Processed Chicken: National Mechanically Separated Chicken (Fri.)

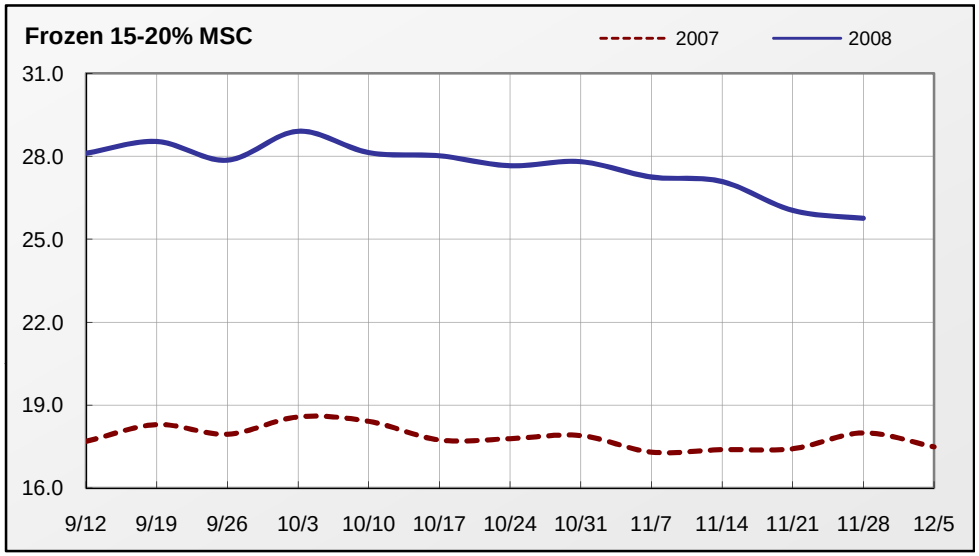
Fri. Nov 28, 2008

Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Market News & Analysis Branch
(F.O.B. Shipper Dock or equivalent; negotiated prices in trucklot and less-than-trucklot volumes reported in thousand pound quantities, cents/pound; delivery within 2 weeks.)

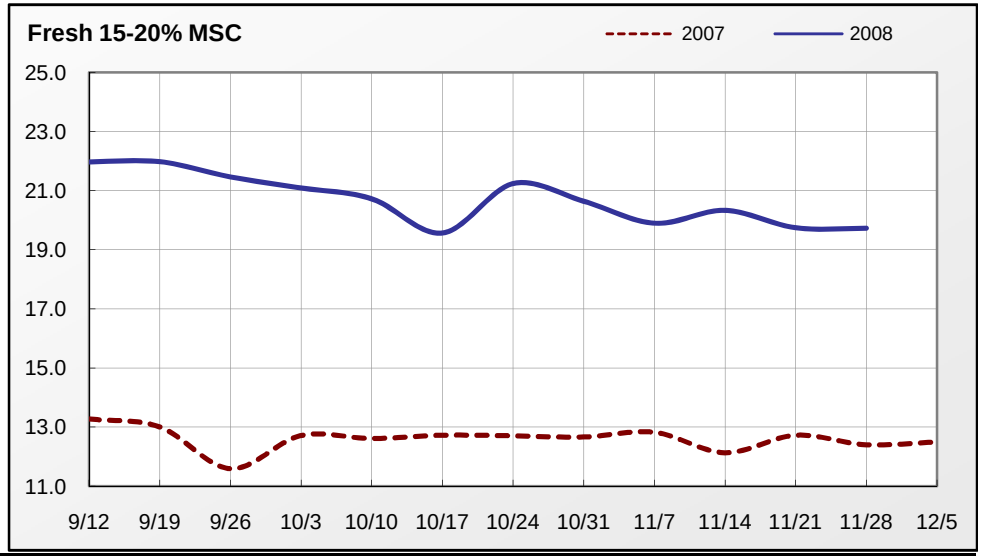
The MSC market tone was generally steady. Supplies of fresh 15-20% were adequate; remainder in good balance to adequate. Demand ranged fair to good. Raw materials were tight. Trading was moderate, most activity from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Contract negotiations for 2009 have progressed in recent weeks as a majority of buyers and sellers have committed most of their dealings with some negotiations still in progress for domestic or export; pricing remains mostly unchanged to higher, mostly higher on fresh 15-20% and higher on the balance. Schedules were seasonally normal. Frame values were steady ranging 8-11 cents FOB; contracts for 2009 were at higher levels as well.

Weekly MSC Weighted Average Prices (cents/pound) and Volumes (1,000 pounds)

	Frozen			Fresh		
Fat Content	28-Nov-08	Last Week	Last Year	28-Nov-08	Last Week	Last Year
15% or Less						
Price Range		24.00	15.75-18.00	23.00 - 25.50	23.00 - 25.50	15.00-16.00
Wtd Avg Price		24.00	16.95	23.95	24.13	15.50
Volume Traded	-	162	542	316	337	322
Volume Exported	-	-	542	55	55	-
15-20%						
Price Range	24.00 - 31.00	23.00 - 35.00	16.00-22.00	17.00 - 23.00	17.00 - 23.00	11.00-16.00
Wtd Avg Price	25.75	26.03	17.99	19.73	19.74	12.40
Volume Traded	1,398	2,192	1,987	2,857	3,088	3,080
Volume Exported	1,358	1,972	1,946	225	470	816
20% or More						
Price Range	-	-	-	21.00	21.00	-
Wtd Avg Price			-	21.00	21.00	-
Volume Traded	-	-	-	82	82	-
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-



Monthly MSC Weighted Average Prices (cents/pound) and Volumes (1,000 pounds)

	Frozen			Fresh		
Fat Content	Oct 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2007	Oct 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2007
15% or Less						
Wtd Avg Price	31.17	27.49	18.12	25.55	27.17	15.82
Volume Traded	240	316	1,141	1,147	1,148	2,160
Volume Exported	200	316	1,101	-	-	428
15-20%						
Wtd Avg Price	28.16	28.25	18.04	20.67	21.88	12.68
Volume Traded	6,422	6,260	6,330	11,659	12,855	9,634
Volume Exported	4,939	5,142	5,490	3,047	3,915	3,347
20% or More						
Wtd Avg Price	-	-	-	20.80	21.00	13.91
Volume Traded	-	-	-	404	322	442
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: Volume exported refers to that portion of the total volume that is destined for export markets.