



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was barely steady on local markets, and mostly steady in terminal areas. Demand was usually light. Supplies were limited but at least sufficient for trade requirements. Lighter sized wogs were reported in the best position with heavier sizes usually noted as adequate. In the parts structure, trading was quiet but still fair. Breast items were still available, dark meat was sufficient with drums and leg quarters increasing in availability in some locations. Wings were adequate to well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights in a full range of light to heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 to 74.00 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 December 03, 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	162.00
BREASTS - B/S	141.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	73.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	72.00
LEG QUARTERS	31.00
WINGS	94.50

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

SOUTHERN REGION Trade sentiment was generally steady in shipping channels, but barely steady on local markets. Retail demand was light, but offerings were also limited keeping floor stocks on lighter weight wogs in a workable position. Food service was seasonally moderate. In the parts structure, wings were in the best position and moving well. Dark meat was adequate, b/s breast were not as plentiful, but still readily available. Bone in breast continue to be available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST REGION Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers ranged quiet to no better than fair during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were sufficient and generally in good balance. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone was at least steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least adequate to available. Dark meat items ranged adequate to ample with drumsticks in the longest position. Wings were well cleared.

MIDWEST REGION Whole broiler/fryer market tone remained steady on light trade activity. Fill-in trade reported in the Chicago area on heavy weight wogs at 54 cents; St. Louis noted fill-in at 55 cents on 3 up wogs and 57 cents on 2 3/4 wogs. Demand was generally light to moderate, occasionally better for retail features and into fast food outlets. Retail features noted on split breast at 99 cents and \$1.29; bagged drums at 49 cents. Floor stocks were in a full range; weights desirable to heavy. In the parts sector, trading was light, except wings were moderate to active. Supplies of wings were limited, all other items available. The market tone was firm on wings; fully steady with a firm undertone on thighs; mixed on leg quarters, and cautiously steady on the balance.

WESTERN REGION The market tone was about steady. Offerings were adequate on small sized product and ample on whole bodies over 3.5 pounds. Buying activity was fair and centered on current needs. Retailer demand was light to moderate, best where featured. Floor stock at least adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 11/27/04		PERCENT CHANGE
	2004	2003	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	209,690	208,986	0
CHICKS PLACED	167,598	164,561	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 210 million eggs in incubators during the week ending November 27, 2004. This was up slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 168 million chicks for meat production during the week ending November 27, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through November 27, 2004 were 8.21 billion, up 3 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 08-Jan-05 is estimated at 152.2 million head. This compares to 149.1 million head the previous week and to 156.3 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 160.8 million head and the composite weighted average price was 65.75 cents per pound.

NOV 30 **SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS** DEC 01
 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				ITEM	POUNDS			
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	670	110.00-150.00	115-120	116.21	BREAST - B/S	710	108.00-150.00	112-120	117.82
TENDERLOINS	300	100.00-175.00	106-112	115.97	TENDERLOINS	285	106.00-170.00	110-115	118.84
BREAST - LINE RUN	95	69.00-78.00	72-74	72.37	BREAST - LINE RUN	110	68.00-74.00	70-72	70.73
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	100	51.00-61.00	54-56	55.60
LEGS	78	30.00-49.00	32-34	34.38	LEGS	88	30.00-49.00	32-34	34.11
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	550	23.00-29.00	25-26	25.36	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	550	23.00-29.00	25-26	25.44
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	935	25.00-32.00	27-28	27.64	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,015	25.00-32.00	27-29	27.90
WINGS (WHOLE)	355	86.00-97.00	86-89	88.61	WINGS (WHOLE)	290	89.00-97.00	90-92	90.86
WINGS (CUT)	480	107.00-113.00	109-113	110.76	WINGS (CUT)	500	107.00-115.00	110-114	112.20
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	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR NOVEMBER 30, 2004 -- FOB DOCK
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR DECEMBER 01, 2004 -- FOB DOCK

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
37.00 - 45.00	40.98	37.00 - 45.00	40.52	41.25

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 light to fair and generally unaggressive during midweek trading. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were more than sufficient; bone-in breasts remained available. Dark meat cuts were adequate to at least adequate with drums becoming more available than earlier in the week. Wings were clearing satisfactorily. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair to moderate. The market tone was at least steady on wings; about steady for breast items. Balance of items were generally steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

NOV 30	CURRENT NEG	WTD		CURRENT NEG	WTD	NOV 24	
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	125.69	653,360	BREAST - B/S	125-130	123.66	740,880
TENDERLOINS	110	108.62	183,650	TENDERLOINS	110	116.77	199,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	73.74	122,160	BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	77.21	64,480
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	68.66	97,800	BREAST - LINE RUN	68	68.94	99,680
LEGS	42-43	38.57	435,320	LEGS	42-43	41.30	212,440
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	29.83	312,431	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	29.50	368,869
DRUMSTICKS	25-26	29.26	134,480	DRUMSTICKS	25-26	29.81	133,800
THIGHS	26-27	37.43	76,640	THIGHS	26-27	42.34	40,320
B/S THIGHS	76-77	68.98	92,720	B/S THIGHS	76-77	68.40	124,860
WINGS (WHOLE)	93-94	102.70	159,200	WINGS (WHOLE)	93-94	103.07	138,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.06	31,640	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.64	22,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	24.92	37,640	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	26.46	51,800
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	70.40	19,640	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	69.40	43,920

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
	(1,000)	ACTUAL (1,000)			AVG WTS			(1,000)	WTS
	12/01	11/30	11/29	11/26	11/29	11/26	11/24	11/22	
Alabama	4,082	4,121	3,777	3,128	5.16	4.79	3,777	5.31	
Arkansas	5,513	5,517	5,482	2,678	5.31	4.42	4,880	5.29	
Delmarva	2,178	2,244	2,266	2,213	5.65	5.65	1,972	5.72	
KY-LA-TN	2,133	2,137	1,980	1,747	5.20	5.09	2,091	5.20	
Mississippi	3,019	3,031	3,055	2,079	5.73	5.25	2,934	5.62	
North Carolina	2,533	2,517	2,475	2,365	6.59	6.61	2,412	6.48	
Texas	2,493	2,487	2,522	2,503	5.37	5.20	2,900	5.27	
Total	21,951	22,054	21,557	16,713	5.52	5.25	20,966	5.50	
Mon-Wed	66,083(A)				64,867(A)				

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 01-Dec-04 is estimated to be 32,841,000 head up 4.38 percent from a week ago and up 7.59 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,462,000, last year 30,525,000)

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#		63-67
DUCKS		
RABBITS-WHOLE		
RABBITS-CUT UP		
SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY		
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	103-105
	DRY PACK	103-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	108-111
	DRY PACK	111
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	89-93
	DRY PACK	89-95
DUCKS		175-192

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 04-Dec-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	12/04/04 (1)	11/27/04
	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	162,481 (2)	129,389
Light hens	1,409	829
Heavy hens	1,423	737
Total	165,313	130,955

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 04-Dec-04 is 155.3 million head compared to 156.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.8 million head or 7.5 million more than estimated available. For the week of 11-Dec-04 the estimated available is 155.8 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 11/29/04	67,212	60,147
AM 11/01/04	138,953	65,304
CHG	-71,741	-5,157
PCT CHG	-52	-8

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	11/29/04	11/22/04	12/01/03	11/29/04	11/22/04	12/01/03
PACIFIC COAST	4,457	7,679	10,948	5,370	7,900	3,653
LOS ANGELES	67	54	410	1,493	4,022	1,832

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 NOVEMBER 29, 2004

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE
		72-74
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	74-83

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES FOR 11/30/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	HEAVY FOWL lb.	.80	.95	.90	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	6.00
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	1.00	1.15	1.05	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.90	1.65	1.33	RABBITS ea.	-	3.75
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.75	5.00
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	22					

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending November 26, 2004

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
	RAYON					
Low	71.91	121.20	80.80	20.20	10.10	49.29
High	74.34	125.24	88.88	22.22	12.12	49.29
Mostly	72.32	121.20	84.84	20.20	10.10	49.29

SAN JUAN

Low	71.91	121.20	84.84	20.20	8.08	50.10
High	73.53	133.32	92.92	24.24	14.14	50.10
Mostly	72.72	125.24	88.88	24.24	12.12	50.10

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	71.91	125.24	88.88	24.24	8.08	48.08
High	73.53	133.32	92.92	28.28	14.14	48.08
Mostly	72.32	125.24	88.88	24.24	8.08	48.08

BECERRA

Low	72.32	125.24	84.84	24.24	8.08	49.29
High	74.34	133.32	92.92	28.28	12.12	49.29
Mostly	72.72	129.28	88.88	28.28	10.10	49.29

DELMARVA

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was quiet as many buyers reported full coolers and limited need for additional supplies. Seller offerings were adequate and in generally good balance. Live supplies were moderate; weights remained irregular in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 64 to 78 cents. Trade sentiment was at least steady. In the parts complex, wings were adequate to well cleared. Other items were adequate to ample for a lackluster buying interest.

*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	61-84
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	67.88
NO. OF BOXES	7,041

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