



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week were mostly trending unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to about steady. Demand entering the holiday weekend covered the full range with best interest for fast food, caterers, and holiday celebrations. Supplies of all sizes were at least adequate for trade needs. Processing schedules were part time with plants down today or Monday in observance of the holiday. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair. Wings were balanced to tight and clearing well, and all other items were adequate to ample and slow to clear. In production areas, live supplies were moderate to heavy at mostly desirable weights.

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 26-DEC-2005 (cents per lb)

Table with 5 columns: AREAS, MAJORITY, RANGE, WTD AVG, LOADS. Rows include US GRADE A (Including branded product) and specific areas like Chicago, New York, Los Angeles.

Table with 5 columns: Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent, MAJORITY, RANGE, WTD AVG, LOADS. Row for Mississippi.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 70.75 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

Table with 3 columns: LOADS, RANGE, PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT PRELIM. WTD. AVG. Row for 816 loads.

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

Table with 3 columns: ITEM, WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND), VOLUME (000 POUNDS). Rows include LINE RUN TENDERS, BREASTS - B/S, BREASTS - WHOLE, THIGH MEAT - B/S, LEG QUARTERS, WINGS.

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

MIDWEST Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged from Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Offerings were light, but sufficient for trade needs. Fill-in trade noted into the Ohio area; sized 2 1/2 pound wogs at 63 cents and 3 up wogs at 49 cents. Retail movement was mixed, light to good, best into central city stores. Food service trade was fair to fairly good; best into fast food, sports bars, and some catering. Floor stocks were held in close balance for the most part; weights desirable. Parts trade was quiet and many buyers and sellers had departed for Christmas holiday. Supplies of wings were tight to short and wanted; all other parts were fully available and slow to clear. The market tone was fully steady to firm on wings; steady to fully steady on boneless dark meat; about steady, instances weak on breast cuts; and barely steady to weak on bone-in dark meat cuts.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand entering the holiday weekend was seasonally light to fair with limited features. Food service was fair to moderate, best for fast food and holiday celebrations. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle light trade needs. Processing schedules were lighter than normal with some plants down today or Monday. In the parts structure, movement was mostly fair. Wings were balanced to short and clearing. The remaining items were at least adequate with interest light. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

WESTERN Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Trading reported for next week deliveries were at mainly unchanged prices on regular commitments and mixed on new negotiations. Buying activity was fair to fairly good. Retailer demand was moderate overall. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to mostly moderate entering the holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes were fully sufficient for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally light. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, wings were in good balance to well cleared. Breast items were fully adequate to readily available. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to moderate entering the holiday lengthened weekend. Seller offerings were fully adequate for both immediate and early next week deliveries. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate, instances moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, wings cleared well. Other items were fully adequate to ample 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

Table with 2 columns: RANGE, BRANDED U.S. GRADE A. Rows include WEIGHTED AVERAGE, NO. OF BOXES, CUMULATIVE, and another NO. OF BOXES row.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS											
ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS					DEC 23 WEEKLY WTD AVG	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)		
BREAST - B/S	591	84.00-142.00	-	94.15	485	91.00-152.00	-	100.70	2,877	95.96	
TENDERLOINS	195	70.00-140.00	-	87.23	TOO FEW TO REPORT					883	88.13
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					349	59.42
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					281	46.13
LEGS	235	27.00-51.00	-	28.28	200	27.00-51.00	-	29.00	1,149	28.57	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	638	17.00-25.00	20-21	20.20	630	19.00-25.00	20-22	21.19	3,233	20.44	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	977	22.00-34.00	23-24	23.69	1,211	21.00-34.00	23-25	23.64	5,127	23.73	
WINGS (WHOLE)	328	73.00-80.00	74-76	76.32	295	72.00-80.00	77-79	77.69	1,621	76.50	
WINGS (CUT)	267	90.00-95.00	91-94	94.36	237	94.00-100.00	96-98	96.74	1,292	94.86	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					351	34.28
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					135	38.92
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					272	92.83

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS						
TRADING FOR DEC 22, 2005 -- F.O.B. DOCK.					TRADING FOR DEC 23, 2005 -- F.O.B. DOCK.						
<u>RANGE</u>		<u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u>			<u>RANGE</u>		<u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u>			<u>5-DAY AVERAGE</u>	
30.00 - 37.00		32.84			32.00 - 36.50		33.87			33.27	

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 seasonally light to fair as dealers look to other holiday meat items and attempted to keep floor stocks in close balance with immediate needs. Offerings of breast items remained readily available and slow to clear. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate. Wings were in good balance to well cleared. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was fully steady to firm for wings; barely steady to weak for breast items. The balance of items were no better than steady. ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS											
ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG	VOL/LBS	DEC 23 WEEKLY WTD AVG
	TRADING*	TRADING*	TRADING*			TRADING*	TRADING*	TRADING*			
BREAST - B/S	100-105	98.15	555,660	98.15	555,660	100-105	102.66	413,600	100.90	3,084,250	95.96
TENDERLOINS	95-100	94.95	109,740	94.95	109,740	95-100	92.30	84,640	97.18	549,188	88.13
BREAST - WITH RIBS	52-53	66.68	49,200	66.68	49,200	51-52	64.40	93,840	66.09	310,200	59.42
BREAST - LINE RUN	52	51.60	81,000	51.60	81,000	51	51.13	72,000	53.24	437,640	46.13
LEGS	39-40	42.28	96,400	42.28	96,400	39-40	42.42	130,400	40.20	846,840	28.57
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	22-23	24.65	262,200	24.65	262,200	22-23	24.66	241,240	24.11	1,628,400	20.44
DRUMSTICKS	29-30	33.05	73,200	33.05	73,200	29-30	37.52	73,280	34.41	441,050	23.73
THIGHS	32-33	40.96	46,160	40.96	46,160	32-33	39.98	62,440	40.06	228,510	76.50
B/S THIGHS	95-96	89.13	52,200	89.13	52,200	95-96	92.61	47,400	88.01	510,980	94.86
WINGS (WHOLE)	79-80	82.86	210,560	82.86	210,560	80-81	86.60	187,200	82.34	1,115,700	34.28
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.08	20,520	11.08	20,520	10-12	11.27	25,640	11.20	125,200	135
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	50-55	52.40	10,424	52.40	10,424	50-55	50.23	14,184	52.72	59,642	272
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	73.57	19,280	73.57	19,280	70-75	74.59	23,960	74.15	99,600	351

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. 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 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	2,536	3,986	3,984	3,960	5.33	5.45	4,169	5.38	5.38	5.38
Arkansas	3,269	4,944	5,256	5,287	5.26	5.33	6,208	5.28	5.28	5.28
Delmarva	2,222	2,268	2,238	2,048	5.83	5.84	2,550	5.93	5.93	5.93
KY-LA-TN	1,925	2,257	2,074	1,935	4.72	4.82	2,112	5.06	5.06	5.06
Mississippi	2,476	2,992	2,817	2,731	5.57	5.81	3,458	5.66	5.66	5.66
North Carolina	2,065	2,420	2,463	2,530	6.75	6.74	2,754	6.72	6.72	6.72
Texas	2,482	2,495	2,339	1,998	4.24	5.11	2,447	5.22	5.22	5.22
Total	16,975	21,362	21,171	20,489	5.38	5.57	23,698	5.55	5.55	5.55
Mon-Fri	102,373(A)						108,391 (A)			
Saturday	0(included in total for date shown)						3,463			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-Dec-05 and 24-Dec-05 is estimated to be 25,396,000 head down 28.58 percent from a week ago and up 1012.40 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 35,561,000, last year 2,283,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 24-Dec-05 is estimated to be 151,716,000 head down 7.66 percent from a week ago, and up 21.26 percent from a year ago. (Last week 164,304,000, last year 125,118,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		
		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	95-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	114
HENS UNDER 5#	ICE PACK	100-112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	118
DUCKS	ICE PACK	90-105
RABBITS-WHOLE	DRY PACK	109-109
RABBITS-CUT UP		
SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	95-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	114
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	100-112
DUCKS	DRY PACK	118

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 10-Dec-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	26,374	10,525	46,309
Avg Weight	3.70	4.78	6.49
% of total /1	32%	13%	56%

Comparisons

Last week	25,765	16,841	59,390
Avg Weight	3.72	4.67	6.47
% of total /1	25%	17%	58%

Same week, yr ago /2	28,244	18,354	47,661
Avg Weight	3.62	4.64	6.37
% of total /1	30%	19%	51%

To date/2005	1,316,476	1,033,350	2,477,878
To date/2004	1,272,719	1,030,592	2,256,025

/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 17-Dec-2005	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
Head	164,304	1,404	1,488	2,892	521
Avg Wt	5.37	3.28	7.87	5.64	6.71
Last week	161,899	1,270	1,483	2,753	518
Same wk yr ago	159,224	1,499	1,462	2,961	540
Avg Wt	5.22	3.26	7.87	5.54	6.75
To-date/2005	8,049,593	71,036	70,846	141,882	24,974
To-date/2004	7,829,779	68,411	68,047	136,458	23,659

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 157.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 166.3 million head, or 8.4 million more than estimated available.

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
Week ending	Slaughtered	Available	Pct	Wt
November	12 166.0	160.3	104%	5.53
	19 165.6	158.0	105%	5.46
	26 128.0	157.2	81%	5.48
December	3 166.5	157.5	106%	5.47
	10 163.9	158.5	103%	5.46
	17 166.3	157.9	105%	5.37
Year to date	8147.2	8187.5	100%	
December	24 155.4			
	31 154.6			

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

Under Federal Inspection

W/E	12/24/05	12/17/05	% CHG	12/25/04	% CHG
Broilers	151,716	164,304*	-7.66	125,118*	+21.26
Cattle	605	632	-04	495*	+22
Hogs	2,052	2,155	-05	1,709*	+20

*ACTUAL

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 19-DEC-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	149-153	154-158
MOSTLY		

MIDWEST	132-140	133-141
MOSTLY		

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)	57.00-63.50	58.50-62.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	62.00-87.00	69.00-73.00

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 unchanged. The trade sentiment steady to at times fully steady. Demand was good as the Christmas holiday quickly approaches. Supplies were balanced to close. Weights were desirable. Schedules full time this week and cut back for next week for the holiday. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$3.50-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.45-1.95, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.50-0.65, livers at \$0.95-1.70, and feet at \$1.00-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 19-DEC-2005

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	126-146	128-148

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - DATE OF AUCTION: 12-20-05

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

Prices paid per pound, except as noted. **RANGE**

Pekin Ducks	1.50ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.02- .10
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.12- .15
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.25- .30
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	.16- .18
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.12- .16
Guinea Fowl	.35- .40
Banty Roosters	1.00- 1.10ea.
Banty Hens	.50- .60ea.
Leghorn Hens	.25ea.
Pigeons	3.25- 3.50ea.
White Pigeons	5.10- 6.00ea.
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	2.10- 2.30
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	2.00- 2.10
Bunnies	2.00- 5.00ea.
Guinea Pigs	.25- 2.50ea.
Goats	90.00ea.
Doves	2.00ea.
Chukars	2.75- 3.00ea.
Pullets 4-6 LBS	.50

Total Coops Sold 368

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report for heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair for light canners; fair to moderate for heavy canners with most available supplies being used internally. Offerings were mostly adequate current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was steady.

Cents per Pound, Current Negotiations, Without Freight Cost

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
20-29 MAJORITY 24.5-25.5	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

Cents per Pound, Current Negotiations, Freight Cost Included

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-32 MAJORITY 26-27	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 3.5 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HENS Prices were slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for the about adequate to adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	3-11	7-9

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Costs of disposal were TFEWR. Demand was slow for at least adequate offerings from spent hen suppliers. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Removal costs ranged unchanged to 1 half cent lower. Demand was fair to good while offerings were in close balance to slightly short of complete needs for this week. Schedules shortened for next week. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	.5-5.5	

WEST COAST LIGHT Plant worked desired schedules. Offerings generally adequate for current needs.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR
SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 26-DEC-05

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Negotiations were too few to report. Demand was light for adequate offerings of spent h ens. Schedules were reduced. Sales were slowing and fair at best. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was generally fair to moderate for the mostly adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were reduced due to the holiday. Sales of finished product were fair to fairly good. The undertone was generally steady to 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	

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice Fax	(202)720-6911 (202)720-2403	Mike Sheats, Chief
Atlanta, GA	Voice Fax	(404)562-5850 (404)562-5875	Johnny Freeman, Officer-In-Charge
Jackson, MS	Voice Fax	(601)965-4662 (601)359-1175	Gary Brown, Southern States Area Supervisor
Des Moines, IA	Voice Fax Recorded	(515)284-4471 (515)284-4468 (515)284-4545	Mary L. Adkins, Officer-In-Charge
Long Beach, CA	Voice Fax Recorded	(562)388-7337 (562)432-8295 (213)534-1335	Jim Derby, Officer-in-Charge