weekend and was at least moderate overall. Offerings of breast items were in very good balance and clearing under normal premiums. Legs and leg quarters were balanced to adequate. Wings and tenderloins remained available. Retail and distributive movement was fair to fairly good at times. The market tone was fully steady on breast items and dark meat cuts, but cautious on wings and tenderloins.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB. MAY 14

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			CURRENT NEG			WEEKLY		
	TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS	
BREAST - B/S	240	232.09	505742	240	230.35	636,041	231.59	2,908,186	
TENDERLOINS	225	228.80	56320	225	227.82	106,860	228.82	516,420	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	126-127	132.62	126260	126-127	130.87	163,800	130.88	689,140	
BREAST - LINE RUN	126	128.36	95880	126	128.22	77,800	127.32	570,080	
LEGS	50-51	49.80	165840	50-51	48.18	300,920	47.58	1,384,393	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	37-38	36.48	431859	37-38	36.21	331,787	36.25	1,758,717	
DRUMSTICKS	40-41	45.54	136391	40-41	43.02	197,252	44.08	731,913	
THIGHS	45-46	50.54	114537	45-46	51.04	85,395	50.18	471,519	
B/S THIGHS	116-117	109.34	74080	116-117	115.95	84,680	112.66	403,810	
WINGS (WHOLE)	101-102	110.40	133760	101-102	105.75	144,240	110.32	739,590	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.91	32040	10-12	11.99	29,160	11.95	158,640	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	29.02	12232	35-40	33.41	14,680	31.42	90,487	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	57.93	18760	55-60	59.63	19,320	59.06	113,450	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
ALA	4,056	3,939	3,882	3,891	5.21	5.31	4,166	5.31		
ARK	5,061	5,436	5,362	5,368	5.02	5.08	4,885	5.01		
DELMARVA	2,177	2,206	2,196	2,217	5.52	5.54	2,180	5.47		
KY-LA-TN	2,252	2,018	1,992	2,032	5.05	5.06	1,875	5.04		
MISS	3,818	3,046	2,944	3,052	5.60	5.53	2,997	5.46		
NC	2,557	2,492	2,401	2,419	6.45	6.41	2,798	6.47		
TEXAS	2,398	2,436	2,510	2,504	5.23	5.21	2,465	5.17		
TOTAL	22,319	21,573	21,287	21,483	5.38	5.40	21,366	5.37		
MON-FRI	108,422(A)				107,268(A)					

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-May-04 and 15-May-04 is estimated to be 33,392,000 head up 4.15 percent from a week ago and up 6.70 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,062,000, last year 31,296,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 15-May-04 is estimated to be 157,447,000 head up 0.22 percent from a week ago, and up 1.23 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 157,101,000, last year 155,533,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	95-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-81
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	106-114
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	106
ROASTERS 4# & UP	107-109
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	107
HENS OVER 5#	93
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	93-95

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 01-May-04 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----			

Head	24,546	22,584	48,500
Avg Weight	3.72	4.76	6.35
% of total /1	26%	24%	51%

COMPARISONS

Last week	27,951	20,023	48,392
Avg Weight	3.60	4.80	6.29
% of total /1	29%	21%	50%
Same week, yr ago /2	23,416	20,909	52,871
Avg Weight	3.77	4.75	6.15
% of total /1	24%	22%	54%
To date/2004	444,040	372,914	754,210
To date/2003	416,457	389,310	738,271

/1May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.
 (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.
 (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
 (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 08-May-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	157,101	1,328	1,354	2,682	467
AVG WT	5.33	3.22	7.97	5.62	6.65
LAST WEEK	157,894	1,299	1,385	2,684	449
SAME WK YR AGO	155,587	1,586	1,364	2,950	483
AVG WT	5.20	3.40	8.02	5.54	6.93
TO-DATE/2004	2,768,092	23,385	22,959	46,344	8,286
TO-DATE/2003	2,726,482	31,023	23,933	54,956	7,616

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 161.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 159.0 million head or 2.9 which was 98% of estimated fryers available.

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - MAY 11, 2004

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.10 - 1.15	Pigeons	5.50 - 6.00 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.10	White Pigeons	4.75 - 5.00 ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.60 - .80	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.90 - 1.00	4-6 LBS	1.20 - 1.30
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.90	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		6-9 LBS	1.00 - 1.05
4-6 LBS	.90 - 1.10	Bunnies	1.00 - 2.00 ea.
Crossbred Roosters		Goats	55.00 - 75.00 ea.
7-11 LBS	.90 - 1.00	Kid Goats	24.00 - 35.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 5.00ea.	Doves	4.50 - 5.75 ea.
Banty Hens	3.50 - 4.00ea.	Pullets 4-6 LBS	1.20 - 1.40
Leghorn Hens	.25 - .30	Guinea Pigs	1.25 - 3.00 ea.
Silkie	4.75 - 5.00ea.	Total Coops Sold	476

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 10-MAY-2003

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	82.00-85.50	83.00-84.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	67.00-86.50	68.00-75.50

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Demand was moderate to good. Schedules full-time. Weights were desirable. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 10-MAY-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
APRIL	3	153.9	156.9	98%	5.19
	10	152.3	157.6	97%	5.22
	17	154.0	158.8	97%	5.26
	24	157.9	159.9	99%	5.20
MAY	1	159.8	161.1	99%	5.30
	8	159.0	161.9	98%	5.33
YEAR TO DATE	2642.8	2679.4	99%		
MAY	15	162.6			
	22	162.3			

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

-----THOUSANDS-----					
W/E	05/15/04	05/08/04	% CHG	05/17/03	% CHG
Broilers	157,447	157,101*	+22	155,533*	+1.23
Cattle	690	690	0	748*	-08
Hogs	1,826	1,840	-01	1,807*	+01

*ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Sales were too few to report on heavy canners. Light canners were slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for lights; mostly fair for heavies with available supplies very light. Offerings of heavy canners were limited; lights were in close balance. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 26-32 MAJORITY 27-27.5	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) TOO FEW TO REPORT
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CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 27-33 MAJORITY 28.5-29	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) TOO FEW TO REPORT
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LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were generally more than sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules normal. Opinions on removal cost were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	8.5 -10.5

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Salvage values were too few to report. Demand was moderate for fully adequate supplies of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were static. Values were expected to increase based on rising transportation costs.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST		TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Offerings were reported as increased this week and rated as adequate to mostly fully adequate. Demand was good although additional offerings of spent fowl far outweighed current processing schedules. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-10.5	5-6

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 17-MAY-04

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was mostly moderate for adequate to at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing. The undertone was steady.

RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS Sales of spent heavy hens were TFEWR. Demand was fair for adequate offerings. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was fully steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING		TOO FEW TO REPORT

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.