



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
APRIL 22, 2005
VOL. 52 NO. 48

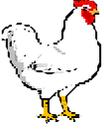
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

 Majority prices for next week are trending unchanged; trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail and food service demand was covered the full range, but had best movement into retail for features and fast food promotions. supplies of all sizes were mixed, but sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to moderate, but stronger for dark meat which was barely balanced to tight. Tenders were in good supply to well cleared, but the remaining breast cuts and wings were at least adequate with mixed interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report Prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 25-APR-2005 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
(Including branded product)				
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	66.00-69.00	52.00-76.00	67.88	29
New York	71.00-73.00			
Los Angeles	80.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	73.00-76.00	60.00-80.00	73.84	89

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.00 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.
986	69.96-76.00	73.92
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	182.00	1,226
BREASTS - B/S	152.50	5,769
BREASTS - WHOLE	84.50	1,316
THIGH MEAT - B/S	99.50	1,057
LEG QUARTERS	36.00	6,969
WINGS	87.50	3,006

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

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Majority prices were unchanged in Chicago for next week. A steady market tone was the call on whole broiler/fryers. Offerings of 3 pound and up birds adequate, lighter weights limited. Movement into all channels covered the full range; best demand into retail features and fast food. Floor stocks adequate; weights desirable. Interest in the parts sector was fairly good on tenders, dark meat cuts, especially leg quarters, breast item received light to fair trade call on ample and sharply discounted offerings. The market tone was fully steady to firm on dark meat lines, steady on tenderloins and wings and weak on breast cuts.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail and food service demand entering the weekend was light to moderate, best for fast food. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair to good. Dark meat was close to tight and continued to move well. Tenders were balanced to well cleared, wings were mixed but available, and all other breast items were at least adequate with limited movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Trading reported for next week's deliveries at mainly unchanged prices on regular commitments and unchanged to slightly higher on new negotiations. Offerings slowly moved into closer balance with trade needs but were still adequate overall. Sizes continued to trend heavy. Buying activity was moderate. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good, best where features in progress. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was about steady to firm on parts with dark meat items in the strongest position.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to fair and generally unaggressive. Offerings were sufficient for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was steady with some caution noted. In the parts structure, boneless skinless breasts remained available and slow to clear; bone-in breasts were at least adequate. Tenders and dark meat cuts were in fairly good balance and clearing satisfactorily. Wings were adequate to fully adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to moderate entering the weekend. Seller offerings were in good balance to fully adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied and were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 71 to 83 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, Leg items were adequate to closely cleared. Boneless/skinless breasts and wings were fully adequate to ample. Bone-in breasts and tenders were adequate and were generally noted as clearing satisfactorily.

*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		60-90
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		73.85
NO. OF BOXES		7,120
CUMULATIVE	04/18/05-04/22/05	74.25
	04/19/04-04/23/04	78.99
NO. OF BOXES	04/18/05-04/22/05	35,236
	04/19/04-04/23/04	37,855

APR 21

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APR 22

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS					WTD AVG	WEEKLY
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)		
BREAST - B/S	697	120.00-197.00	125-132	130.09	592	120.00-200.00	-	135.47	3,270	134.96	
TENDERLOINS	213	160.00-195.00	162-167	164.55	178	160.00-197.00	160-167	164.98	999	166.37	
BREAST - LINE RUN	122	79.00-89.00	80-84	82.20	122	80.00-97.00	81-84	84.72	640	83.77	
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					321	76.18
LEGS	63	45.00-56.00	46-48	48.30	73	44.00-56.00	45-48	47.51	295	48.03	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	540	34.00-38.00	35-36	35.26	550	34.00-38.00	35-36	35.45	2,704	34.94	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,079	35.00-43.00	37-38	37.39	1,199	36.00-40.00	37-38	37.28	5,346	37.05	
WINGS (WHOLE)	290	68.00-91.00	83-85	83.40	290	68.00-91.00	82-85	83.05	1,457	84.28	
WINGS (CUT)	312	86.00-102.00	97-100	98.76	315	86.00-102.00	98-102	98.57	1,856	99.19	
DRUMSTICKS	54	42.00-56.00	-	45.63	TOO FEW TO REPORT					269	50.53
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					176	48.48
B/S THIGHS	100	95.00-110.00	-	100.80	120	91.00-110.00	-	99.67	485	100.03	

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR APR 21, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK.

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR APR 22, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
53.50 - 57.00	55.38	54.00 - 57.50	55.69	55.55

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 cautious but usually light to moderate. Offerings of boneless skinless breast and wings were available and competitively priced. Bone-in breasts were sufficient for current needs. Jumbo tenderloins increased slightly, other sizes were still close balance to short. Dark meat cuts were adequate to well cleared. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate, best for scattered features. The market tone was steady to fully steady on tenders, fully steady to firm on dark meat cuts. Boneless skinless breasts were barely steady to weak. Other items were mixed but generally steady.

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

APR 21, 2005

APR 22, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG	WEEKLY
	TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	145	150.28	672,960	145	150.65	601,960	151.29	3,094,750
TENDERLOINS	165-170	159.47	140,400	165-170	163.31	60,600	158.85	692,091
BREAST - WITH RIBS	82-83	92.95	88,800	82-83	92.09	100,320	91.37	547,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	82	83.22	84,160	82	84.08	91,400	83.49	464,840
LEGS	50-51	48.81	226,280	50-51	46.07	161,080	48.93	1,225,680
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	37-38	36.64	317,040	37-38	37.87	341,040	37.62	2,272,702
DRUMSTICKS	39-40	39.74	96,520	40-41	45.33	112,520	41.38	724,940
THIGHS	41-42	49.10	57,440	41-42	52.66	58,600	50.62	332,500
B/S THIGHS	101-102	95.25	127,000	101-102	98.70	97,360	96.99	500,140
WINGS (WHOLE)	83-84	87.19	176,200	83-84	91.44	164,840	89.90	776,620
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.02	16,960	10-12	11.28	17,960	11.48	92,280
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	31.97	17,240	35-40	32.42	11,120	30.35	95,640
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.28	16,000	55-60	58.64	13,080	58.27	101,800

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)
Alabama	4,138	4,055	3,907	3,992	5.21	5.31	4,480	5.44		
Arkansas	5,405	5,360	5,374	5,352	5.11	5.21	5,732	5.14		
Delmarva	2,103	2,150	2,231	2,240	5.56	5.68	2,186	5.66		
KY-LA-TN	2,127	2,201	2,155	2,128	4.96	4.96	2,306	4.98		
Mississippi	3,443	3,115	2,868	2,798	5.81	5.78	3,748	5.70		
North Carolina	2,608	2,469	2,497	2,402	6.57	6.51	2,557	6.54		
Texas	2,588	2,431	2,559	2,546	5.31	5.38	2,468	5.38		
Total	22,412	21,781	21,591	21,458	5.45	5.49	23,477	5.49		
Mon-Fri	109,937(A)						109,135(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 22-Apr-05 and 23-Apr-05 is estimated to be 33,531,000 head down 4.82 percent from a week ago and up 0.36 percent from a year ago. (Last week 35,230,000, last year 33,412,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 23-Apr-05 is estimated to be 160,312,000 head up 1.44 percent from a week ago, and up 2.76 percent from a year ago. (Last week 158,035,000, last year 156,011,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	105-107
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	105-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	108-111
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	111
HENS OVER 5#	89-93
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	89-95
DUCKS	180-192

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 09-Apr-05 (Preliminary),

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

	THOUSANDS		
Head	28,728	20,718	49,838
Avg Weight	3.64	4.69	6.34
% of total /1	29%	21%	50%
Comparisons			
Last week	33,681	19,740	50,865
Avg Weight	3.75	4.75	6.28
% of total /1	32%	19%	49%
Same week, yr ago /2	24,023	21,522	43,861
Avg Weight	3.70	4.80	6.27
% of total /1	27%	24%	49%
To date/2005	386,148	294,731	664,793
To date/2004	366,052	305,558	613,056

/1 May 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 (Preliminary)

W/E 16-Apr-2005	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	THOUSANDS				
Head	158,035	1,687	1,411	3,098	493
Avg Wt	5.27	3.39	8.26	5.61	6.32
Last week	157,429	1,740	1,314	3,054	501
Same wk yr ago	152,185	1,464	1,287	2,751	422
Avg Wt	5.26	3.37	8.05	5.56	6.54
To-date/2005	2,347,664	22,729	19,823	42,552	7,596
To-date/2004	2,297,086	19,334	18,970	38,304	6,905

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 166.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 160.0 million head, or 6.2 million less than estimated available.

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - APRIL 19, 2005

Prices paid per pound, except as noted.

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE	RANGE
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.60 - .75	Bunnies 2.75 - 7.00ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.75 - .90	Guinea Pigs .20 - 1.50ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.70 - .80	Goats - 45.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	1.05 - 1.10	Kid Goats 35.00 - 37.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.70 - 1.90ea.	Doves 3.50 - 4.00ea.
Banty Roosters	3.00 - 4.00ea.	Chukars - 6.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.50 - 2.75ea.	Total Coops Sold 501
Pigeons	3.50 - 4.00ea.	
White Pigeons	4.50 - 4.85ea.	
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	1.45 - 1.70	
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	1.20 - 1.35	

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 18-APRIL-2005

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

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	143-145	149-151
MIDWEST MOSTLY	127-131	128-133

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	66.00-74.50	72.00-74.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69.00-86.50	72.00-76.50

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

12 OZ.	63.36-72.90
14 OZ.	69.84-81.00
16 OZ.	74.88-89.10

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 were unchanged. Trade sentiment remained steady. Demand was moderate to mostly good. Supplies were in balance. Schedules full-time. 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 18-APR-2005

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	120-135	127-139

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
March	12	159.5	161.9	99%	5.16
	19	159.2	162.0	98%	5.20
	26	153.0	164.0	93%	5.19
April	2	156.9	165.4	95%	5.17
	9	159.3	166.0	96%	5.21
	16	160.0	166.2	96%	5.27
Year to date	2376.0	2436.9	98%		
April	23	166.1			
	30	166.1			

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

Under Federal Inspection

W/E	04/23/05	04/16/05	% CHG	04/24/04	% CHG
Broilers	160,312	158,035*	+1.44	156,011*	+2.76
Cattle	600	586	+02	639*	-06
Hogs	1,970	1,993	-01	1,944*	+01

*ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report on heavy canners; generally unchanged on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to no better than fair for light canners; heavy canners were mostly fair with most supplies being used internally. Offerings were fully adequate for light canners; generally adequate for heavy canners. Processing schedules were mostly normal. The undertone was steady to about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST
LIGHT CANNER HENS **HEAVY CANNER HENS**
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) **(WITHOUT NECKS)**
 24-30 MAJORITY 26-30 TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED
LIGHT CANNER HENS **HEAVY CANNER HENS**
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) **(WITHOUT NECKS)**
 25-33 MAJORITY 28-31 TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

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 Prices were unchanged when compared to a week ago. Demand ranged fair to good for current trade needs. Offerings of spent hens were fully adequate to instances ample for current trade needs. Processing schedules were noted as normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	3-13	8-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Transactions were too few to report. Demand was light for adequate supplies of spent hens. Schedules were set according to a slightly increased finished product demand. Costs of disposal were expected to remain constant.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal costs ranged unchanged. Demand was good with offerings ample as many producers take later slaughter dates in order to remove spent hens. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-8.5	6-8.5

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
 PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR
 SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 25-APR-05

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate to at least moderate for the at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were noted as normal. Sales of finished product were generally adequate for current needs. The undertone was at least 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 Trading was too few to report. Demand was light to moderate for adequate supplies of spent hens. Finished sales were moderate. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules lighter as offerings decreased.

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