Processed Chicken: National Mechanically Separated Chicken (Fri.)

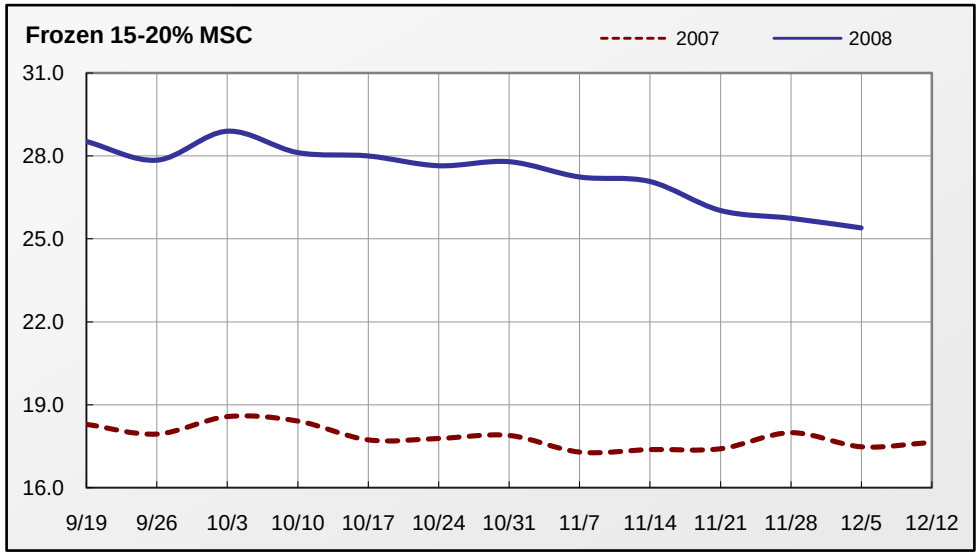
Fri. Dec 05, 2008

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.)

MSC market tone was mostly steady. Supplies of fresh 15-20% were adequate with the remainder in good balance to adequate. Demand was moderate to good. Raw materials were tight. Trading was moderate to fairly good; most export activity from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. A majority of buyers and sellers have committed most of their dealings for 2009 with a few negotiations still in progress for domestic or export with optimism negotiations will conclude soon; pricing was unchanged to higher, mostly moderately to sharply higher on fresh 15-20% and higher on the balance. Schedules were seasonally normal with production cutbacks noted throughout December. 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)

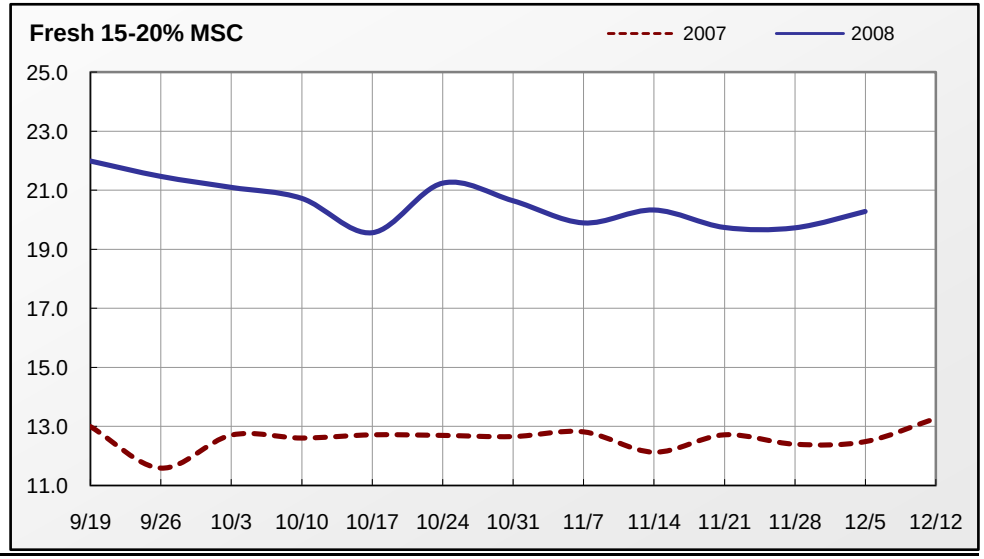
	Frozen			Fresh		
Fat Content	5-Dec-08	Last Week	Last Year	5-Dec-08	Last Week	Last Year
15% or Less						
Price Range			15.75	22.00 - 25.50	23.00 - 25.50	15.00-16.00
Wtd Avg Price			15.75	23.99	23.95	15.81
Volume Traded	-	-	221	337	316	419
Volume Exported	-	-	221	116	55	-
15-20%						
Price Range	24.00 - 30.00	24.00 - 31.00	16.00-21.00	18.00 - 26.00	17.00 - 23.00	11.00-16.00
Wtd Avg Price	25.40	25.75	17.48	20.28	19.73	12.49
Volume Traded	1,472	1,398	2,959	4,685	2,857	3,987
Volume Exported	1,432	1,358	2,406	713	225	1,441
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	Nov 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2007	Nov 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2007
15% or Less						
Wtd Avg Price	24.00	31.17	16.76	24.28	25.55	15.67
Volume Traded	322	240	1,234	1,443	1,147	2,494
Volume Exported	160	200	1,234	220	-	104
15-20%						
Wtd Avg Price	26.34	28.16	17.53	19.96	20.67	12.54
Volume Traded	5,394	6,422	12,989	11,870	11,659	15,504
Volume Exported	4,961	4,939	12,305	1,921	3,047	5,429
20% or More						
Wtd Avg Price	-	-	-	21.00	20.80	14.00
Volume Traded	-	-	-	366	404	240
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-

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



Source: USDA AMS Poultry Market News & Analysis
Atlanta, GA (404) 562-5850 / Des Moines, IA (515) 284-4471 - www.ams.usda.gov/pymarketnews.htm

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