



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY  
APRIL 07, 2006  
VOL. 53 NO. 42

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week were trending unchanged. Trade sentiment was mixed, but overall steady at best. Demand entering the weekend was light to moderate, best for retail ads and fast food specials. One topic of discussion was the possible workforce walkout scheduled for Monday which could interrupt plant schedules and product availability. As a result, some plants will operate tomorrow just in case of disruptions next week. Supplies were adequate to ample with discounts noted to help increase movement. In the parts structure, demand was light to fair, best where weekend needs increased. Supplies were mixed, but mostly in a better balance to readily available. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were desirable to heavy, 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 10-APR-2006 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	46.00-49.00	38.00-68.00	47.38	26
New York	48.00-51.00			
Los Angeles	75.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	65.00-68.00	51.00-72.00	66.57	89

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 67.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
938	63.62-70.00	67.44
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	138.00	1,225
BREASTS - B/S	111.00	5,683
BREASTS - WHOLE	57.50	1,307
THIGH MEAT - B/S	68.00	1,085
LEG QUARTERS	17.00	8,566
WINGS	86.50	2,939

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

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was barely steady to weak. Offerings were mixed, moderate to plentiful on heavy birds, balanced on smaller weights. Much trade discussion centered on possible disruptions in the flow of product through pipeline if threatened workforce walkout occurs Monday. Demand overall was spotty, light to fair at best into all channels at times better into retail advertisements and fast food promotions. Floor stocks were adequate to more than desired; weights desirable. Parts supplies were adequate with buyers searching longer to meet commitments on boneless/skinless breasts, dark meat and leg quarters. The market tone was fully steady to firm on dark meat, steady with a fully steady undertone on boneless/skinless breasts and generally steady on all other parts.

**SOUTHERN BROILER** Trade sentiment was mostly steady at best. Demand entering the weekend was fair to moderate with mixed trading. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair to moderate with some reports of improved export interests. Supplies were mixed with items in an overall better position than previous weeks, but still available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. The market tone was about steady and trade sentiments barely steady. Early trading reported at unchanged to lower prices. Offerings were ample, with heavy weights in the longest position. Excess product often discounted to help motivate buying activity. Retail demand was light to moderate. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers increased slightly and was noted as mostly fair to moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes ranged adequate to available. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, breast items were generally sufficient for current needs. Tenders were clearing satisfactorily. Dark meat was adequate to at least adequate. Wings were available.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to moderate entering the weekend with some additional activity resulting from reports of possible shortages of work crews and some plant downtime slated for Monday. Seller offerings were fully adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate to heavy and included some operations on Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 48 to 65 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, supplies were generally noted as at least adequate and in fairly good balance overall.

\*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		36-70
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		(A)
NO. OF BOXES		(A)
CUMULATIVE	04/03/06-04/07/06	(A)
	04/04/05-04/08/05	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	04/03/06-04/07/06	(A)
	04/04/05-04/08/05	(A)

(A)Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations

APR 06

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

MAR 31

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				(000)	WTD AVG
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		
BREAST - B/S	569	85.00-155.00	-	97.44	599	85.00-155.00	87-92	95.65	3,082	93.50
TENDERLOINS	143	92.00-147.00	-	97.38	178	90.00-147.00	92-98	95.71	917	95.06
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				112	54.00-62.00	56-59	56.98	400	56.63
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				320	53.81
LEGS	148	16.00-38.00	17-19	19.49	TOO FEW TO REPORT				660	19.55
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	632	11.00-16.00	12-13	12.39	600	12.00-18.00	13-14	13.80	2,993	12.87
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,220	14.00-25.00	15-16	16.38	1,700	13.00-25.00	15	15.78	6,210	15.78
WINGS (WHOLE)	275	62.00-93.00	66-69	70.15	275	64.00-93.00	67-69	71.13	1,363	73.46
WINGS (CUT)	245	87.00-98.00	88-92	92.02	290	87.00-95.00	89-93	91.28	1,360	91.41
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				357	25.11
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				217	27.76
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				102	59.00-80.00	-	61.76	383	61.91

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR APR 06, 2006 -- F.O.B. DOCK.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR APR 07, 2006 -- F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
30.00 - 36.00	32.20	33.00 - 37.00	34.57	33.64

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 increased entering the weekend and was noted as mostly fair. Offerings of breast items were at least sufficient for current needs; dark meat cuts were adequate to at least adequate. Tenders continued to clear satisfactorily. Wings were available. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light to moderate, best where retail ad activity was in progress. The market tone was fully steady on boneless skinless thigh meat; generally steady on the balance of items.  
 ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

APR 06

APR 07

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	100-105	95.38	804,460	100-105	97.75	651,160	96.23	3,566,850
TENDERLOINS	95-100	94.11	209,500	95-100	90.93	125,780	96.16	885,850
BREAST - WITH RIBS	56-57	64.41	119,160	56-57	66.97	92,880	65.35	457,778
BREAST - LINE RUN	56	59.50	72,000	56	59.67	81,000	59.03	444,600
LEGS	29-30	27.10	197,280	29-30	27.39	178,150	26.62	1,011,250
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	14-15	16.74	281,360	14-15	16.94	271,440	16.38	1,606,720
DRUMSTICKS	20-21	22.40	142,480	20-21	24.66	91,240	23.55	503,350
THIGHS	23-24	32.23	60,760	23-24	31.87	54,120	31.46	254,240
B/S THIGHS	70-71	65.66	125,440	71-72	58.98	51,320	64.49	516,260
WINGS (WHOLE)	70-71	70.86	226,900	70-71	72.53	166,140	70.37	1,028,420
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.20	32,800	10-12	11.94	17,600	11.73	112,680
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25-30	24.55	14,080	25-30	24.25	43,560	25.15	120,720
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	48.66	11,320	45-50	48.09	24,600	47.90	104,280

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	4,439	4,037	3,979	4,012	5.35	5.47	4,016	5.35		
Arkansas	4,780	5,455	5,248	5,177	5.18	5.23	4,534	5.19		
Delmarva	2,513	2,232	2,338	2,559	5.76	5.77	2,246	5.77		
KY-LA-TN	2,235	2,270	2,125	2,222	4.93	4.99	2,896	5.07		
Mississippi	3,218	2,882	2,885	2,789	5.79	5.88	3,342	5.67		
North Carolina	3,195	2,521	2,478	2,298	6.84	6.88	2,660	6.94		
Texas	2,589	2,568	2,482	2,522	5.29	5.35	2,450	5.35		
Total	22,969	21,965	21,535	21,215	5.54	5.58	22,144	5.54		
Mon-Fri	110,561(A)						107,632 (A)			
Saturday	1,748 (included in total for date shown)						1,081			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 07-Apr-06 and 08-Apr-06 is estimated to be 34,364,000 head up 3.42 percent from a week ago and up 7.05 percent from a year ago.  
 (Last week 33,229,000, last year 32,102,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 08-Apr-06 is estimated to be 163,452,000 head up 1.01 percent from a week ago, and up 3.83 percent from a year ago. (Last week 161,822,000, last year 157,429,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	94-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	97-105
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-73
DUCKS	-
RABBITS WHOLE	-
CUT UP	-

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	ICE PACK	DRY PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS			89-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP			108-114
HENS OVER 5#			100
DUCKS			111-118
			88-102
			102-109
			185-190

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 25-Mar-06 (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	30,065	16,890	53,424
Avg Weight	3.73	4.83	6.44
% of total /1	30%	17%	53%
Comparisons			
Last week	31,680	16,214	52,627
Avg Weight	3.72	4.81	6.44
% of total /1	32%	16%	52%
Same week, yr ago /2	29,202	17,481	43,843
Avg Weight	3.74	4.73	6.34
% of total /1	32%	19%	48%
To date/2006	328,717	216,976	647,156
To date/2005	323,739	254,273	564,090

/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 01-APR-2006	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
Head	161,822	1,166	1,433	2,599	485
Avg Wt	5.28	3.21	7.80	5.74	6.69
Last week	162,089	1,082	1,562	2,644	513
Same wk yr ago	155,010	1,671	1,421	3,092	500
Avg Wt	5.17	3.34	8.07	5.51	6.41
To-date/2006	2,088,573	15,763	18,652	34,415	6,549
To-date/2005	2,032,200	19,302	17,098	36,400	6,602

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 164.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 163.8 million head, or 1.1 million less than estimated available.

**ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
February 25	160.4	163.9	98%	5.48
March 4	160.3	163.4	98%	5.34
11	162.6	164.2	99%	5.32
18	164.3	164.3	100%	5.31
25	164.1	164.9	100%	5.36
April 1	163.8	164.9	99%	5.28
Year to date	2114.0	2122.8	100%	
April 8		163.5		
April 15		163.2		

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

Under Federal Inspection

W/E	-----THOUSANDS-----		% CHG	% CHG	% CHG
	04/08/06	04/01/06	04/09/05		
Broilers	163,452	161,822*	+1.01	157,429*	+3.83
Cattle	636	613	+04	581*	+09
Hogs	1,992	1,973	+01	1,986*	0

\*ACTUAL

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 03-APR-2006

**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	151-155	157-161
MIDWEST MOSTLY	132-142	133-143

**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)	46.00-57.00	52.00-53.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	58.00-86.00	71.00-73.00

**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 remained unchanged. The trade sentiment was about steady. Demand was moderate to at times fairly good. Supplies were adequate. Schedules were full time. 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 03-APR-2006

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

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - DATE OF AUCTION: 04-04-06**

\*\*AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY\*\*

Prices paid per pound, except as noted.

	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.60 - .80
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.60 - .80
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.35 - .45
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.50 - .70
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.50 - .65
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	.60 - .80
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.40 - .60
Guinea Fowl	1.90 - 1.95ea.
Banty Roosters	3.25 - 3.50ea.
Banty Hens	1.75 - 2.00ea.
Silkie	2.00 - 2.50ea.
Pigeons	5.50 - 6.00ea.
White Pigeons	6.00 - 6.10ea.
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	2.85 - 2.95ea.
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	2.50 - 2.70ea.
Bunnies	4.00 - 12.00ea.
Guinea Pigs	3.50 - 7.00ea.
Goats	50.00 - 55.00ea.
Kid Goats	35.00 - 40.00ea.
Chukars	5.00 - 6.00ea.

Total Coops Sold 600

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Trading was too few to report for heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to the previous week. Offerings of light canners were more than sufficient for the generally light and unaggressive demand; adequate to at least adequate for heavy canners with most available supplies being used internally. Demand was light to fair. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was steady at best.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
18-28 MAJORITY 23-24	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
20-29 MAJORITY 24.5-25.5	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 generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand ranged light to moderate, best into rendering operations. Offerings of spent hens were adequate to at least adequate for current needs. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	4-12	9-10

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Negotiations were too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of light fowl. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were fair. Salvage values were expected to remain constant.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Removal prices ranged unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with demand light to moderate. Schedules normal. Trade sentiment steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	4-11	5-8

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

#### HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 10-APRIL-06

**SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was mostly fair to moderate at best for the at least adequate to fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules for next week were noted as normal to less than normal. The undertone was about steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
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.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Trading was TFEWR. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

#### USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

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