



BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
APRIL 06, 2012
VOL. 59 NO. 42

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News & Analysis

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Preliminary majority prices for next week are trending unchanged in the West, but lower in the East and Midwest. Offerings of all sizes are available with some discounting noted to help clear product. Retail and food service demand is light to moderate with other holiday meat items receiving best interest. Fast food movement is moderate to good. Floor stocks are mixed. Processing schedules are mixed with some plants down today in observance of Good Friday. Market activity is slow. In the parts structure, movement is light to moderate entering the weekend. Prices are steady to firm for tenders, and steady for the remaining items. Offerings of tenders are light, and all other parts are at least sufficient. Market activity for parts is slow to moderate. In production areas, live supplies are moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

PRELIMINARY REPORT Prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers FOB and delivered to first receivers at major market areas (cents per lb) Week of 09-Apr-2012

	Majority	Range	Wtd Avg	Loads
Delivered to First Receivers:				
US Grade A 1/				
New York	84.00-87.00			
Los Angeles	102.00			
Whole Body 2/				
Chicago	75.00-80.00	65.00-91.00	75.99	31
FOB Dock Equivalent 3/:				
Mississippi	80.00-84.00	72.00-86.00	82.05	20

1/: Includes branded product. 2/: Whole Body category includes whole body birds with or without giblets, all grades, brands, and packaging. 3/: Southeast area

GEORGIA FOB DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is **93.25** cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD AVG
727	86.97-99.73	92.74

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	205.00	955
BREASTS - B/S	159.50	4,338
BREASTS - WHOLE	100.50	891
THIGH MEAT - B/S	130.50	753
THIGHS	72.00	737
DRUMSTICKS	70.50	732
LEG QUARTERS	54.00	5,245
WINGS	188.50	2,127

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

SOUTHERN REGION Prices for whole broiler/fryers are holding steady with an about steady undertone. Offerings of all sizes are moderate entering the holiday weekend. Demand into all channels is light to moderate for trade needs. Market activity is light. In the parts structure, movement is light to moderate. Prices are holding steady for all items with tenders at times firm. Offerings are light for tenders, but readily available for all other items. Market activity is slow to moderate. In production areas, live supplies are moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST REGION Prices are trending steady to weak for most sizes. Trucklot buying activity for ready-to-cook whole broiler fryers is light as dealers assess market conditions entering the Religious holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes are available and competitively priced. Trade activity is slow. In the parts complex, offerings of tenders are light to moderate and moving well; breast items and most dark meat cuts are sufficient for current needs.

WESTERN REGION The Los Angeles preliminary majority is 102 cents, unchanged from last Monday's final. The market on whole broilers is steady to weak, mostly steady. The WOG market is weak with prices lower for next week's shipments. Offerings moderate. Retail demand light to good, mostly light to moderate. Foodservice demand light to mostly moderate. Some improvement is reported in retail and foodservice channels for the weekend. Floor stocks moderate to instances longer than desired. Weights desirable. The market on boneless skinless breasts is steady to weak, mostly steady with prices unchanged to lower, mostly unchanged; bone-in breasts, wings and tenderloins steady. The market on legs and leg meat is steady to weak with prices unchanged to lower, balance of dark items steady for next week's shipments. Demand light to good, mostly light to moderate with some improvement reported on leg quarters into export channels. Offerings light to moderately heavy, mostly light to moderate with some finding boneless skinless breasts less available at week's end. Movement light to good, mostly light to moderate.

MIDWEST REGION Preliminary majority prices in Chicago were lower for next week. Prices for whole birds are trending steady to weak. Offerings are light to moderate. Retail and food service demand is light to moderate and slightly better than expected for some going into the Easter weekend. Seasonal retail items are receiving best interest. Fast food demand is moderate to good. Floor stocks are mixed. Weights are desirable to heavy. Whole bird market activity is light. Parts supplies are light to moderate. Prices trended steady to firm on tenders and steady on the balance of white and dark meat part items. Parts market activity is light.

DELMARVA Less-than-trucklot asking prices are unchanged at 87 to 92 cents with a steady to weak trending undertone. Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds is light as traditional items receive most interest entering the Easter holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes are available with discounting noted. Live supplies are moderate; weights are mixed, but reported as mostly desirable. Processing schedules are light due to a few plants closed today in observance of Good Friday. Market activity is slow. In the parts complex, breast items are moderate to instances heavy. The balance of parts are light to moderate with tenders in the best position.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FORM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	69-102
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	04/02/12-04/06/12 (A)
	04/04/11-04/08/11 (A)
NO. OF BOXES	04/02/12-04/06/12 (A)
	04/04/11-04/08/11 (A)

(A) Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER PARTS 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.

April 05, 2012

April 06, 2012

ITEM	POUNDS				WTD AVG	POUNDS				WTD AVG	WEEKLY POUNDS (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG
	(000)	RANGE	MAJ			(000)	RANGE	MAJ				
BREAST - B/S		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					1,670	129.63
TENDERLOINS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					782	166.13
BREAST - LINE RUN		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					264	86.67
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					315	77.21
LEGS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					TFEWR	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	364	48.00-51.00	-		49.28	213	48.00-51.00	-		49.10	1,605	49.42
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	332	50.00-53.00	-		51.54	317	49.00-53.00	-		50.41	1,843	51.13
WINGS (WHOLE)		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					TFEWR	
WINGS (CUT)		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					317	179.15
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					TFEWR	
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					TFEWR	
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT					95	120.42

Whole Body Index Based on Southern States Parts Trading for April 05, 2012 -- f.o.b. dock.

Whole Body Index Based on Southern States Parts Trading for April 06, 2012 -- f.o.b. dock.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
61.50 - 65.00	63.62	60.50 - 65.00	63.23	63.28

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 PARTS Prices are trending steady to firm for tenders and generally steady for the balance of items. Trucklot buying activity is light to moderate as dealers continue to assess market conditions for the upcoming Religious holiday weekend. Offerings of tenders are light to moderate; wings, breast items and most dark meat cuts are at least sufficient for current needs. Movement is slow to moderate.

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

April 05, 2012

April 06, 2012

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			VOL /LBS.	CURRENT NEG			WEEKLY WTD AVG	WEEKLY VOL/LBS.
	TRADING*	WTD AVG**			TRADING*	WTD AVG**			
BREAST - B/S	150-155	135.56		837,240	150-155	135.27	455,400	134.27	3,544,680
TENDERLOINS	170-175	173.16		220,480	170-175	172.41	109,600	171.84	795,080
BREAST - WITH RIBS	96-97	108.14		68,349	96-97	110.72	40,183	110.36	223,653
BREAST - LINE RUN	96	98.11		64,526	96	98.30	67,916	98.16	384,936
LEGS	73-74	72.42		130,920	73-74	70.32	178,720	72.43	682,380
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	49-50	53.65		290,440	49-50	52.05	236,280	53.55	1,145,900
DRUMSTICKS	55-56	70.82		76,440	55-56	69.47	68,800	70.82	333,000
THIGHS	73-74	82.94		56,640	73-74	80.87	73,000	83.01	310,620
B/S THIGHS	133-134	135.44		129,200	133-134	130.98	58,080	134.15	394,960
WINGS (WHOLE)	188-189	181.47		309,160	188-189	187.12	136,880	182.39	1,055,280
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	16-18	18.00		5,123	16-18	18.00	4,569	18.00	25,161
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	50-55	52.49		12,190	50-55	51.89	13,380	51.81	70,250
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	75.02		22,280	70-75	74.07	23,160	74.44	114,200

Includes: New York City metropolitan area, northern NJ, MA, CT, RI, and PA (northeast of Harrisburg).

*Today's negotiated 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		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)	04/05	(1,000)	04/04	04/03	04/04	(1,000)	03/30	03/28	
Alabama	3,162	3,840	3,594	3,784	5.75	5.63	5,302	5.78		
Arkansas	3,299	4,443	4,659	4,569	5.50	5.54	3,777	5.54		
Delmarva	1,819	1,864	2,041	2,060	6.23	6.38	2,038	6.27		
Ky-LA-TN	2,411	2,432	2,309	2,425	5.02	5.25	2,439	4.99		
Mississippi	2,731	2,400	2,877	2,775	6.16	6.02	2,754	6.01		
North Carolina	2,439	2,631	2,546	2,704	7.15	7.09	2,721	7.32		
Texas	2,138	2,394	1,879	2,432	5.44	5.89	2,301	5.46		
Total	17,999	20,004	19,905	20,749	5.87	5.91	21,332	5.86		
Mon-Friday	98,900	(A)					101,377	(A)		
Saturday	191	(included in total for date shown)					724			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 06-Apr-12 and 07-Apr-12 is estimated to be 26,929,000 head down 15.88 percent from a week ago and down 17.52 percent from a year ago. (Last week 30,050,000, last year 32,651,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 07-Apr-12 is estimated to be 147,965,000 head down 1.20 percent from a week ago, and down 8.96 percent from a year ago. (Last week 149,755,000, last year 162,524,000)

Actual data incorporated when available.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSED POULTRY (cents per pound)

**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS
IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	108-123
ROASTERS 4# & UP	128-140
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS
IN SAN FRANCISCO**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 118-175
	ICE PACK
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK 124
	ICE PACK
DUCKS	217-285

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

W/E 31-Mar-2012

(Preliminary)	-----Thousands-----				
	(A) 4.25 lbs. & down	(B) 4.26 - 6.25 lbs.	(C) 6.26 - 7.75 lbs.	(D) 7.76 lbs. & up	Total
Head	39,670	61,956	24,232	23,897	149,755
Avg Live Wgt	3.87	5.54	6.77	8.71	5.80
% of total /1	26%	42%	16%	16%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	33,634	67,385	28,831	20,750	150,600
Avg Live Wgt	3.81	5.40	6.79	8.44	5.73
% of total /1	22%	45%	19%	14%	100%
Year Ago 2/	40,057	65,845	29,367	27,255	162,524
Avg Live Wgt	3.83	5.47	6.75	8.30	5.77
% of total /1	25%	40%	18%	17%	100%
To date/2012*	462,795	837,984	348,952	295,870	1,945,601
To date/2011*	501,649	928,409	338,885	306,369	2,075,312

1/ May not total to 100% due to rounding. 2/ Comparable week.

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

Weight Class Description: (A) This size product is normally marketed bone-in into fast food and food service sectors and may include Cornish hens. (B) This size product is normally marketed into the retail grocery sector in tray pack or bagged forms. (C) This size product is normally marketed either into the retail grocery sector in tray pack and IQF form or is further processed and marketed into various sectors. (D) This size product is normally marketed deboned or as roasters or roasting chicken.

WEEKLY POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

(Preliminary) Week ending 31-Mar-2012

	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	-----Thousands-----				
Head	149,755	1,676	1,372	3,048	407
Avg Wt	5.80	3.44	7.76	5.38	6.92
Last week	150,600	1,809	1,383	3,192	402
Same wk yr ago	162,524	1,060	1,301	2,361	431
Avg Wt	5.77	3.31	8.12	5.96	6.86
To-date/2012*	1,945,601	20,462	19,304	39,766	5,502
To-date/2011*	2,075,312	18,650	19,371	38,021	5,833
% Change YTD	-6%	10%	0%	5%	-6%
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	651,434	2,998	7,187	10,185	2,028
Last week	647,204	2,897	7,450	10,347	1,977
Same wk yr ago	698,634	1,860	7,025	8,885	2,129
To-date/2012*	8,363,107	34,164	100,800	134,964	26,564
To-date/2011*	8,786,209	31,533	101,901	133,434	28,849
% Change YTD	-5%	8%	-1%	1%	-8%
Dressing %	75.0%	52.0%	67.5%		72.0%

(A) estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 152.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 151.6 million head, or 0.6 million less than estimated available. (B) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.

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

EST. U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

Week Ending	Million Head Slaughtered	Million Head Available*	Pct	Avg Wt
Feb 25	151.8	152.9	99%	5.64
Mar 3	153.5	152.5	101%	5.78
10	152.1	151.4	100%	5.79
17	154.9	151.2	102%	5.74
24	152.4	151.9	100%	5.73
31	151.6	152.2	100%	5.80
Year to date	1969.3	1973.9	100%	
Apr 7		151.9		
14		152.9		

*Based on chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

Under Federal Inspection (in thousands)

W/E	04/07/12	03/31/12	%chg	04/09/11	%chg
Broilers	147,965	149,755 ¹	-1.20	162,524 ¹	-8.96
Cattle	622	602	+03	630 ²	-01
Hogs	2,124	2,113	+01	2,063 ²	+03

¹ Actual data incorporated when available.

² Totals adjusted to reflect USDA, NASS revisions.

EASTERN REGION MISC. POULTRY

For delivery the week of APRIL 02, 2012

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	221-225	226-232
MIDWEST	195-210	200-214

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED, CENTS PER POUND

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	77.00-91.00	83.00-88.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	80.00-93.00	84.00-90.00

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

11 oz.	74.88-99.79
13 oz.	82.80-114.54
15 oz.	90.00-120.34

EASTERN REGION: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remain steady. Demand is light to moderate. Supplies are mostly moderate for current trade requirements. Market activity is seasonal and reported as slow to moderate. Processing schedules are full-time. Prices paid, first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$7.70-8.80, bone in legs at \$3.05-3.55, gizzards at \$1.20-1.75, wings at \$.75-.90, livers at \$1.25-2.05, and feet at \$.75-1.45 cents per lb.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, CENTS PER POUND, WEEK OF 02-APR-2012

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	192-218	194-223

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

DATE OF AUCTION: APRIL 03, 2012

PRICES PAID PER LB., EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE
Banty Hens	3.00 - 4.00 ea.
White Pigeons	5.25 - 6.00 ea.
Broilers	1.05 - 1.10 ea.
Bunnies	5.00 - 18.50 ea.
Chicks	.40 - 1.90 ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9LBS	.80 - .90 lbs.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11LBS	.80 - .90 lbs.
Crossbred Roosters 4-6LBS	1.40 - 1.50 lbs.
Doves	4.00 - 9.00 ea.
Ducklings	2.50 - 3.00 ea.
Geese 9-14LBS	2.00 - 2.10 lbs.
Goats	75.00 - 105.00 ea.
Guinea Fowl	3.50 - 4.00 lbs.
Guinea Pigs	.25 - 1.00 ea.
Kid Goats	40.00 - 60.00 ea.
Leghorn Hens	1.25 - 1.70 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.40 - 1.80 lbs.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.60 - 2.10 lbs.
Parakeets	6.00 - 10.00 ea.
Pekin Ducks	8.00 - 11.00 ea.
Pheasants	10.00 - 25.00 ea.
Pigeons	3.50 - 4.00 ea.
Pullets 4-6LBS	- 1.05 lbs.
Rabbits 6-9LBS	2.25 - 2.30 lbs.
Rabbits 4-6LBS	2.90 - 3.10 lbs.
Red Fowl 5-6LBS	1.00 - 1.10 lbs.
Red Fowl 4-5LBS	.75 - .90 lbs.
Silkies	4.00 - 4.50 ea.
Banty Roosters	5.00 - 6.00 ea.
Goslings	8.50 - 9.00 ea.
Diamond Dove	11.00 - 14.00 ea.
Cockatiels	- 23.00 ea.
Rats	- 1.00 ea.
Total Coops Sold	6508

NATIONAL FOWL MARKETS**LIVE SPENT HEAVY FOWL**

Prices are trending steady to firm when compared to the previous week. Supplies are sufficient for the moderate demand. Processing schedules are reduced due to the Religious holiday. Retail feature activity is moderate with the bulk of the interest in the Northeast and Southeast Regions. Finished product supplies are at least sufficient. Market activity is moderate.

Final Prices at Farm Buyer Loading:**Price Range****Wtd Avg**

Prices in cents per pound.

8.5- 19.5

13.38

(Southeast Region broiler breeder hens generally for processing, 7 lbs. and up; under 7 lbs. subject to discount.)

LIVE SPENT LIGHT FOWL

Prices are trending steady for the light to moderate demand. Offerings of light type hens are adequate for current needs. Processing schedules are normal to less than normal with some operations down due to the Religious holiday. Market activity is slow to moderate. The majority price for removal costs remains unchanged at 0-7 cents per head.

(live hens are predominately egg-layers averaging about 3.5 lbs. live weight per bird.)

Eastern region = AL, CT, DE, GA, KY, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, and WV;

North Central = IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI;

South Central = AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS & ANALYSIS

Washington, DC –

Michael Sheats, Director

Voice (202)720-6911

Fax (202)720-2403

Des Moines, IA –

Jason Karwal, Officer-in-Charge

Voice (515)284-4471

Fax (515)284-4468

Atlanta, GA –

Annie Terry, Officer-in-Charge

Voice (404)562-5850

Fax (404)562-5875

Jackson, MS –

Gary Brown, Southern States Area Supervisor

Voice (601)965-4662

Fax (601)359-1175