



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week were trending unchanged in all areas when compared to early week's values. Trade sentiment was mixed, but overall steady. Retail and food service demand was moderate at best with most interest centered on features for Easter and St. Patrick's Day. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient with heavier weights often more available. Floor stocks were adequate to long. In the parts structure, movement was mostly fair at best, slightly better where weekend needs increased. Breast items were at least adequate with tenders slow to clear. Wings were mixed, but readily available, and dark meat cuts were in good balance to well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy weights.

**Preliminary Report** Prices negotiated for truck lot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 17-MAR-2008 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	75.00-78.00	64.00-86.00	77.01	25
New York	77.00-80.00			
Los Angeles	89.00			

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	79.00-82.00	71.00-85.00	80.53	90
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**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broiler/fryers for this week's trading is 81.25 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
861	77.75-81.75	80.49

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	176.50	918
BREASTS - B/S	147.50	4,837
BREASTS - WHOLE	83.50	1,124
THIGH MEAT - B/S	119.50	794
LEG QUARTERS	43.00	7,588
WINGS	126.50	2,306

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

**SOUTHERN BROILER/FRYER** Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail and food service demand was fair at best with limited activity, but optimism for post-holiday movement was noted. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to easily handle trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was light to moderate entering the weekend. Breast items and wings were at least adequate to ample and often discounted to help move. Dark meat items were in the strongest position with supplies well balanced to short of an active call. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy, mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers increased slightly but still noted as light to fair at best with most dealers cautious entering the St. Patrick's Day weekend. Offerings of all sizes were fully sufficient for current needs. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally slow. The market tone was steady at best. In the parts complex, breast items were at least sufficient for current needs. Wings and tenders were readily available and slow to clear. Legs, drums and thighs were noted in good balance to well cleared.

**WESTERN REGION** Preliminary majority prices were at unchanged prices throughout the region. The market tone was generally steady. Limited trading reported for next week's delivery and were at unchanged prices overall. Offerings were adequate with heavy weights in the longest position. Retailer demand was moderate to seasonally good, best where features in progress. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. The market tone was mixed on parts, dark meat items were steady to firm and white meat items steady to weak.

**MIDWEST REGION** Majority prices were unchanged in Chicago. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Offerings on whole birds were light to adequate for the light trade inquiry. Retail and food service demand was slow to fair at best; retail ads focus on St. Pat's and Easter items. Floor stocks were adequate to long; a few receivers decreasing incoming product to maintain balance. Weights were desirable to heavy. Supplies of small wings were more available, dark meat cuts adequate to close; and breast and large wings were sufficient. Trade sentiment was steady on small wings, steady to fully steady on leg items, and about steady to weak on large wings and boneless skinless breasts.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly entering the weekend and ranged light to fair at best, however the Lenten season continued to have affects on the chicken market. Seller offerings were more than sufficient for immediate and early next week delivery. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 79 to 89 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items and wings were at least sufficient to readily available. Dark meat cuts were adequate to well cleared.

\*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	69-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	(A)
	03/10/08 - 03/14/08
	03/12/07 - 03/16/07
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
	03/10/08 - 03/14/08
	03/12/07 - 03/16/07
	(A)

(A) NOT REPORTED TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER PARTS** F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS). TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME. CENTS PER POUND.

MAR 13, 2008					MAR 14, 2008						
ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJ	WTD AVG	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJ	WTD AVG	WEEKLY (000)	WTD AVG	
BREAST - B/S	395	121.00-187.00	-	133.15	345	123.00-189.00	-	130.36	1,995	132.44	
TENDERLOINS	251	115.00-153.00	-	126.84	129	127.00-153.00	-	130.81	953	128.76	
BREAST - LINE RUNTOO FEW	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			TOO FEW	TO REPORT			371	81.58	
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			TOO FEW	TO REPORT			535	67.93	
LEGS	223	58.00-67.00	60-61	62.04	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			870	61.57	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	552	38.00-44.00	40-41	40.85	387	38.00-44.00	40	40.65	2,137	40.54	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	802	40.00-46.00	42-43	42.86	838	41.00-46.00	42-43	42.80	3,986	42.67	
WINGS (WHOLE)	165	80.00-110.00	-	98.79	215	80.00-115.00	-	102.19	1,025	104.24	
WINGS (CUT)	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			TOO FEW	TO REPORT			517	110.13	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			TOO FEW	TO REPORT			311	147.42	
THIGHS	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			TOO FEW	TO REPORT			104	48.82	
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW	TO REPORT			TOO FEW	TO REPORT			458	117.35	
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR MAR 13, 2008 -- F.O.B. DOCK.					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR MAR 14, 2008 -- F.O.B. DOCK.						
RANGE			TODAY'S AVERAGE		RANGE			TODAY'S AVERAGE		5-DAY AVERAGE	
53.00 - 56.50			54.55		51.50 - 56.50			54.10		54.00	

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 increased slightly but was still noted as no better than fair entering the weekend. Offerings of breast items were fully sufficient for current needs. Tenders and wings were readily available and slow to clear. Most dark meat cuts were adequate to well cleared with leg and leg quarters in the best balance. Movement through retail and distributive channels was seasonally light to fair. The market tone was generally steady for breast items; barely steady to weak for wings and tenders. Leg items were at least steady. ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

MAR 13, 2008				MAR 14, 2008				
ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL /LBS	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY WTD AVG	WEEKLY VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145	141.26	848,439	145	141.34	795,691	142.50	3,337,415
TENDERLOINS	135	137.00	131,000	130-135	133.85	101,280	136.37	598,480
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	86.06	89,400	78-79	90.47	61,400	87.67	354,800
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	81.05	73,800	78	80.84	79,200	80.82	367,200
LEGS	64-65	64.35	155,120	64-65	64.50	250,000	64.63	1,021,080
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	43-44	43.74	199,880	43-44	44.69	153,920	43.95	869,720
DRUMSTICKS	54-55	62.91	83,720	54-55	61.34	43,640	61.94	277,340
THIGHS	57-58	65.00	71,800	57-58	65.84	55,200	64.92	294,450
B/S THIGHS	118-119	119.03	55,560	118-119	121.30	82,480	120.33	337,540
WINGS (WHOLE)	120-121	111.75	170,920	118-119	111.82	163,000	115.41	917,000
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12-14	11.43	36,600	12-14	11.64	25,560	11.34	143,520
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	37.33	5,240	35-40	37.11	14,000	37.67	40,320
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	49.27	18,160	45-50	49.11	21,080	49.78	102,800

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, RI, AND PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Alabama	03/14	03/13	03/12	03/11	03/12	03/11	03/07	03/05		
Arkansas	4,554	4,172	3,730	4,119	5.57	5.40	4,586	5.48		
Delmarva	5,113	5,361	5,326	5,328	5.37	5.46	3,584	5.38		
KY-LA-TN	2,039	2,272	2,236	2,281	5.83	5.75	2,253	5.79		
Mississippi	2,506	2,412	2,333	2,003	5.03	4.86	1,938	5.04		
North Carolina	3,240	3,089	3,017	3,081	5.81	5.71	3,062	5.87		
Texas	3,256	2,956	2,497	2,835	7.24	7.07	3,272	7.12		
Total	23,277	22,829	21,659	22,227	5.69	5.65	21,199	5.65		
Mon-Fri	112,586	(A)					109,001	(A)		
Saturday	1,314	(included in total for date shown)					977			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-Mar-08 and 15-Mar-08 is estimated to be 34,825,000 head up 9.47 percent from a week ago and up 14.90 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,811,000, last year 30,309,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 15-Mar-08 is estimated to be 167,532,000 head up 1.83 percent from a week ago, and up 5.97 percent from a year ago. (Last week 164,514,000, last year 158,088,000) Actual data incorporated when available.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

PROCESSED POULTRY, DLVRD TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		100-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP		109-118
HENS UNDER 5#		
HENS OVER 5#		67-78
DUCKS		
RABBITS-WHOLE		
RABBITS-CUT UP		

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY, DLVRD TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

		RANGE
BROILER/FRYER 2# & OVER	ICE PACK	142
	DRY PACK	135
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	140
	DRY PACK	127
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	110
	DRY PACK	120
DUCKS		199-207

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED**

W/E 08-MAR-2008 Under Federal Inspection (Preliminary)

	-----Thousands-----				
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	
	<b>4.25 lbs &amp; down</b>	<b>4.26 - 6.25 lbs</b>	<b>6.26 - 7.75 lbs</b>	<b>7.76 lbs &amp; up</b>	<b>Total</b>
Head	43,635	81,639	22,844	16,396	164,514
Avg Live Wgt	3.82	5.49	6.90	8.33	5.52
% of total /1	27%	49%	14%	10%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	45,295	78,836	26,178	15,601	165,910
Avg Live Wgt	3.85	5.44	6.89	8.24	5.49
% of total /1	27%	48%	16%	9%	100%
Year Ago 2/	41,052	84,393	25,023	10,878	161,346
Avg Live Wgt	3.85	5.37	6.94	8.37	5.43
% of total /1	25%	52%	16%	7%	100%
To date/2008	436,111	780,371	241,492	167,129	1,625,103
To date/2007	424,800	825,808	190,890	116,070	1,557,568

/1May 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**

(PRELIMINARY)

W/E 08-MAR-2008	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	-----Thousands-----				
Head	164,514	1,353	1,475	2,828	523
Avg Wt	5.52	3.20	8.05	5.73	6.76
Last week	165,910	1,409	1,542	2,951	431
Same wk yr ago	161,346	1,182	1,356	2,538	547
Avg Wt	5.43	3.16	7.76	5.62	5.98
To-date/2008	1,625,103	13,741	14,794	28,535	4,609
To-date/2007	1,557,568	11,002	13,723	24,725	5,189

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 167.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 166.5 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
Feb 2	168.1	169.3	99%	5.47
9	167.5	167.7	100%	5.52
16	165.7	167.0	99%	5.57
23	168.7	168.5	100%	5.54
Mar 1	167.9	168.4	100%	5.49
8	166.5	167.6	99%	5.52
Year to date	1644.8	1663.7	99%	
Mar 15		166.4		
22		165.9		

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

Under Federal Inspection

W/E	-----Thousands-----				%CHG
	03/15/08	03/08/08	%CHG	03/17/07	%CHG
Broilers	167,532	164,514 *	+1.83	158,088 *	+5.97
Cattle	641	640	0	631 *	+02
Hogs	2,269	2,227	+02	2,134 *	+06

\*Actual

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF MAR 10, 2008

**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	166-170	172-176
MIDWEST MOSTLY	146-156	154-164

**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)	73.00-84.00	78.00-83.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	71.00-87.00	78.00-85.00

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

12 OZ.	64.80-89.91
14 OZ.	71.28-101.25
16 OZ.	77.04-112.08

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 this week with a firm undertone. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was reported as good to very good. Supplies were adequate. Schedules continued full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.50-5.40, bone in legs at \$1.45-2.40, gizzards at \$1.20-1.40, wings at \$.60-.70, livers at \$.95-1.70, and feet at \$.55-.90.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, CENTS PER POUND, WEEK OF 10-MAR-2008

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	133-156	130-165

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION -**

DATE OF AUCTION: MARCH 11, 2008

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

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

	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.75 - 1.30 ea.
Chukars	1.30 - 1.60 ea.
Pekin Ducks	5.00 - 6.00 ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.50 - .70
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.80 - .90
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	- .80
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	1.00 - 1.10
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.80 - .90
Guinea Fowl	8.00 - 8.50 ea.
Banty Roosters	3.50 - 4.00 ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.25 ea.
Silkie	2.00 - 3.00 ea.
Geese 9-14 LBS	- .40
Pigeons	3.40 - 3.60 ea.
White Pigeons	4.00 - 5.00 ea.
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	2.70 - 3.05
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	2.00 - 2.20
Bunnies	4.00 - 12.00 ea.
Guinea Pigs	2.00 - 7.00 ea.
Goats	45.00 - 50.00 ea.
Kid Goats	12.00 - 25.00 ea.
Doves	- 3.75 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.90 - 1.50 ea.

Total Coops Sold 701

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Sales of both light and heavy canners were too few to report. Offerings were at least sufficient for current needs with most available supplies being used internally. Demand was mostly moderate. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST  
**LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)** TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT  
**HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)** TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED  
**LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)** TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT  
**HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)** TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

**LIVE HEAVY TYPE HENS**  
 (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*  
 PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB.,  
 GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER  
 THE WEEK OF 17-MAR-08

**SOUTH CENTRAL** Trading was TFEWR. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were slowing. Trade sentiment was about steady.

AT FARM BUYER LOADING **RANGE MAJORITY**  
 TOO FEW TO REPORT

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**LIVE 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** Prices were unchanged when compared to the previous week. Demand was mostly moderate to fairly good for the about adequate to adequate offerings of light type hens. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

REMOVAL COST **RANGE MAJORITY**  
 3-12 5-8

**SOUTH CENTRAL** Prices were of insufficient volume to report prices. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were soft. Salvage values were expected to rise.

REMOVAL COST **RANGE MAJORITY**  
 TOO FEW TO REPORT

**NORTH CENTRAL** Prices unchanged. Demand was moderate to good, with offerings light to barely adequate. Schedules mostly full time. Trade sentiment steady.

REMOVAL COST **RANGE MAJORITY**  
 0-10.5 0-5

**SOUTHEAST** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was mostly moderate for the generally adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules for next week were reduced with some operations taking down time due to Good Friday. Sales of finished product was moderate. The undertone was steady.

AT FARM BUYER LOADING **RANGE MAJORITY** 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.

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