



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was mixed, ranging steady to barely steady. Retail and food service demand was quiet to fair with few features present to stimulate interest. Supplies of smaller sized product were sufficient to close balanced, but heavier weights were adequate to ample. In the parts structure, movement was fair at best. Breast items were at least adequate, dark meat was available to instances closely balanced, and wings were in a good position and clearing well. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy, mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .50 to 76.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 69.00 cents last year on October 1, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	218.50
BREASTS - B/S	166.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	89.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	75.00
LEG QUARTERS	31.50
WINGS	109.50

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

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was no better than steady. Retail and food service demand was slow to fair with light trading. Supplies were fully sufficient with heavier sizes in the longest position. In the parts structure, movement was limited to fair. Breast items were at least adequate with discounts noted. Dark meat was mostly sufficient, and wings were moving satisfactorily. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to no better than fair. Offerings of the 3 pound and lighter birds remained in the best balance. The larger sizes were at least sufficient. Movement through retail and distributive channels was lackluster. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were fully adequate. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate with drumsticks and thighs noted as available. Wings were clearing satisfactorily. Tenderloins were ample.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was about steady; heavy weights were available, lighter weights somewhat tighter. Trade interest varied. Retail and food service call continued somewhat quiet overall with scattered features providing moderate demand. Retail features noted on whole fryers at 99 cents; split breast at \$1.57 and 99 cents; boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.99; leg quarters at 77, 69 and 29 cents; and drum and thighs at 60 cents. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with some cutbacks noted. Weights were in a desirable range. Parts trade was price sensitive and cautious for the fully available supplies. The market tone was steady to fully steady on wings; steady on leg quarters and cautiously steady to weak on breast cuts.

WESTERN The market tone was about steady. Offerings of small sized whole body product adequate, however heavy weight product was ample. Buying activity was fair. Retailer demand fair to instances fairly good, best to cover features. Floor stocks adequate overall. Trade sentiment was barely steady on breast; fully steady on wings and about steady on balance of parts.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 09/25/04	2004	2003	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	201,592	195,868	+03
CHICKS PLACED	171,535	163,137	+05

Broiler Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Up 3 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 202 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 25, 2004. This was up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 5 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 172 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 25, 2004. Placements were up 5 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through September 25, 2004 were 6.73 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 06-Nov-04 is estimated at 158.6 million head. This compares to 159.7 million head the previous week and to 154.5 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 160.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 63.77 cents per pound.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD	ITEM	POUNDS			WTD		
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		
BREAST - B/S	592	115.00-200.00	-	123.67	BREAST - B/S	660	110.00-185.00	117-122	124.73		
TENDERLOINS	248	110.00-240.00	-	150.97	TENDERLOINS	325	120.00-230.00	150-155	151.45		
BREAST - LINE RUN	137	75.00-105.00	85-90	86.50	BREAST - LINE RUN	98	80.00-96.00	84-87	84.54		
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
LEGS	88	32.00-51.00	33-35	35.38	LEGS	88	30.00-50.00	32-35	34.66		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	508	23.00-30.00	25-26	25.59	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	509	21.00-29.00	25-27	26.01		
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	950	25.00-32.00	25-28	26.61	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	939	23.00-32.00	25-28	26.65		
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	92.00-110.00	92-94	96.81	WINGS (WHOLE)	135	90.00-96.00	92-95	91.56		
WINGS (CUT)	290	113.00-119.00	114-118	117.03	WINGS (CUT)	395	113.00-119.00	114-119	116.95		
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				B/S THIGHS	95	68.00-85.00	-	72.84		
*****					*****						
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR F.O.B. DOCK.					*****						
	RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE			RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE		5-DAY AVERAGE	
	36.00 - 42.50		38.71			37.50-44.00		40.28		39.65	

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 activity was noted as fair at best during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were fully adequate. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were clearing well. Tenderloins were ample. Movement through retail and distributive channels was limited. The market tone was weak on tenderloins, barely steady on breast items and mostly steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. **SEPTEMBER 28, 2004** **SEPTEMBER 29, 2004**

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135	139.46	794,464	BREAST - B/S	135	137.20	608,776
TENDERLOINS	160	150.89	236,200	TENDERLOINS	155	167.33	71,010
BREAST - WITH RIBS	77-78	79.83	164,640	BREAST - WITH RIBS	77-78	82.67	117,960
BREAST - LINE RUN	77	74.77	148,800	BREAST - LINE RUN	77	78.69	131,920
LEGS	45-46	39.74	196,040	LEGS	45-46	38.63	196,682
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31	31.83	481,895	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31	30.81	246,244
DRUMSTICKS	30-31	33.74	146,410	DRUMSTICKS	30-31	36.01	141,560
THIGHS	24-25	31.04	138,090	THIGHS	24-25	38.89	59,720
B/S THIGHS	69-70	66.28	88,960	B/S THIGHS	70-71	66.28	54,520
WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	103.33	143,720	WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	109.51	111,040
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.81	23,600	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.48	30,360
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.85	16,600	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.93	16,200
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.10	20,600	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.69	26,040

***** INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

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

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG		AVG	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	WTS	WTS	WTS	WTS
	09/29	09/28	09/27	09/24	09/27	09/24	09/22	09/20
Alabama	3,970	4,055	4,026	5,246	5.41	5.32	4,011	5.43
Arkansas	5,516	5,531	5,444	6,029	5.23	4.86	5,161	5.28
Delmarva	2,292	2,269	1,976	2,227	5.77	5.63	2,317	5.80
KY-LA-TN	2,060	2,069	2,125	2,076	5.21	4.88	2,114	5.00
Mississippi	3,056	3,077	3,036	3,351	5.58	5.68	2,770	5.54
North Car	2,443	2,540	2,435	2,779	6.52	6.40	2,450	6.55
Texas	2,515	2,519	3,073	2,924	5.25	5.13	2,113	5.25
Total	21,852	22,060	22,115	24,632	5.50	5.35	20,936	5.51
Mon-Wed	65,762(A)						63,994(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 29-Sep-04 is estimated to be 32,693,000 head up 4.06 percent from a week ago and up 5.21 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,417,000, last year 31,073,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP		107
HENS UNDER 5#		-
HENS OVER 5#		73
DUCKS		-
RABBITS-WHOLE		-
RABBITS-CUT UP		-
SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY		
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	105-106
	DRY PACK	110
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	108-111
	DRY PACK	111
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-93
	DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS		175-188

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 02-Oct-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	10/02/04 (1)		09/25/04	
	THOUSAND HEAD			
BRO-FRY	164,024	(2)	164,337	
LT HENS	1,429		1,562	
HVY HENS	1,501		1,505	
CHECK TOTAL	166,954		167,404	

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 02-Oct-04 is 164.9 million head compared to 160.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 164.4 million head or 0.5 million less than estimated available. For the week of 09-Oct-04 the estimated available is 165.1 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 09/27/04	195,672		56,905	
AM 09/01/04	184,056		56,558	
CHG	11,616		347	
PCT CHG	6		1	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	09/27/04	09/20/04	09/29/03	09/27/04	09/20/04	09/29/03
PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES	21,691	20,939	15,642	5,604	5,611	4,802
	366	351	447	3,379	3,441	2,420

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	70-72
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	72-79

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 09/28/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	-	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	2.00	3.00
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	2.00	2.50
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	2.00
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	3.00	3.50
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.20	.30
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	3.00	4.00
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.00	2.50
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	4.00	5.75
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	.75	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.60	.85	.74	RABBITS ea.	2.00	3.00
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	3.00
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	45					

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending September 24, 2004

	Whole		Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards Hens	
	Chickens	Breasts				
RAYON						
Low	68.47	111.47	67.68	11.94	7.96	46.18
High	69.67	123.41	75.64	19.90	11.94	46.18
Mostly	69.27	115.45	71.66	15.92	9.95	46.18
SAN JUAN						
Low	68.87	115.45	67.68	11.94	9.95	46.58
High	69.67	123.41	79.62	19.90	13.93	46.58
Mostly	69.27	119.43	73.65	15.92	11.94	46.58
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	68.87	111.47	71.66	11.94	9.95	45.78
High	69.67	123.41	79.62	21.90	13.93	45.78
Mostly	69.67	119.43	71.66	13.93	11.94	45.78
BECERRA						
Low	69.27	119.43	71.66	11.94	7.96	47.77
High	70.86	127.39	83.60	23.89	11.94	47.77
Mostly	69.27	123.41	79.62	19.90	9.95	47.77

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds remained generally light and unaggressive, fair at best. Seller offerings were adequate to fully adequate and were in the closer, better balance on the smaller sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 63 to 77 cents. In the parts complex, supplies were at least adequate, and were generally more readily available on the various breast cuts.

*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	63-81
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	67.34
NO. OF BOXES	7,131

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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