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

April 04, 2008

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 05-Apr-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	04/05/08	03/29/08
Broiler/fryer	166,051	165,270
Light hens	1,644	1,638
Heavy hens	1,471	1,553

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

WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-08 (THOUSAND HEAD) LIGHT HENS HEAVY HENS TOTAL 0 278 278 Head Head sltr Comparisons Last Week 333 0 333 Same week yr ago 204 0 204 To-date/2008 3,842 12 3,854 To-date/2007 14 2,762 2,776

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,925	1,568	3,493
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,722	1,392	3,114
Same week yr ago	1,418	1,412	2,830
To-date/2008	21,707	19,323	41,030
To-date/2007	17,316	17,507	34,823

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	CHICKENS	HENS	HENS	HENS
Head	160,207	1,647	1,568	3,215
Avg Wt	5.59	3.31	7.99	5.59
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	160,412	1,389	1,392	2,781
Same wk yr ago	158,956	1,214	1,412	2,626
Avg Wt	5.38	3.31	8.01	5.84
To-date/2008	2,112,098	17,865	19,311	37,176
To-date/2007	2,033,059	14,554	17,493	32,047

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based 166.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 162.2 million head, or 4.4 million less than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION, CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 29-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	38,955	74,915	31,296	15,041	160,207
Avg Live Wgt	3.82	5.44	6.84	8.33	5.59
% of total /1	24%	47%	20%	9%	100%
Last week	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%
Year Ago 2/	42,711	80,444	25,807	9,994	158,956
Ava Live Wat	3.81	5.36	6.93	8.18	5.38
% of total /1	27%	51%	16%	6%	100%
To date/2008	560,242	1,019,863	316,363	215,630	2,112,098
To date/2007	553,561	1,063,465	264,572	151,461	2,033,059

- /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 29-Mar-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD		
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	TOTAL	
Head	1,939	2,660	13	14	4,626	
Avg Wt	16.18	38.94	26.00	26.72	29.33	
Head sltr comparisons						
Last week	1,809	2,547	11	3	4,370	
Same wk yr ago	1,915	2,721	4	5	4,645	
Avg Wt	16.43	37.29	27.19	37.99	28.68	
To-date/2008	24,330	35,662	201	122	60,315	
To-date/2007	23,799	32,693	178	52	56,722	

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