



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 15, 2006
VOL. 53 NO. 150

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News and Analysis Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week are trending unchanged in the West, but mostly higher elsewhere. Trade sentiment was at least steady to firm. Retail demand entering the weekend was light to fair with limited features present. Food service was fair to moderate, but good for fast food and catering businesses as the holidays approached. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was moderate to good. Gizzards were readily available and slow to clear. The remaining parts were in good balance to tight and frequently moving at premium levels when located. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but 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 18-DEC-2006 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	61.00-64.00	58.00-70.00	63.11	28
New York	63.00-66.00			
Los Angeles	76.00			Southeast
Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	68.00-70.00	61.00-75.00	69.27	92

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 69.25 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.
967	63.00-71.00	68.73

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

	WTD. AVG.	VOLUME
LINE RUN TENDERS	154.50	1,139
BREASTS - B/S	128.50	5,345
BREASTS - WHOLE	80.50	1,157
THIGH MEAT - B/S	91.00	1,010
LEG QUARTERS	32.00	7,888
WINGS	101.00	2,573

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

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail demand entering the weekend was light to moderate with few features. Food service was fair to good, best into fast food channels where promotions and holiday shopping began, and caterers for holiday gatherings. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, interest was fair to good. Wings were tight and continued to move strong, and the remaining items were in good balance to tight and moving at premium levels. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings were adequate to well cleared for current needs. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. Fast food interest was noted as fairly good. The market tone was fully steady. In the parts complex, gizzards were available and slow to clear; most other items were adequate to closely cleared.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was steady. Offerings in good balance. Retailer demand fairly good. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices moved 2 cents higher into the Chicago area. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was fully steady. Offers were limited on a light to moderate trade inquiry. Retail movement was slowing and generally light overall, while food service activity was moderate to good into fast food and catering. Floor stocks were adequate with some shortages of wogs noted; weights desirable to light. Parts trade continued moderate to fairly good on closely balanced to tight supplies. The market tone was full steady to firm on all parts.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased entering the weekend and was sufficient in keeping the bulk of available offerings cleared satisfactorily. 4.00 pound sizes were often noted as at least adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 64 to 74 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to firm. In the parts complex, offerings were adequate to closely cleared for immediate delivery.

*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	60-78
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	(A)
	12/11/06 - 12/15/06
	12/12/05 - 12/16/05
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
	12/11/06 - 12/15/06
	12/12/05 - 12/16/05
	(A)

(A) NOT REPORTED TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS

DEC 14

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DEC 15

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	700	115.00-189.00	-	126.20	680	115.00-189.00	-	127.26	3,460	125.77
TENDERLOINS	167	102.00-177.00	106-110	111.01	212	102.00-177.00	107-111	112.28	931	109.02
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				370	72.64
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				185	62.14
LEGS	131	34.00-48.00	36-37	36.70	128	34.00-48.00	36-37	36.44	653	36.59
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	842	23.00-32.00	25-26	26.33	940	23.00-32.00	25-26	26.78	3,944	26.26
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,000	24.00-34.00	27-28	28.58	976	24.00-35.00	27-28	28.88	4,566	28.65
WINGS (WHOLE)	365	90.00-98.00	93-96	95.86	350	91.00-98.00	93-96	96.17	1,805	95.61
WINGS (CUT)	340	109.00-117.00	111-114	113.87	320	109.00-118.00	112-115	114.28	1,470	113.19
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				340	38.12
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				148	40.03
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				440	91.86

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR DEC 14, 2006 -- F.O.B. DOCK.

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR DEC 15, 2006 -- F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
42.00 - 48.00	44.31	42.00 - 48.50	44.75	44.18

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 interest remained moderately good to good entering the weekend. Offerings of most items were in close balance to well cleared. Gizzards were available and slow to clear. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone was barely steady to weak for gizzards; at least steady to firm for the balance of items.

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

DEC 14

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	117.38	667,241	130-135	116.57	796,382	114.87	3,413,901		
TENDERLOINS	110-115	106.28	147,040	115	104.71	246,200	105.72	983,922		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	74.44	95,000	70-71	77.24	91,800	75.05	466,000		
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	73.76	75,600	70	72.91	74,800	72.38	405,440		
LEGS	45-46	44.31	145,600	45-46	43.27	250,200	42.83	1,012,100		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	32-33	31.53	337,670	32-33	32.32	333,840	31.60	1,605,710		
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	40.20	57,620	32-33	35.68	125,600	36.37	525,090		
THIGHS	35-36	41.46	53,280	36-37	41.78	72,680	40.36	337,950		
B/S THIGHS	97-98	93.04	60,660	98-99	89.10	154,460	89.28	515,110		
WINGS (WHOLE)	97-98	98.78	188,880	98-99	99.45	271,620	98.19	1,091,200		
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.57	21,440	10-12	11.43	24,560	11.33	114,760		
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.78	22,360	35-40	35.27	18,840	34.23	75,160		
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	54.73	18,720	50-55	44.30	40,280	53.01	102,280		

DEC 15

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, RI, & PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG)*. 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	
	12/15	12/14	12/13	12/12	12/13	12/12	12/08	12/06	12/08	12/06
Alabama	3,886	3,821	3,819	3,908	5.45	5.45	3,845	5.48		
Arkansas	4,662	5,005	4,959	5,085	5.02	5.29	5,442	5.28		
Delmarva	2,179	2,285	2,292	2,559	5.72	5.76	2,763	5.84		
KY-LA-TN	2,204	2,396	2,313	2,361	5.11	5.11	2,298	5.08		
Mississippi	2,871	2,937	2,823	2,370	5.70	5.93	2,728	5.69		
North Carolina	2,622	2,713	2,720	2,702	6.93	6.92	2,876	6.89		
Texas	2,556	2,556	2,512	2,505	5.28	5.33	2,533	5.33		
Total	20,980	21,713	21,438	21,219	5.54	5.63	22,485	5.61		
Mon-Fri	106,841(A)				109,369(A)					
Saturday	469 (included in total for date shown)				1,648					

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 15-Dec-06 and 16-Dec-06 is estimated to be 31,388,000 head down 6.97 percent from a week ago and down -12.62 percent from a year ago. (Last week 33,741,000, last year 35,923,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 16-Dec-06 is estimated to be 160,281,000 head down 1.86 percent from a week ago, and down 2.45 percent from a year ago. (Last week 163,326,000, last year 164,304,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	91-100
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-108
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-74
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DLVRD TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	ICE PACK	DRY PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS			93-105
ROASTERS 4# & UP			110-114
HENS OVER 5#			98
DUCKS			111-118
			86-100
			100-107
			190-195

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection,

Week ending 09-Dec-06

	(A) 4.25 lbs & down	(B) 4.26- 6.26 lbs	(C) 6.26- 7.75 lbs	(D) 7.76 lbs & up	Total
	-----Thousands-----				
(Preliminary)					
Head	39,631	82,812	27,121	13,762	163,326
Avg Live Wgt	3.85	5.38	6.85	8.18	5.49
% of total /1	24%	51%	17%	8%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	38,990	85,569	25,406	14,471	164,436
Avg Live Wgt	3.76	5.42	6.93	8.48	5.53
% of total /1	24%	52%	15%	9%	100%
Year Ago 2/	58,747	52,293	35,786	15,073	161,899
Avg Live Wgt	3.70	5.72	6.84	8.37	5.46
% of total /1	36%	32%	22%	9%	100%

To date/2006	2,230,585	3,916,096	1,099,475	651,490	7,897,646
To date/2005	2,302,701	3,787,906	1,325,790	468,892	7,885,289

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

Weight Class Description:

(A) This size product is normally marketed bone-in into fast food and food service sectors and may include Cornish hens.

(B) This size product is normally marketed into the retail grocery sector in tray pack or bagged forms.

(C) This size product is normally marketed either into the retail grocery sector in tray pack and IQF form or is further processed and marketed into various sectors.

(D) This size product is normally marketed deboned or as roasters or roasting chicken.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 09-Dec-06

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
(Preliminary)					
Head	163,326	1,157	1,529	2,686	567
Avg Wt	5.49	3.28	8.02	5.98	6.68
Last week	164,436	800	1,562	2,362	533
Same wk yr ago	161,899	1,270	1,483	2,753	518
Avg Wt	5.46	3.29	8.01	5.83	6.92
To-date/2006	7,897,646	52,408	72,909	125,317	24,506
To-date/2005	7,885,289	69,632	69,358	138,990	24,453

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 165.3 million head, or 8.7 million more than estimated available.

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
November	4	166.1	163.0	102%	5.29
	11	168.3	159.9	105%	5.50
	18	162.4	156.3	104%	5.49
	25	122.0	156.7	78%	5.44
December	2	166.4	156.8	106%	5.53
	9	165.3	156.6	106%	5.49
Year to date		7993.4	7993.1	100%	
December	16		156.8		
	23		153.4		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**Under Federal Inspection**

W/E	12/16/06	12/09/06	% CHG	12/17/05	% CHG
Broilers	160,281	163,326*	-1.86	164,304*	-2.45
Cattle	645	643	0	635*	+02
Hogs	2,135	2,107	+01	2,166*	-01

*ACTUAL

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 11-DEC-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	155-159	161-165
MIDWEST MOSTLY	136-146	138-148

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)	60.00-67.00	65.00-66.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	67.00-86.00	72.00-76.00

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

12 OZ.	62.64 - 85.05
14 OZ.	69.12 - 96.39
16 OZ.	74.88 - 106.73

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. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Demand was usually good as orders pick up due to the upcoming holidays. Supplies were adequate to instances tight. Schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.50-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.45-2.40, gizzards at \$1.20-1.40, wings at \$.65-.70, livers at \$.95-1.70, and feet at \$.65-1.00.

DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 11-DEC-2006

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	122-146	130-148

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - December 12, 2006****AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY****

Prices paid per pound, except as noted.

	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.75 - .90
Chukars	3.25 - 3.75 ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.35 - .40
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.50 - .90
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.35 - .45
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	.50 - .70
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.35 - .45
Guinea Fowl	2.30 - 2.40 ea.
Banty Roosters	1.75 - 2.25 ea.
Banty Hens	.75 - 1.25 ea.
Silkie	- 2.25 ea.
Geese 9-14 LBS	.30 - .35
Pigeons	2.75 - 2.90 ea.
White Pigeons	3.00 - 3.25 ea.
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	2.50 - 2.90
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	1.50 - 2.10
Bunnies	1.00 - 4.00 ea.
Guinea Pigs	7.00 - 9.00 ea.
Goats	- 45.00 ea.
Kid Goats	- 25.00 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.75 - .90
Total Coops Sold	384

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading for heavy canners were too few to report; unchanged on lights when compared to the previous week. Offerings of both light and heavy canners were more than sufficient for current needs with most available supplies of heavy canners being used internally. Demand was seasonally fair to mostly moderate. 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)
18-28 MAJORITY 23.5-24	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)
20-29 MAJORITY 25-26	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 was fair to fairly good. Offerings were adequate for current trade needs. Processing schedules were noted as normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	5-12	7-9

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Light type hens were too few sales to report prices. Supplies were fully adequate for processors needs. Demand was limited. Dressed sales were fair. Salvage costs were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal majority prices were unchanged. Demand was fair to fairly good with offerings adequate to about adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	4.5-9	4.5-5.5

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules light to moderate. Offerings adequate.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 04-DEC-06

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

SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS Trading was too few sales to report prices. Supplies were usually adequate for a moderate demand. Finished product was clearing mostly from internal sales. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

NEW YORK CITY SEASONAL POULTRY

FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2006.

CAPONS:

Supplies of frozen USDA Grade A capons were in close balance. Processors were active as they continue to fill December orders. Prices to first receiver were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady.

DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:

6-9 LBS. 1.70-1.84 MOSTLY 1.70-1.75

GEESE:

Supplies of frozen USDA Grade A geese were in close balance to tight. Last of the regular December orders are being delivered. Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was at least steady to fully steady.

DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:

8-16 LBS. 2.26-2.45 MOSTLY 2.35-2.40

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS AND ANALYSIS 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	