



USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS



The market tone on frozen hens and consumer sized toms was steady to fully steady. Demand light to moderate. Trading centered in the East on a heavy volume of frozen private label basted-netted hens and toms with price ceilings of 72 May, 74 June, 76 July and 78 cents delivered August and in the Midwest on frozen private label commodity hens and toms with ceilings of 70 May, 72 June, 74 July, 76 August and 78 cents delivered September. Offerings light to adequate. The market tone on breast meat was barely steady to fully steady, mostly steady; breast trim steady to barely steady; balance of white meat at least steady. Demand light to good, mostly moderate. Offerings were held with varied degrees of confidence. The market tone on mechanically separated turkey was steady to fully steady with increased activity noted. Offerings light. Trading was active.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading was slow to instances moderate with activity centered on tom necks and thigh meat. Some frozen thigh meat traded 100 cents delivered port for Russia. Demand slow to instances moderate. Some were watching select export channels for future market ramifications. Offerings were held with varied degrees of confidence.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 23, 2006**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	67-69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	67-68	67	67.00	40	-	-	-	56	MARCH
WESTERN REGION 5/	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	3600	APR-OCT
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	67-68	67	67.00	40	-	-	-	24	MARCH
WESTERN REGION	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	5200	APR-OCT

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 24, 2006**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	67-69	-	-	-	-	-	-	960	MAY-AUG
CENTRAL REGION 4/	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	1320	MAR-SEP
WESTERN REGION 5/	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	320	MAY-AUG
CENTRAL REGION 4/	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	680	MAR-SEP
WESTERN REGION 5/	67-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

WEEK OF MARCH 24, 2006	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	67.90 **	67.44	67.75
CENTRAL REGION	67.91	66.50 **	64.00 **
WESTERN REGION	67.30 **	66.50 **	66.00
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	67.40 **	67.00	65.75
CENTRAL REGION	67.83	66.25 **	63.00 **
WESTERN REGION	67.30 **	66.50 **	64.00

**BASED ON OFFERS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED TURKEY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	88-96
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	88-96
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	67-72
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	67-72
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	67-80

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	98-129
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	94-129
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	93-129
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	92-129
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	106-119

NATIONAL FRESH TURKEYS - U.S. GRADE A, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS (prices reflect turkeys with timers) Week of Mar 27, 2006

	Price (cents/lb.)	Volume (lbs.)
PRICED AT TIME OF SALE		
8-16 lbs.	81.88	505,000
16-24 lbs.	82.83	120,000
PRICE TO BE DETERMINED		
8-16 lbs.	--	22,000
16-24 lbs.	--	12,000

Total Volume:		659,000

TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED IN FEDERALLY INSPECTED PLANTS

W/E 18-Mar-2006 (Preliminary)

	<u>YOUNG TURKEYS</u>			<u>TOTAL TURKEYS</u>	
	<u>PCT CHG</u>	<u>AVG LIVE WT</u>	<u>OLD BANDED</u>	<u>AVG LIVE WT</u>	
-THOUSAND HEAD-	PW	WT	-THOUSAND HEAD-	WT	
North East	739 -1	23.99	(A) 743	23.99	
South Atlantic	731 18	35.15	(A) 735	35.15	
North Central	2,100 2	33.44	(A) 2,102	33.44	
South Central	683 -8	19.62	(A) 686	19.62	
West	236 -3	28.60	(A) 239	28.60	
U.S. total	4,489(B) 2	29.79	16 4,505	29.79	

To-date 2006 45,938(B) 58 45,996

To-date 2005 44,663(B) 36 44,699

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 22,000; for the current year to date 241,000; for last year to date 294,000.

TURKEY MOVEMENT TRENDS

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS)

Slaughter-certified ready-to-cook turkeys

February 399,979*
March 1 - 18, 2006 272,289*

To date 2006 1,057,725*
To date 2005 1,060,945*

* Preliminary

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

	<u>YOUNG</u>		<u>YOUNG OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>HENS</u>	<u>TOMS</u>	<u>BREEDERS</u>	
	<u>Thousands</u>			
W/E 18-Mar-2006				
Head	1,821	2,645	22 17	4,505
Avg Wt	17.22	38.51	25.66 25.90	29.79
Last week	2,001	2,376	34 10	4,421
Same wk yr ago	1,582	2,517	17 1	4,117
Avg Wt	16.12	38.18	21.19 49.75	29.64
To-date/2006	18,564	27,132	241 59	45,996
To-date/2005	16,832	27,537	294 36	44,699

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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 MARCH 2006.

The market tone on tom drums was barely steady to fully steady, mostly steady; tom 2-joint wings steady to instances weak; balance of tom bulk parts mostly steady. Demand light to moderate. Offerings of tom drums light to fully adequate, mostly adequate; tom 2-joint wings adequate to ample; tails short; balance of tom bulk parts adequate. The market tone on hen 2-joint wings was steady to barely steady, hen full-cut wings steady to fully steady, balance steady. Demand light to moderate for the mixed offerings. Trading centered on thigh meat for March-April export shipments, balance slow. For domestic: fresh scapula 117, plant grade non - basted rib breasts - 12-14 lb. 155, 16-18 lb. 165, 20-22 lb. 170 cents delivered. For export: mature hen wings 20 shipping point, frozen destrapped tenderloins 165 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	116.00	400
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/	135.00		135.00	22
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		F	101.40	200
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	46.00		46.00	7
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH	44.00-46.00		44.63	160
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		F	43.00	40
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	26.00		26.00	5
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		F	25.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	32.00		32.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		T	108.67	60
NECKS, TOM	34.00-35.00		34.11	45
NECKS, HEN				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	165.00		165.00	10
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	166.00-169.00		166.75	160
THIGH MEAT		F	73.00	120
THIGH MEAT--FRESH	77.00		77.00	80
BREAST TRIM MEAT	114.00		114.00	40
SCAPULA MEAT	114.00		114.00	20
TENDERLOINS		R	177.00	8
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	164.00		164.00	80
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH	168.00		168.00	80
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	72.00		72.00	20
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	18.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	23.00		23.00	40
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	45.00-46.00		45.57	70
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		M	26.00	32
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		M	35.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	70.00-75.00		72.81	712

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.):

M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted.

3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.

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 24 MARCH 2006.

The market tone on tom breast meat was barely steady to fully steady, mostly steady; breast trim steady to barely steady; tenderloins steady; wing meat and scapula steady to instances firm. Demand light to good, mostly moderate. Offerings of tom breast meat ranged from light and held with confidence to instances burdensome, mostly adequate; breast trim adequate to fully adequate; tenderloins adequate; wing meat with skin and scapula light at best. The market tone on thigh meat was steady to barely steady. Demand light to moderate with some watching select export channels for possible future market ramifications. Offerings of non-Russian product available. The market tone on mechanically separated turkey was steady to fully steady. Demand moderate to instances good for the light offerings. Trading was active for domestic shipments, slow to instances moderate for export. For domestic: mature hen wings 23, fresh drummettes 72-74, fresh scapula 114-123 mostly 117-118, fresh breast trim 117-122 mostly 117-119.50, plant grade non-basted 12-14 lb. breasts 155, plant grade basted 20-24 lb. breasts 155 cents delivered. For export: tom necks 34-35, fresh tom drums 43, tom defatted gizzards 51-56 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	LST CDE	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY	
					WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/	115.00		115.00	120	115.77	520
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/		R	135.00	22	143.04	46
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		F	101.40	200		
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	45.00-50.00		47.00	200	46.70	287
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH	46.00		46.00	80	44.85	400
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		F	43.00	40		
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	25.00-26.00		25.26	54	24.66	299
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN	28.00		28.00	20	28.00	20
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	40.00		40.00	6	36.89	206
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		T	108.67	60	108.67	60
NECKS, TOM	34.00-35.00		34.20	50	34.09	175
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	160.50-163.00		162.32	110	162.54	120
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	162.00-169.00		166.94	930	167.20	1,680
THIGH MEAT		F	73.00	120		
THIGH MEAT--FRESH	76.00-79.00		78.00	60	77.43	140
BREAST TRIM MEAT	115.00		115.00	40	114.50	80
SCAPULA MEAT	115.00-116.00		115.50	80	115.14	140
TENDERLOINS						
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	163.50-168.00		167.10	50	164.68	170
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	70.00		70.00	7	71.90	147
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH	167.00-168.00		167.86	70	167.94	170
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	21.00		21.00	40	21.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	20.00-25.00		21.66	384	21.46	796
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	45.00		45.00	40	45.77	302
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		M	26.00	32	26.00	32
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS	34.00		34.00	40	34.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	19.00		19.00	80	19.00	80
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	75.00-76.00		75.33	120	73.28	952

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.):

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2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted.

3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.