



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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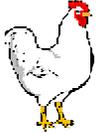
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady in the East, mostly steady to fully steady elsewhere. Retail demand was seasonally slow to light, and food service was light to fairly good. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient for trade needs. Part time schedules were planned or in progress at some plants due to lighter than desired bird weights. In the parts structure, trading was typically light to fair for this holiday period. Breast items were mostly adequate, wings were readily available, and dark meat was mixed ranging balanced to close. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to light, 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 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 73.75 cents last year on March 24, 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	178.50
BREASTS - B/S	156.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	87.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.00
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	105.00

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

SOUTHERN REGION Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was seasonally light with trading limited and interest focused on more traditional holiday meat items. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle light trade needs. Processing schedules were mixed with some plants running reduced schedules due to Good Friday or light bird weights. In the parts structure, movement was light to fair, and supplies of all items were at least adequate or available and moving. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to light, but mostly desirable.

NORTHEAST REGION Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally light and unaggressive. Offerings of all sizes were generally sufficient for the limited demand. Retail and distributive movement was light. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items were adequate to at least adequate. Dark meat cuts were fully sufficient. Wings were available and slow to clear.

MIDWEST REGION The whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady to fully steady. Offerings and interest remained light; fill-in trade on 3 up wogs into the Chicago area noted at 73 cents. Demand into retail outlets was light, while food service movement was varied, light to fairly good. Floor stocks were manageable and for the most part in close balance. Weights were generally in a desirable range. Parts trade was good on regular wings, moderate in dark meat and light on balance of parts. Supplies of breast items were adequate, dark meat was in close balance, and large wings were plentiful. The market tone was steady to firm on dark meat items, about steady on wings and steady on the balance.

WESTERN REGION The market tone was fully steady. Offerings were adequate for the currently light buyer's interest. Retailer demand was moderate overall best for parts to cover scattered feature activities. Floor stocks in fair balance.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 03/19/05		PERCENT CHANGE
	2005	2004	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	212,827	210,144	+01
CHICKS PLACED	176,015	171,783	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 19, 2005. This was up 1 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.

CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 176 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 19, 2005. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through March 19, 2005 were 1.92 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 30-Apr-05 is estimated at 162.4 million head. This compares to 162.4 million head the previous week and to 161.1 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 159.8 million head and the composite weighted average price was 76.05 cents per pound.

MARCH 22, 2005

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 23, 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.

POUNDS				WTD	POUNDS				WTD
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	555	145.00-160.00	148-150	150.07	BREAST - B/S	580	145.00-160.00	-	149.62
TENDERLOINS	153	149.00-200.00	153-157	156.37	TENDERLOINS	170	147.00-200.00	152-157	154.67
BREAST - LINE RUN	91	90.00-100.00	92-93	93.55	BREAST - LINE RUN	91	90.00-93.00	-	91.63
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	192	78.00-82.00	80-81	80.04
LEGS	47	40.00-51.00	-	43.11	LEGS	86	39.00-51.00	41-42	41.58
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	520	29.00-33.00	30	30.15	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	490	29.00-33.00	30	30.14
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,165	30.00-36.00	32-33	32.27	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,125	30.00-36.00	32-33	32.04
WINGS (WHOLE)	305	70.00-109.00	104-106	101.90	WINGS (WHOLE)	305	70.00-109.00	-	100.59
WINGS (CUT)	245	85.00-122.00	-	112.84	WINGS (CUT)	320	85.00-122.00	-	114.28
DRUMSTICKS	52	35.00-56.00	-	39.27	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 — F.O.B. DOCK.					*****				
RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE			RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE		5-DAY AVERAGE
54.00 - 56.50		54.80			53.50-57.50		55.09		55.58

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 and unaggressive and noted as typical for this seasonal holiday period. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts and tenderloins were sufficient for current needs. Bone-in breast were adequate to available with spot discounting occasionally noted where product is slow to clear. Dark meat cuts were adequate. Wings were available. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally light and selective. The market tone was generally steady on boneless skinless breasts and tenders; cautious on bone-in breasts. Wings were about steady to barely steady.

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

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*		AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	160	155.07	713,700	BREAST - B/S	160	154.15	607,330		
TENDERLOINS	155-160	152.91	218,327	TENDERLOINS	155-160	159.09	112,840		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	92-93	98.44	99,760	BREAST - WITH RIBS	91-92	97.70	90,480		
BREAST - LINE RUN	92	91.93	109,600	BREAST - LINE RUN	91	90.10	75,000		
LEGS	44-45	44.02	314,760	LEGS	44-45	43.68	344,560		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32	31.89	352,368	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32	34.48	225,210		
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	36.51	183,820	DRUMSTICKS	31-32	38.30	117,480		
THIGHS	38-39	47.76	75,540	THIGHS	38-39	46.44	56,640		
B/S THIGHS	96-97	92.98	88,470	B/S THIGHS	96-97	95.53	82,360		
WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	104.19	156,480	WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	104.15	121,880		
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.68	11,080	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.28	24,960		
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	27.59	16,640	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	27.57	13,960		
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.13	23,920	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.45	17,360		

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
Alabama	4,015	4,032	4,020	3,931	5.33	4.94	3,732	5.24
Arkansas	5,419	5,420	5,452	5,177	5.21	4.95	5,224	5.10
Delmarva	1,937	2,216	2,220	2,102	5.58	5.43	1,889	5.60
KY-LA-TN	2,179	2,204	2,105	2,414	4.94	4.97	2,155	4.94
Mississippi	2,650	2,800	3,032	3,039	5.59	5.40	2,861	5.55
North Car	2,456	2,463	2,430	2,561	6.52	6.48	2,471	6.49
Texas	2,164	2,124	2,154	2,380	5.19	5.10	2,430	5.19
Total	20,820	21,259	21,413	21,604	5.45	5.26	20,762	5.39
Mon-Wed	63,970(A)				63,839(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-Mar-05 is estimated to be 31,149,000 head down 0.02 percent from a week ago and up 3.04 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,155,000, last year 30,230,000)

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

	ICE PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	105-107
	DRY PACK	105-108
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 26-Mar-05

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/26/05 (1)	03/19/05
	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	153,640 (2)	162,655
Light hens	1,683	1,307
Heavy hens	1,320	1,327
Total	156,643	165,333

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 26-Mar-05 is 164.0 million head compared to 154.6 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 153.9 million head or 10.1 million less than estimated available. For the week of 02-Apr-05 the estimated available is 165.4 million head.

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

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 03/21/05	96,777	46,421
AM 03/01/05	88,108	41,709
CHG	8,669	4,712
PCT CHG	10	11

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	03/21/05	03/14/05	03/22/04	03/21/05	03/14/05	03/22/04
PACIFIC COAST	3,033	3,124	6,704	6,402	6,501	3,918
LOS ANGELES	66	48	355	3,424	3,674	2,290

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 MARCH 21, 2005

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE
		74-78
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	80-88

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 03/22/05

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	.55	.45	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.	.25	.30
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	5.25	6.50
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	2.50	17.00
ROOSTERS lb.	.80	.90	.86	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	1.20	1.75	1.37	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.95	1.75	1.39	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.50	8.25
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	78					

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending March 18, 2005

	Whole	Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/		
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	65.00	130.01	73.13	16.25	12.19	60.94
High	73.13	142.20	85.32	20.31	16.25	60.94
Mostly	73.13	138.13	81.26	18.28	14.22	60.94
SAN JUAN						
Low	71.10	125.95	69.07	16.25	12.19	62.97
High	73.13	138.13	81.26	20.31	16.25	62.97
Mostly	71.91	130.01	73.13	18.28	14.22	62.97
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	75.57	130.01	89.38	20.31	12.19	54.44
High	76.79	138.13	97.51	28.44	16.25	54.44
Mostly	75.57	138.13	97.51	24.38	14.22	54.44
BECERRA						
Low	71.50	130.01	85.32	16.25	12.19	63.79
High	72.72	138.13	93.44	24.38	16.25	63.79
Mostly	71.91	134.07	89.38	20.31	14.22	63.79

DELMARVA

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally slow. Seller offerings were fully sufficient for the limited buying interest. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were curtailed in some instances today, and were light overall. Most plants planned to suspend operations either this Friday or on the following Monday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 72 to 84 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were fully adequate to ample.

*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	69-87
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	77.17
NO. OF BOXES	5,592

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