



Venezuela

Poultry is the meat of choice of Venezuelan consumers. It remains the most available and cheapest source of animal protein as compared to beef and pork. According to figures presented by FENAVI (the Venezuelan Poultry Federation), between 2007 and 2008 annual per capita consumption increased from 33 kilograms to 35 kilograms. About 80 percent to 90 percent of the poultry produced in Venezuela is purchased fresh by households.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (BRV) imposed a price control policy on basic food and processed food products in 2003. Chicken and poultry products fall under these price controls. Venezuela produces and consumes small amounts of duck and turkey, thus the majority of poultry is chicken. The latest revision of prices was done in April 2008, and current poultry prices are presented below:

Venezuela's Poultry Prices in (BsF per Kilogram)

	Whole Chicken	Breast Bnls	Breast	LQ	LQ Bnls
Feb 2003	1.8	2.7	4.15	2.0	3.5
Feb 2004	2.3	3.3	n/c	n/c	n/c
Nov 2004	3.13	4.49	4.49	3.33	3.33
Feb 2007	4.45	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Apr 2008	8.39	12.91	12.91	19.88	19.75

LQ-leg quarters; bnls-boneless; n/c- not controlled
Source: Official Gazettes Note: 1 USD=BsF 2.15

Large stores, such as the hypermarkets, supermarket chains, and established butcher shops are required to sell products at the established price on the price control list. Charging more than the official controlled price is illegal and leads to steep fines and possibly temporary closures of poultry facilities, supermarkets and hypermarkets.

Venezuela's estimated 2009 poultry production is 920,000 metric tons, down three percent from 944,120 metric tons in 2008. Production is expected to decline again in 2010 in response to price controls and high feed costs. Venezuela's poultry producers work very closely with the animal feed processors, through vertical integration within the industry. The trend is toward greater concentration of farms and processors. All animal feed is domestically produced from a combination of imported and domestic inputs. Feed represents about 80 percent of total production costs, which continue to move with the price of imported inputs.

Venezuelan Poultry Production and Imports in metric tons

	Production			Imports		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Jan-Jul	482,587	556,770	542,077	Jan-Sep 60,968	114,980	86,855
Jan-Dec	846,697	944,120		Jan-Dec 101,117	159,616	

Sources: FENAVI and Local Poultry Producers

Venezuela's poultry industry says that it can supply 100 percent of demand, but cannot demonstrate this as long as imports continue. The government's imports from Brazil are not subject to tariff or custom charges and do not require foreign exchange applications. Imports are only conducted by the government. Venezuela has a tariff rate quota for poultry products (H.S. 0207) at 3,426 metric tons. Since 1993, the BRV has effectively barred imports of unprocessed poultry meat from any country that could not or would not certify to being free of both low and high path avian influenza.

Source: USDA FAS Attaché Report

United States Requests WTO Panel in Challenge of EU Restrictions on U.S. Poultry Exports

The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) announced on October 8, 2009 that the United States had asked the World Trade Organization (WTO) to establish a dispute settlement panel regarding the European Union's (EU) restrictions on imports of U.S. poultry. The United States has asked the panel to review whether the EU's ban on the import and marketing of poultry meat and poultry meat products processed with pathogen reduction treatments (PRTs) judged safe by U.S. and European food safety authorities is consistent with the EU's WTO obligations.

Current European regulations dictate that any meat that is sold within the EU - regardless of where the meat came from - can only be rinsed with water or an approved substance. In a statement on Thursday the European Trade Commission said "This rule is part of wider EU legislation ensuring a high level of safety throughout the food chain, from farm to fork."

The European Commission says it does not target U.S. chicken, and applies the same rules to domestic and imported poultry. The EU says imports of poultry from the US have been "marginal" since 1997, when Brussels removed several US establishments from its list of authorized slaughterhouses. More than 890,000 tons of poultry were imported from third countries in 2008, mainly from Brazil and Thailand. (Following their successful WTO case in 2005, Brazil and Thailand got a tariff rate quota (TRQ) for imports of salted poultry meat, preparations of turkey meat and cooked chicken meat into the EU-27 in July 2007.)

In January 2009 the United States requested consultations with the EU, regarding certain measures of the EC affecting poultry meat and poultry meat products from the United States. A review of the formal consultations, held on February 11, failed to resolve the issue. Establishing a panel is the second stage in the dispute settlement process. The WTO Dispute Settlement Body will consider the request of the United States for the establishment of a panel at its next meeting, which is scheduled for October 23.

The ongoing dispute began in 1997, when the EU began prohibiting the use of PRTs to reduce microbe levels on poultry carcasses sold in the EU, virtually stopping the shipment of all U.S. poultry.

In 2002, the United States had formally requested EU approval of four PRTs: chlorine dioxide, acidified sodium chlorite, trisodium phosphate, and peroxyacids, each of which was already approved for use in poultry processing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Various EU agencies have issued scientific reports relating to the processing of poultry with these four PRTs. The cumulative conclusion of these reports was that the importation and consumption of such poultry posed no risk to human health. In 2008 the European Commission proposed allowing EU producers to use PRTs, but a committee comprised of the chief veterinary officers of the EU Member States rejected the proposal 26-0, with Great Britain abstaining. The EU Agricultural and Fisheries Council, which is comprised of the agriculture ministers of the EU member States, voted against the same proposal in an identical tally.

Source: USTR Press Release; World Trade Organization; BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest Vol. 13 No. 35 14 Oct 2009; news wires

INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS-

U.S. & CANADA IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE

U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Type	Year-To-Date			
	2009	2008 /1	2009 /2	2008
Liquid	473	0	9,312	831
Frozen	0	0	95	39
Dried	48	0	636	444
Total	521	0	10,043	1,314

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Type	Year-To-Date			
	2009	2008 /1	2009 /2	2008
Liquid	317	418	13,591	15,196
Frozen	0	10	252	481
Dried	0	0	0	590
Total	317	428	13,843	16,267

Inspected Shell Eggs

U.S Exports to Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)

	Year-To-Date			
	2009	2008 /1	2009 /2	2008
Jumbo	0	0	0	0
Extra Large	2,730	2,490	61,783	55,857
Large	7,156	3,540	129,947	71,146
Medium	870	870	41,947	38,082
Ungraded	20,130	17,730	306,397	338,359
Misc	840	0	9,770	5,974
Total	31,726	24,630	549,844	509,418

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

/2 Includes revisions to previous week(s)

Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

U.S./CANADIAN LIVE POULTRY-

SLAUGHTERED UNDER INSPECTION

Week Ending 10-Oct-09 (Preliminary)

U.S. fowl slaughtered domestically

	Thousands		
	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	1,365	1,617	2,982
Last Week	1,230	1,550	2,780
Same week yr ago	1,353	1,730	3,083
To-date/2009*	51,739	60,401	112,140
To-date/2008*	55,200	65,785	120,985

U.S. fowl slaughtered in Canada

	Thousands		
	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	294	8	302
Last Week	300	9	309
Same week yr ago	237	0	237
To-date/2009*	12,626	43	12,669
To-date/2008*	13,167	50	13,217

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

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

	Thousands		
	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	1,659	1,625	3,284
Last Week	1,530	1,559	3,089
Same week yr ago	1,590	1,730	3,320
To-date/2009*	64,365	60,444	124,809
To-date/2008*	68,367	65,835	134,202

*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

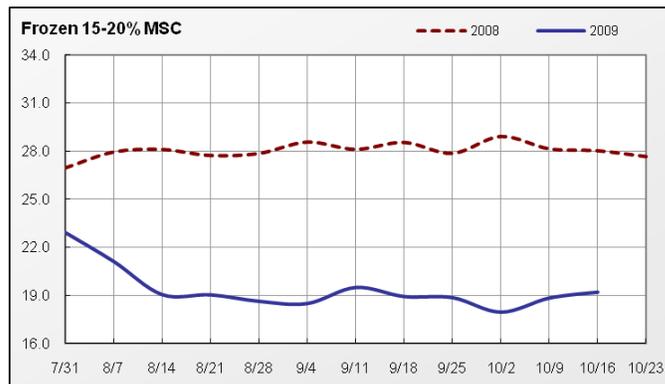
NATIONAL MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

(FOB Shipper Dock or equiv., negotiated prices in trucklot and less-than-trucklot volumes reported in thousand lb. quantities, cents/lb.; delivery within 2 weeks.)

The market tone was generally steady on all fat contents. Supplies of fresh and frozen 15-20% were more than sufficient for current needs. The remainder of fat contents was at least adequate. Dealers continued to monitor market conditions as contract season begins. Supplies of raw material were at least adequate to available. Export and domestic demand was fair to moderate. Schedules were seasonally normal. Frame values were steady ranging mostly 7-9 cents FOB.

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

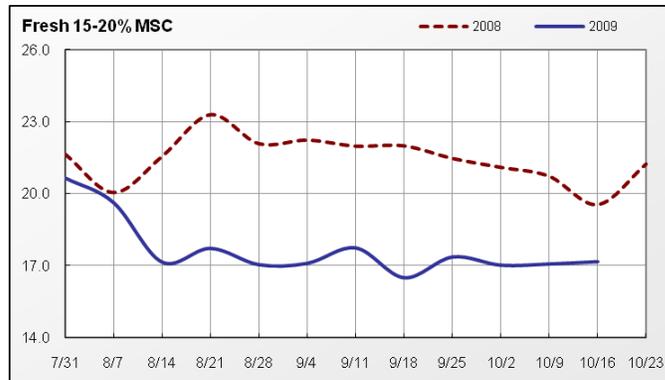
Fat Content	Frozen			Fresh		
	16-Oct-09	Last Week	Last Year	16-Oct-09	Last Week	Last Year
15% or Less						
Price Range		20.00	-	19.00 - 20.00	18.00 - 19.00	24.00-26.00
Wtd Avg Price		20.00	-	19.20	18.50	24.73
Volume Traded	-	80	-	202	242	221
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20%						
Price Range	17.00 - 22.50	16.50 - 22.50	22.00-32.00	16.00 - 20.00	15.50 - 21.00	16.50-25.00
Wtd Avg Price	19.20	18.83	28.01	17.16	17.07	19.56
Volume Traded	1,297	1,216	1,066	2,000	2,733	1,908
Volume Exported	1,297	1,096	783	122	-	469
20% or More						
Price Range	-	-	-	17.00	17.00	21.00
Wtd Avg Price	-	-	-	17.00	17.00	21.00
Volume Traded	-	-	-	82	82	122
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-



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

Fat Content	Frozen			Fresh		
	Sep 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2008	Sep 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2008
15% or Less						
Wtd Avg Price	-	20.00	27.49	19.07	20.20	27.17
Volume Traded	-	216	316	1,170	981	1,148
Volume Exported	-	216	316	-	-	-
15-20%						
Wtd Avg Price	17.95	18.86	28.25	17.21	17.77	21.88
Volume Traded	6,748	6,748	6,260	13,286	12,115	12,855
Volume Exported	5,848	5,848	5,142	3,773	2,774	3,915
20% or More						
Wtd Avg Price	-	-	-	17.80	19.66	21.00
Volume Traded	-	-	-	204	246	322
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-

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



NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS, INCLUDING BULK MEAT and FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 16 OCTOBER 2009.

The market tone on bulk parts was steady to fully steady. Demand was light to moderate. Offerings were mixed and ranged from tight to adequate. The trade sentiment on white meat items was mixed, steady to firm and held with confidence. Demand was light to moderate. Offerings were adequate. The market tone on thigh meat was steady to firm. Demand was moderate, instances good Offerings short to adequate. The trade sentiment on mechanically separated turkey was steady to barely steady. Demand was light to moderate with offerings adequate. Domestic: fresh tom necks 38-40, fresh tails 26, fresh full-cut wings 68, hearts 28 cents and fresh MST 14-17 cents for pet food.

<u>EXPORT TRADING</u>	PRICE	L.S.T.	WTD AVG	VOLUME	WEEKLY	WEEKLY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009	RANGE	CODE 1/	PRICE	(000)	PRICE	(000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	56.00		56.00	120	55.45	592
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	70.00	54	70.00	54
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	76.00		76.00	162	76.00	162
TAILS	30.00		30.00	108	28.71	456
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	96.00-99.00		97.50	80	97.00	120

<u>EXPORT TRADING</u>	PRICE	L.S.T.	WTD AVG	VOLUME
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009	RANGE	CODE 1/	PRICE	(000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	55.00-56.00		55.25	432
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	70.00		70.00	54
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	76.00	162
TAILS	29.00		29.00	108
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	96.00	40

<u>EXPORT TRADING</u>	PRICE	L.S.T.	WTD AVG	VOLUME
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009	RANGE	CODE 1/	PRICE	(000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		T	56.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	76.00	162
TAILS		T	28.00	240
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	96.00		96.00	40

<u>EXPORT TRADING</u>	PRICE	L.S.T.	WTD AVG	VOLUME
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009	RANGE	CODE 1/	PRICE	(000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	56.00		56.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		T	70.00	108
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	76.00	162
TAILS	28.00		28.00	240
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/ THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	96.00	80

NO EXPORT TRADING REPORTED ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, ~ 2009 DUE TO COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY
2/ Product contains 15/20% fat with skin added.