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Europe Eases Some Precautions on Avian Influenza

Some countries in Europe eased regulations they had implemented in October and November over fears of avian influenza. Among the countries that had imposed regulations confining poultry and other birds in pens to prevent contact with migrating birds, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands and Switzerland have relaxed restrictions.

The German government lowered its assessment of the risk that migratory birds would spread the disease to Germany. Poultry are now allowed to be farmed outdoors. Switzerland cancelled an order requiring farmer to keep poultry indoors, as scheduled, on December 16. The Netherlands based its decision on the perception of a reduced threat to domestic birds since the peak period for bird migration was nearly over.

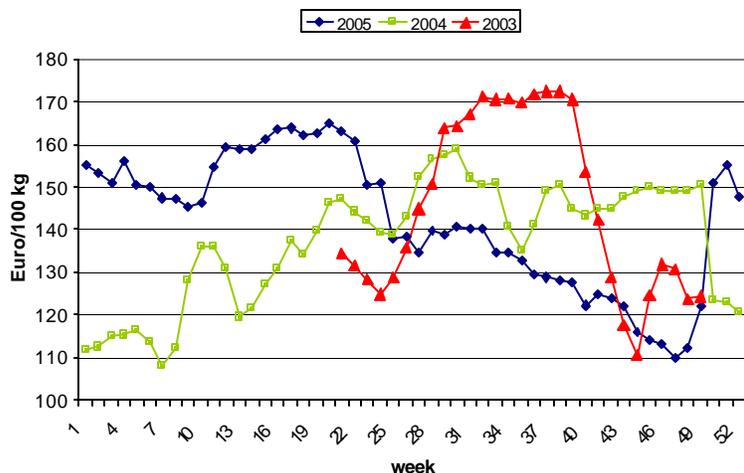
Britain ended a ban on bird shows and pigeon racing and

France and Spain elected to extend the bans on keep poultry outdoors until May 2006. In France, ban on keeping poultry outside applies to 26 of mainland France's 96 local government regions deemed most at risk from infection by migratory birds.

The Spanish government prohibited the open air rearing of any birds in 254 municipalities located within 10 km of 25 wetlands considered at high risk of avian influenza infection and made it mandatory to lock up or vaccinate all birds in zoos within the 25 high-risk zones.

In Spain, fears of avian influenza H5N1 had resulted in a temporary reduction in poultry meat consumption during late October and early November 2005. A subsequent reduction in poultry meat prices combined with Spanish Government efforts to allay consumer fears and consumer loyalty may have lessened the potential for medium to long-term reductions in poultry consumption. The Spanish Government had initiated a large public information campaign to make local farmers, processors, and consumers aware of the safety of Spanish poultry meat.

Spain - Poultry Meat Prices



A Spanish government press release dated December 1, 2005 stated poultry meat consumption for the third week in November was up 13 percent compared to the same week in 2004. However, Spanish poultry producers pointed out that poultry prices were about .50 Euros per kilogram below the cost of production and requested the Spanish government begin to make emergency payments before there was a total collapse of the industry.

Data from the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture indicated the current poultry prices is about 33 percent below the price at the same time last year, but only slightly below the 2003 price.

Source: USDA/FAS; Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación 2005; news wires

Russia Issues Meat Tariff Rate Quota

(From an unofficial translation into English of the text of Russian Government Decree No. 732, "On import of beef, pork and domestic poultry meat in 2006-2009").

The decree establishes import volumes eligible for the lower tariff in Russia's tariff-rate quota regime and the customs duty rates applicable to in-quota and out-of-quota imports.

Quota for meat and edible by-products of domestic poultry* in thousand metric tons

	2006	2007	2008	2009
EU	220.6	228.6	236.4	244.4
US	841.3	871.4	901.4	931.5
Paraguay	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Other countries	63.9	66.2	68.8	71.1
Total	1,130.8	1,171.2	1,211.6	1,252.0

*indicated in commodity line 0105, fresh, chilled or frozen (TN VED of Russia code 0207)

The U.S. share will be 74.4% annually through 2009.

Rate level limits of import customs tariffs for 2006 - 2009 (in percent of customs value or in Euro)

Year		% Min Value	No less than Euro per kg
2006	in-quota	25	0.20
	out-of-quota	60	0.48
2007	in-quota	25	0.20
	out-of-quota	50	0.40
2008	in-quota	25	0.20
	out-of-quota	50	0.40
2009	in-quota	25	0.20
	out-of-quota	40	0.32

Source: USDA/FAS

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade

U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending December 17, 2005	Year-To-Date			
	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
TYPE				
Liquid	403	411	17,042	20,184
Frozen	0	28	130	39
Dried	14	57	862	913
Total	417	496	18,034	21,136

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending December 17, 2005	Year-To-Date			
	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
TYPE				
Liquid	129	30	6,475	7,578
Frozen	4	40	818	1,599
Dried	0	0	371	2,113
Total	133	70	7,664	11,290

Inspected Shell Eggs

U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)

Week Ending December 17, 2005	Year-To-Date			
	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
TYPE				
Jumbo	0	0	200	392
Extra Large	1,430	4,695	183,241	228,086
Large	6,480	12,455	305,456	467,703
Medium	630	818	100,007	139,122
Ungraded	3,750	8,120	232,678	338,155
Misc	0	950	9,753	17,740
Total	12,290	27,038	831,335	1,191,198

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section
Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Dec 23, 2005

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED

FAT CONTENT	--- PRICES ---		---- VOLUME ----	
	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	17.00	20.00	341,200	-
WTD AVERAGE	17.00	20.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	14.00-22.00	11.00-19.00	916,400	408,000
WTD AVERAGE	18.00	14.10		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

U.S./Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection

W/E 17-Dec-05 (PRELIMINARY)

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	-----Thousands-----		
Head	1,404	1,488	2,892
Last Week	1,270	1,483	2,753
Same week yr ago	1,499	1,462	2,961
To-date/2005	71,036	70,846	141,882
To-date/2004	68,411	68,047	136,458

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	-----Thousands-----		
Head	142	0	142
Last Week	109	0	109
Same week yr ago	292	0	292
To-date/2005	12,566	66	12,632
To-date/2004	12,465	147	12,612

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Total U.S. Fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	-----Thousands-----		
Head	1,546	1,488	3,034
Last Week	1,379	1,483	2,862
Same week yr ago	1,791	1,462	3,253
To-date/2005	83,602	70,912	154,514
To-date/2004	80,876	68,194	149,070

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Dec 23, 2005

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED

FAT CONTENT	--- PRICES ---		---- VOLUME ----	
	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	17.75-18.00	400,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		17.85		
15-20%				
RANGE	11.00-20.00	14.00-17.00	2,204,000	1,404,000
WTD AVERAGE	17.90	15.50		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	14.00	80,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		14.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, INCLUDING BULK MEAT and FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 23 DECEMBER 2005.

Market activity was light going into the holiday weekend. Fresh breast meat was barely steady to weak and trading was at lower trending prices. Fresh and frozen thigh meat was generally steady. Supplies of bulk parts were adequate for the light demand. Market tone was about steady on parts. Fresh scapula moved at 125 cents delivered. Grade A 4-8 lb breasts traded at 116 for January shipment. For export: fresh and frozen tom drums and fresh thigh meat traded at open prices for January shipment.

EXPORT TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2005						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		R	38.00	120	37.78	408
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		W	33.00	20	31.67	60
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	98.00		98.00	40	98.00	40
EXPORT TRADING						
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2005						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	38.00		38.00	120		
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		W	33.00	20		
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		R	98.00	120		
EXPORT TRADING						
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2005						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	39.00		39.00	20		
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	33.00		33.00	20		
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		R	98.00	120		
EXPORT TRADING						
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2005						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	37.00-38.00		37.35	228		
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	31.00		31.00	40		
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		T	17.00	40		
		R	98.00	120		
EXPORT TRADING						
MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2005						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	39.00		39.00	40		
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		T	17.00	40		
		R	98.00	120		

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.