BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 25, 2009
VOL. 56 NO. 24

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

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady to weak in the Midwest, steady to about steady elsewhere. Retail demand was light to moderate, best where features were active. Food service demand was slow to instances fairly good, mostly light to moderate, best into sport bars and restaurants. Supplies of all sizes were adequate to ample to satisfy current trade needs. Floor stocks were close balanced to long. In the parts structure, movement was light to moderate for mid week trading. Breast items were balanced with boneless skinless in the strongest position and held with confidence. Tenders were more than sufficient, wings continued in good supply and dark meat items were balanced and clearing well. In production areas live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA FOB DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cent to 86.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 80.25 cents last year on February 27, 2008.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	181.50
BREASTS - B/S	131.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	78.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	117.00
THIGHS	54.00
DRUMSTICKS	60.50
LEG QUARTERS	35.00
WINGS	149.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN REGION Trade sentiment was no better than steady. Demand was fair at best with limited trading. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to satisfy current trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair to moderate for mid week trading. Breast items were sufficient with boneless skinless in the best position and moving well. Tenders were at least adequate, wings and most dark meat items were balanced. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST REGION Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally fair during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were at least sufficient for current trade needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light to fair. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were close balance to tight with good movement. Tenders were more than sufficient. Wings and dark meat cuts were about adequate to adequate and clearing satisfactorily.

MIDWEST REGION The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady to weak. Producer offerings continued more than adequate for light trade need. Food service demand ranged slow to fairly good, best into sports bar restaurants and catering. Retail demand was light to moderate at best. Floor stocks were in close balance to ample; weights mostly desirable. Trade in the parts complex was very limited with small and medium wings clearing best. Offerings of all items were adequate to meet demand with tenders in longest position. Trade sentiment was steady to firm on wings and boneless/skinless breast and steady on the balance of parts.

WESTERN REGION The market tone was about steady. Offerings were fully steady. Sizes trended heavy. Buying activity was only fair as Lent begins. Retailer demand was moderate at best. Floor stocks in fair balance to cover current interest.

BROILER –TYPE EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 6 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 205 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 21, 2009. This was down 6 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 8 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 163 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 21, 2009. Placements were down 8 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2008 through February 21, 2009 were 1.42 billion, down 6 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED TOTAL 19 SELECTED STATES

WEEK ENDING 02/21/09	2009	2008	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
	Thousand		
EGGS SET	205,286	219,311	-6
CHICKS PLACED	163,268	178,240	-8

Source: NASS, USDA

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 04-Apr-09 is estimated at 151.9 million head. This compares to 153.9 million head the previous week and to 167.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 168.5 million head and the composite weighted average price was 76.86 cents per pound.

FEB 24 **SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS** **FEB 25**

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	451	112.00-192.00	-	120.02
TENDERLOINS	313	143.00-198.00	-	164.24
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	105	64.50-74.00	-	66.95
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	396	32.00-37.00	34-35	34.83
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	442	34.00-39.00	36-37	36.33
WINGS (WHOLE)	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
WINGS (CUT)	151	160.00-167.00	-	162.15
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	376	112.00-190.00	-	120.26
TENDERLOINS	170	142.00-196.00	-	158.38
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	436	31.00-37.00	34-35	34.13
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	487	33.00-40.00	36-37	36.40
WINGS (WHOLE)	165	138.00-149.00	-	144.15
WINGS (CUT)	174	156.00-167.00	-	160.46
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	115	102.00-115.00	-	107.96

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR F.O.B. DOCK

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
48.25 –55.50	50.89	48.00 – 55.50	51.50	51.94

The index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying activity was generally fair during midweek trading. Boneless skinless breasts were in good balance to tight, best where features were noted; bone-in breasts were sufficient for current needs. Dark meat items and wings were adequate to balanced and clearing satisfactorily. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was firm for boneless skinless breasts, barely steady for tenders and mostly steady for the remaining items.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

FEB 24 ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	122.42	665,826
TENDERLOINS	155-160	156.64	158,610
BREAST - WITH RIBS	76-77	79.64	139,200
BREAST - LINE RUN	76	78.58	59,400
LEGS	56-57	53.08	181,600
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	35-36	35.32	392,760
DRUMSTICKS	58-59	63.32	79,680
THIGHS	53-54	58.87	71,680
B/S THIGHS	112-113	115.79	77,280
WINGS (WHOLE)	146-147	150.05	210,880
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	13-15	14.75	24,240
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50	48.55	16,800
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	69.57	35,400

FEB 25 ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135	121.55	462,822
TENDERLOINS	155-160	155.29	46,240
BREAST - WITH RIBS	76-77	82.64	86,560
BREAST - LINE RUN	76	78.74	55,800
LEGS	56-57	53.61	205,920
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	35-36	37.44	139,720
DRUMSTICKS	58-59	63.88	70,603
THIGHS	53-54	60.93	49,080
B/S THIGHS	112-113	114.60	44,640
WINGS (WHOLE)	146-147	153.18	139,800
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	13-15	15.00	19,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50	48.29	8,560
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	74.24	12,960

INCLUDES NY CITY METRO. AREA, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, RI, & PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.
** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS

	ESTIMATED (1,000)		ACTUAL (1,000)		AVG WTS		ACTUAL (1,000)	AVG WTS
	02/25	02/24	02/23	02/20	02/23	02/20	02/18	02/16
Alabama	3,387	4,123	3,824	3,666	5.31	5.27	3,671	5.41
Arkansas	4,827	5,010	4,553	4,147	5.39	5.58	4,741	5.40
Delmarva	2,016	2,183	2,087	2,110	5.93	5.68	1,914	5.75
KY-LA-TN	2,233	2,253	2,217	1,923	5.12	4.81	2,239	5.08
Mississippi	2,743	2,843	2,773	2,775	5.76	5.42	2,741	5.68
North Carolina	2,578	2,711	2,532	2,678	6.97	6.88	2,485	6.99
Texas	2,622	2,611	2,662	2,322	5.50	5.27	2,624	5.40
Total	20,406	21,734	20,648	19,621	5.66	5.58	20,415	5.64
Mon-Wed	63,069 (A)						62,469 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.
Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 25-Feb-09 is estimated to be 30,530,000 head down 0.34 percent from a week ago and down 4.51 percent from a year ago.
(Last week 30,635,000, last year 31,972,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)
PROCESSED POULTRY, DLVRD TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	109-119
ROASTERS 4# & UP	125-135
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY
DLVRD TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	159
	DRY PACK	136
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	-
	DRY PACK	117
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	114
	DRY PACK	112
DUCKS		235-252

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER
UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 28-FEB-09

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	02/28/09 (1)	02/21/09
Class	---------- Thousand head ---------	
Broiler/fryer	157,173(2)	157,138
Light hens	1,226	1,288
Heavy hens	1,448	1,304
Total	159,847	159,730

(1)ESTIMATED
2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 28-Feb-09 is 158.1 million head compared to 167.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 157.5 million head or 0.6 million less than estimated available. For the week of 07-Mar-09 the estimated available is 157.6 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 02/23/09	112,522	82,643
AM 02/01/09	102,864	94,005
CHG	9,658	-11,362
PCT CHG	9	-12

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	02/23/09	02/16/09	02/25/08	02/23/09	02/16/09	02/25/08
PACIFIC COAST	655	675	3,744	7,741	7,807	8,577
LOS ANGELES	211	210	64	1,053	1,084	1,305

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS
READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S.GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE,5LBS AND UP, FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 2009

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	75-86
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	75-94

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES **FOR 02/24/09**
AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.80	1.25	1.05	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.70	.80	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	9.00	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	2.20	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	2.05	2.75	2.44	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.50	4.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	11.50	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	3.00	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	1.00	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS 28							

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-MEXICO CITY
Cents per pound for the week ending February 20, 2009

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/Thighs	Necks,Backs & Wings	Livers Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	71.37	122.52	85.76	24.50	12.25	73.51
High	73.51	128.65	91.89	27.57	15.31	73.51
Mostly	73.51	125.58	88.83	24.50	13.78	73.51
SAN JUAN						
Low	70.45	122.52	82.70	21.44	12.25	73.51
High	73.51	131.71	91.89	27.57	15.31	73.51
Mostly	73.51	122.52	85.76	24.50	12.25	73.51
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	71.98	122.52	82.70	24.50	12.25	75.04
High	74.43	131.71	91.89	30.63	18.38	75.04
Mostly	73.51	128.65	88.83	24.50	15.31	75.04
BECERRA						
Low	72.59	125.58	85.76	27.57	15.31	76.57
High	75.04	134.77	94.95	33.69	18.38	76.57
Mostly	73.51	131.71	91.89	30.63	15.31	76.57

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally fair for midweek business. Offerings were at least sufficient for current trade needs. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was noted as steady. In the parts complex, b/s breasts were in good balance to well cleared. Tenders were fully sufficient and about steady to steady. Dark meat cuts and wings were balanced to adequate and clearing satisfactorily.

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	70-89
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)

(A) Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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

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