USDA

USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0575

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 24, 2008
VOL. 55 NO. 128

U.S. Department of Agriculture | Agricultural Marketing Service | Poultry Programs | Market News and Analysis Branch

NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The market tone on fresh whole turkeys was steady to fully steady, frozen whole turkeys were steady to barely steady with 8-12 lb. sizes strongest. Demand and trading light. Offerings of fresh whole turkeys light and spotty for November. Frozen whole turkey offerings short to light on 8-12 lb. hens, adequate to instances ample on the balance. The market tone on tom bulk parts was steady to fully steady with some increased confidence noted on tom necks. Demand slow to moderate for the light to adequate offerings. The market tone on destrapped tenderloins and fresh tom breast meat was steady at best while frozen tom breast meat was steady to weak. Demand light at best with most interest on destrapped tenderloins and fresh tom breast meat. Offerings available.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading slow at best. The market tone was mostly steady. Demand light to moderate with inquiry noted from the Caribbean, Central America and Mexico. Offerings light to adequate.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **OCTOBER 23, 2008**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	93-101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	93-101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	93-101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS					-	-	-	-	-
EASTERN REGION	93-102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	93-102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	93-102	-	-	-					

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **OCTOBER 24, 2008**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	93-100	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	OCT
CENTRAL REGION 4/	93-100	96	96.00	40	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	93-100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION	93-97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	93-96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	93-97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

WEEK OF OCT 24, 2008	CURRENT	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO	WEEK
8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION		97.10 **	98.00 **	96.00
CENTRAL REGION		96.00	100.50	96.63
WESTERN REGION		97.10 **	98.00 **	95.50
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION		97.20 **	98.50 **	96.00
CENTRAL REGION		96.90 **	98.00 **	95.14
WESTERN REGION		97.20 **	98.50 **	95.00

**BASED ON OFFERS

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
TURKEYS Y HENS	122-164
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	123-164
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	123-164
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	123-164
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	125-164

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

	RANGE
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	110-120
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	120
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	99-100
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	99-101
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	101-102

TURKEY MOVEMENT TRENDS

(In Thousand Pounds)
Slaughter-certified ready-to-cook turkeys

September	481,850*
October 1 - 18, 2008	299,073*
To date 2008	4,666,936*
To date 2007	4,376,634*

*Preliminary

NATIONAL FRESH TURKEYS

U.S. GRADE A, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS
(prices reflect turkeys with timers), Week of 27-OCT-2008

	Price (cents/lb.)	Volume (lbs.)
PRICED AT TIME OF SALE		
8-16 lbs.	113.05	236,400
16-24 lbs.	114.24	85,000
PRICE TO BE DETERMINED		
8-16 lbs.	--	10,000
16-24 lbs.	--	10,000
	Total Volume:	**341,400**

TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED IN FEDERALLY INSPECTED PLANTS

W/E 18-OCT-2008 (Preliminary)

	Young turkeys			Old	Total turkeys	
	-Thousand Head-	Pct Chg Prev wk	Avg Live wt	Banded --Thousand head--		Avg Live wt
North East	714	-1	25.29	(A)	715	25.29
South Atlantic	805	0	33.75	(A)	806	33.75
North Central	2,209	-2	33.51	(A)	2,210	33.51
South Central	726	1	20.37	(A)	726	20.37
West	404	18	25.60	(A)	404	25.60
U.S. total	4,858 (B)	0	29.63	3	4,861	29.63
To-date 2008	199,988 (B)			405	200,393	
To-date 2007	194,083 (B)			216	194,299	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turkeys included: this week 17,000; for the current year to date 1,242,000; for last year to date 998,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

W/E 18-OCT-2008 (Preliminary)

	Young Hens	Young Toms	Young Breeders	Old	Total Turkeys
	Thousands				
Head	1,882	2,959	17	3	4,861
Avg Wt	16.61	37.93	26.50	29.32	29.63
Last week	1,864	2,924	53	12	4,853
Same wk yr ago	2,190	3,089	28	1	5,308
Avg Wt	16.07	36.82	25.99	22.65	28.20
To-date/2008	83,181	115,565	1,242	405	200,393
To-date/2007	82,726	110,359	998	216	194,299
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	25,008	89,788	342	67	115,205
Last week	25,425	88,586	1,090	299	115,400
Same wk yr ago	28,155	90,990	553	17	119,715
Dressing %	80.0%	80.0%	76.0%	76.0%	

(A) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.

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

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

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS, INCLUDING BULK MEAT and FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 23 OCTOBER 2008.

The market tone on tom breast meat and destrapped tenderloins was steady to barely steady with frozen tom breast meat weakest, balance of white meat mostly steady. Demand on tom breast meat and destrapped tenderloins light to instances moderate. Offerings adequate to fully adequate with frozen tom breast meat instances burdensome. Some contacts indicating a seasonal slowing in further processed demand. The market tone on 4-8 lb. breasts was steady to barely steady. Demand light for the adequate to fully adequate offerings. The market tone on thigh meat was steady. Inquiry light to moderate for the short to adequate offerings. The market tone on mechanically separated turkey (MST) was steady to barely steady on fresh and mixed, but mostly steady, on frozen. Some contacts noted spot availability while others paid higher prices on frozen MST. Offerings of fresh MST adequate to fully adequate while frozen was mixed ranging short to instances fully adequate. Trading slow with industry members working on contracts for November and 2009.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		M	125.00	5
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/	161.00		161.00	1
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		W	110.00	5
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	54.50		54.50	20
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH	51.00		51.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		M	52.00	20
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	51.00		51.00	2
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		W	47.00	20
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	62.25	160
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		W	77.00	20
NECKS, TOM	32.00-34.00		32.71	62
NECKS, HEN				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/		R	170.00	19
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	167.00		167.00	120
THIGH MEAT		F	104.00	120
THIGH MEAT--FRESH		T	103.00	70
BREAST TRIM MEAT				
SCAPULA MEAT		T	120.00	40
WING MEAT WITH SKIN				
TENDERLOINS		W	149.00	15
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		W	150.00	12
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH		W	150.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	29.00-30.00		29.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	27.00		27.00	40
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	56.00		56.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	60.75	216
TAILS		W	46.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	26.08	148
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	102.50		102.50	108

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY
2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins. 4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS, INCLUDING BULK MEAT and FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 24 OCTOBER 2008.

The market tone on tom necks was steady to instances fully steady with some increased confidence noted, tom drums and wings steady to fully steady, tails steady. Demand light to mostly moderate with increased interest noted on tom necks. Offerings of tom necks light to adequate and not as readily available as the early part of the week, balance of tom bulk parts light at best. The market tone on destrapped tenderloins and fresh tom breast meat continued steady at best while frozen tom breast meat was steady to weak. Instances of improved inquiry and demand was noted on destrapped tenderloins and fresh tom breast meat by some while others continued to note sluggish activity. Frozen tom breast demand light at best. Offerings available. The market tone on mechanically separated turkey (MST) ended the week steady to fully steady as some buyers found product harder to find as the week progressed. Demand light to moderate with the unseasonal strength coming from consumers as they continued to consume hot dogs and sausage items. Domestic trading slow to light and centered on fresh MST and white meat. Export trading slow to light and centered on frozen thigh meat. For domestic: hearts 25-29, fresh scapula 124-138 mostly 124-126, tails 45-47; tom drums 52 January-December, 2009 contract; fresh wing meat with skin 113, fresh breast trim 133, Grade A non-basted breasts - 8-10 lb. 1.45, 10-14 lb. 165, 18-20 lb. 176, For export: fresh thigh meat 102, frozen tom breast 167, 18-20 lb. 176 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	LST CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		M	125.00	5	125.00	5
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/		R	161.00	1	167.94	36
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		W	110.00	5	110.00	85
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	53.00-56.00		53.60	81	54.31	343
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH	50.00-51.00		50.33	120	50.71	280
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		M	52.00	20	52.00	20
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	51.00-52.00		51.40	100	50.95	240
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		W	47.00	20	47.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	64.00		64.00	6	62.58	226
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		W	77.00	20	77.00	20
NECKS, TOM	32.00-34.00		32.75	32	32.86	113
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	167.00-169.00		167.86	140	167.53	380
THIGH MEAT		F	104.00	120		
THIGH MEAT--FRESH	103.00-104.00		103.22	64	103.37	254
BREAST TRIM MEAT						
SCAPULA MEAT		T	120.00	40	120.00	40
WING MEAT WITH SKIN						
TENDERLOINS		W	149.00	15	149.00	25
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	148.00		148.00	120	148.18	132
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH	150.00-151.00		150.12	129	149.52	299
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	29.50	80	28.59	230
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	26.00-28.00		26.67	226	25.59	526
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	54.00		54.00	80	54.00	200
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	51.00		51.00	80	51.00	80
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	60.75	216	61.28	376
TAILS		W	46.00	40	47.33	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	24.00-29.00		26.50	80	25.55	508
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	100.00-104.0		101.72	223	101.97	371

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY
2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins. 4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.