



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 16, 2005  
VOL. 52 NO. 20

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady to about steady. Retail and food service demand was sluggish to moderate with best interest going into fast food channels. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was limited and usually on an as needed basis. Dark meat was balanced to well cleared, instances short. Breast items and wings were adequate to ample and slow to clear; however, tenders were close balanced to tight. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, but mostly desirable.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 73.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 72.00 cents last year on February 18, 2004.

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	171.00
BREASTS - B/S	156.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	86.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.50
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	122.50

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

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was light to moderate with mixed trading. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was moderate at best. Dark meat was adequate to close and in the strongest position, and wings were readily available. Breast items were at least sufficient with tenders better balanced. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally slow to no better than fair. Offerings were generally adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Retail and distributive movement was fair at best. The market tone was steady to about steady. In the parts complex, bone-in and boneless skinless breasts remained readily available and competitively priced. Tenderloins were in close balance. Wings were available. The balance of items was mostly adequate.

**MIDWEST** Whole broiler/fryer price trend was steady on light offerings. Demand was sluggish overall into all channels; a few locations in fast food noted fairly good demand. Floor stocks were in balance; buyers indicated they were closely monitoring inventory levels, making downward adjustments in regular commitments as warranted. Weights were mostly desirable. Trade activity on parts was limited to as need basis and spotty. Offerings were light to moderate. The market tone on dark meat items and tenderloins was steady to firm; steady to weak on the balance.

**WESTERN** The market tone was about steady. Offerings were easily adequate to cover the current fair buyers' interest. Retailer demand moderate overall with best interest noted for parts, particularly where features in progress. Floor stocks were in fairly good balance. The market tone remained mixed on parts with dark meat items in the strongest position.

## CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	2005		2004	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
WEEK ENDING 02/12/05	213,403	208,421		+02
EGGS SET	175,844	167,265		+05
CHICKS PLACED				

## Broiler Eggs Set In 19 Selected States up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 12, 2005. This was up 2 percent 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.

## Broiler Chicks Placed Up 5 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 176 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 12, 2005. Placements were up 5 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through February 12, 2005 were 1.04 billion, up 4 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 26-Mar-05 is estimated at 160.6 million head. This compares to 158.7 million head the previous week and to 158.0 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 154.6 million head and the composite weighted average price was 76.52 cents per pound.

FEBRUARY 15, 2005

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEBRUARY 16, 2005

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 AVG
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	
BREAST - B/S	620	135.00-210.00	142-147	144.67
TENDERLOINS	228	142.00-170.00	145-148	147.48
BREAST - LINE RUN	87	85.00-91.00	-	88.89
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	64	38.00-51.00	40-42	41.81
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	527	28.00-32.00	29-30	29.57
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	916	29.00-34.00	30-32	31.17
WINGS (WHOLE)	310	98.00-127.00	115-118	115.60
WINGS (CUT)	463	130.00-137.00	132-134	132.97
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD AVG
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	
BREAST - B/S	695	130.00-210.00	133-138	140.91
TENDERLOINS	203	140.00-170.00	145-148	147.46
BREAST - LINE RUN	97	82.00-97.00	87-89	88.79
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	527	28.00-32.00	29-30	29.65
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	796	30.00-34.00	31-32	31.23
WINGS (WHOLE)	335	98.00-122.00	112-117	113.34
WINGS (CUT)	633	129.00-137.00	132-134	133.30
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

\*\*\*\*\*  
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR F.O.B. DOCK.

\*\*\*\*\*  
F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
50.00 - 55.00	51.94	50.50-55.50	52.17	52.41

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 no better than fair as dealers remained cautious and selective and limited orders to immediate needs. Offerings of breast items were readily available and slow to clear. Tenderloins were well cleared. Wings were available. Dark meat cuts were adequate to at least adequate although boneless skinless thighs were well cleared. Movement through retail channels was light to no better than fair. Distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady on tenders, thighs and boneless skinless thighs; weak on breast items. Other items were generally steady.

\*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. FEB 15, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	150-155	157.27	654,259	
TENDERLOINS	145	139.93	155,240	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	86-87	94.75	104,400	
BREAST - LINE RUN	86	87.15	94,600	
LEGS	44-45	46.14	154,600	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31	30.69	486,975	
DRUMSTICKS	30-31	36.55	168,210	
THIGHS	37-38	44.73	66,940	
B/S THIGHS	96-97	92.32	104,880	
WINGS (WHOLE)	115-116	124.02	137,680	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.77	15,720	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.09	16,720	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	63.07	29,200	

FEB 16, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	150	142.32	936,600	
TENDERLOINS	145	150.55	80,480	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	84-85	96.29	102,280	
BREAST - LINE RUN	84	85.51	99,200	
LEGS	44-45	41.90	307,040	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31	32.34	269,568	
DRUMSTICKS	30-31	35.76	109,720	
THIGHS	37-38	45.26	52,200	
B/S THIGHS	96-97	94.60	66,360	
WINGS (WHOLE)	114-115	128.98	125,840	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.32	24,440	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	31.02	13,080	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.07	18,440	

\*\*\*\*\*  
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 WTS		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Alabama	3,831	3,942	3,910	4,190	5.26	5.13	3,789	5.33
Arkansas	5,088	5,456	5,297	5,372	5.19	4.85	4,681	5.21
Delmarva	2,168	2,238	2,221	1,984	5.64	5.43	2,234	5.53
KY-LA-TN	2,166	2,115	2,088	2,203	5.13	4.73	2,144	5.20
Mississippi	2,876	3,081	2,998	3,047	5.53	5.36	2,931	5.63
North Car	2,561	2,500	2,419	2,482	6.59	6.48	2,292	6.43
Texas	2,368	2,380	2,427	3,116	5.26	5.19	2,238	5.35
Total	21,058	21,712	21,360	22,394	5.46	5.24	20,309	5.47
Mon-Wed	64,462(A)			62,501(A)				

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 16-Feb-05 is estimated to be 31,505,000 head up 3.38 percent from a week ago and up 1.86 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,476,000, last year 30,929,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-73
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		180-192

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 19-Feb-05

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	02/19/05 (1)		02/12/05	
	THOUSAND HEAD			
Broiler/fryer	162,454(2)		159,891	
Light hens	1,389		1,446	
Heavy hens	1,322		1,254	
Total	165,165		162,591	

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 19-Feb-05 is 162.8 million head compared to 154.1 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.8 million head or 0.0 million less than estimated available. For the week of 26-Feb-05 the estimated available is 163.4 million head.

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

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 02/14/05	82,994		43,631	
AM 02/01/05	78,113		44,671	
CHG	4,881		-1,040	
PCT CHG	6		-2	

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)**

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	02/14/05	02/07/05	02/16/04	02/14/05	02/07/05	02/16/04
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	2,038	1,741	6,240	6,912	6,994	4,154
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	56	62	446	3,735	3,923	2,163

**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 FEBRUARY 14, 2005

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE	
		74-81	76-84
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES FOR 02/15/05**

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	HEAVY FOWL lb.	.65	.70	.68	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.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	3.00
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.70	1.10	1.00	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.00	7.25
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	12					

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending February 11, 2005

	Whole		Legs W/Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/Gizzards	Hens
	Chickens	Breasts				
<b>RAYON</b>						
Low	73.21	130.15	93.55	20.34	8.13	54.50
High	76.06	138.29	93.55	24.40	10.17	54.50
Mostly	73.21	134.22	93.55	22.37	10.17	54.50

**SAN JUAN**

Low	73.21	126.09	89.48	20.34	10.17	54.50
High	76.47	138.29	93.55	24.40	14.24	54.50
Mostly	75.65	130.15	89.48	24.40	12.20	54.50

**NEW SAN JUAN**

Low	74.84	126.09	89.48	20.34	10.17	52.88
High	76.87	134.22	97.62	24.40	12.20	52.88
Mostly	74.84	130.15	93.55	24.40	10.17	52.88

**BECERRA**

Low	75.65	134.22	89.48	20.34	12.20	55.32
High	76.87	138.29	93.55	28.47	16.27	55.32
Mostly	75.65	134.22	93.55	24.40	14.24	55.32

**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally slow to fair at best. Seller offerings were generally noted as adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 69 to 83 cents. Trade sentiment remained about steady. In the parts complex, bone-in and boneless/skinless breasts remained readily available. Wings were ample and slow to clear. Tenders were tight. Other items were generally noted as adequate and in manageable balance.

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

RANGE	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	66-87
NO. OF BOXES		7,045

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby
	Fax	(213)534-1333	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	