UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS AND ANALYSIS BRANCH 60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 **FAX:** 404-562-5875 ANNIE TERRY: 404-562-5870 **INTERNET:** http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm **RECORDING:** 404-562-5856

March 28, 2008

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/29/08	03/22/08
Broiler/fryer	165,270	163,435
Light hens	1,638	1,349
Heavy hens	1,553	1,411

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA ***DATA FOR THE WEEKENDING***

	WEEK	ENDING 22-Mar-08 (THOUSAND	HEAD)
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	333	0	333
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	290	0	290
Same week yr ago	192	0	192
To-date/2008	3,564	12	3,576
To-date/2007	2,558	14	2,572

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Total U. S. fowl slaughter in the U. S. and Canada

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,722	1,392	3,114
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,378	1,557	2,935
Same week yr ago	1,307	1,138	2,445
To-date/2008	19,782	17,755	37,537
To-date/2007	15,898	16,095	31,993

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION WEEK ENDING 22-Mar-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	CHICKENS	HENS	HENS	HENS
Head	160,412	1,389	1,392	2,781
Avg Wt	5.45	3.24	7.89	5.57
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	166,377	1,088	1,557	2,645
Same wk yr ago	158,447	1,115	1,138	2,253
Avg Wt	5.45	3.38	8.14	5.78
To-date/2008	1,951,891	16,218	17,743	33,961
To-date/2007	1,874,103	13,340	16,081	29,421

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based 165.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 162.4 million head, or 3.5 million less than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION, CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 22-Mar-08

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	
	4.25 lbs	4.26 -	6.26 -	7.76 lbs	
	& down	6.25 lbs	7.75 lbs	& up	Total
Head	44,190	79,663	20,519	16,040	160,412
Avg Live Wgt	3.82	5.43	6.85	8.22	5.45
% of total /1	27%	50%	13%	10%	100%
Last week	40,986	84,915	23,056	17,420	166,377
Avg Live Wgt	3.78	5.40	6.84	8.25	5.50
% of total /1	25%	51%	14%	10%	100%
Year Ago 2/	42,389	74,451	28,438	13,169	158,447
Avg Live Wgt	3.78	5.38	6.98	8.23	5.45
% of total /1	27%	47%	18%	8%	100%
To date/2008	521,287	944,948	285,067	200,589	1,951,891
To date/2007	510,850	983,021	238,765	141,467	1,874,103

- /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 TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 22-Mar-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B HENS) TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
Head	1,809	2,547	11	3	4,370
Avg Wt	16.38	38.05	24.13	42.34	29.05
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	2,028	2,715	38	26	4,807
Same wk yr ago	2,047	2,538	18	0	4,603
Avg Wt	17.05	38.39	24.13	0.00	28.84
To-date/2008	22,391	33,002	188	108	55,689
To-date/2007	21,884	29,972	174	47	52,077

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.