

FOOD PURCHASE REPORT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

DATE: June 5, 2006

USDA CHICKEN AND CHICKEN PRODUCTS PURCHASE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) today announced plans to purchase ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chicken products for school lunch and other domestic food nutrition assistance programs. Offers will be invited from the trade for broiler/fryer chicken in one or more of the following forms:

Breast and Leg Quarters (221140) – Frozen chicken breast quarters and leg quarters. Breast quarters and leg quarters must be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens that weigh 2.50 to 3.75 pounds (1.13 to 1.70 kg) without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packed in a minimum of four plastic-film bags and packed 40 pounds (18.14 kg) net weight in each fiberboard shipping container, with 1,000 containers per purchase unit totaling 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

Cut-up (221240) – Frozen cut-up chickens, 8 pieces, without necks and giblets. Cut-up chickens must be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 3.75 pounds (1.13 to 1.70 kg) without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packed in a minimum of four plastic-film bags and packed 40 pounds (18.14 kg) net weight in each fiberboard shipping container, with 1,000 containers per purchase unit totaling 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

Cooked (221530) – Frozen cooked batter/breaded cut-up chickens, 8 pieces. The cooked chicken parts must be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens that weigh 2.50 to 3 pounds (1.13 to 1.36 kg) without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packaged or packed in a minimum of three plastic-film bags or layers, respectively, and packed 30 pounds (13.61 kg) net weight in each fiberboard shipping container, with 1,300 containers per purchase unit totaling 39,000 pounds (17,690 kg).

Bulk Pack, Small (221690) – Bulk packed for further processing, chilled ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens without necks and giblets. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The weight range for an individual chicken is 2.50 to 3.75 pounds (1.13 to 1.70 kg), without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required in the Commodity Specification for Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Drumsticks (221940) – Frozen chicken drumsticks. Drumsticks must weigh a minimum of 4.15 ounces (117.65 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens that weigh a minimum 3.70 pounds (1.68 kg) per whole carcass, without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packaged in a minimum of four plastic-film bags, and packed 40 pounds (18.14 kg) net weight in each fiberboard shipping container, with 1,000 containers per purchase unit totaling 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

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Bulk Pack, Large (222590) – Bulk packed for further processing, chilled ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens without necks or giblets. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The individual chicken weight range must be over 3.75 pounds (over 1.70 kg) per carcass weighed without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required within the Commodity Specification for Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Leg Quarters (222640) – Frozen chicken leg quarters. Leg quarters must weigh between 9 and 13 ounces (255.14 and 368.54 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 3.75 pounds (1.13 to 1.70 kg) per whole carcass, weighed without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packaged in a minimum of four plastic-film bags, and packed 40 pounds (18.14 kg) net weight in each fiberboard shipping container, with 1,000 shipping containers per purchase unit totaling 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

Thighs (222840) – Frozen chicken thighs with back portion. Thighs must weigh between 4.80 and 9.30 ounces (136.08 and 263.66 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 5 pounds (1.13 to 2.27 kg) per whole carcass, weighed without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packaged in a minimum of four plastic-film bags, and packed 40 pounds (18.14 kg) net weight in each fiberboard shipping container, with 1,000 shipping containers per purchase unit totaling 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

Leg Quarters, Bulk Parts (224090) – Chilled chicken leg quarters, bulk packed for further processing. Leg quarters must weigh between 8.50 and 24 ounces (240.97 and 680.38 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 7 pounds (1.13 to 3.18 kg) per whole carcass, without necks and giblets. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required within the Commodity Specification for Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Chicken Legs, Bulk Parts (224190) – Chilled chicken legs, bulk packed for further processing. Legs must weigh between 5 and 17.50 ounces (141.75 and 496.11 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 7 pounds (1.13 to 3.18 kg) per whole carcass, without necks and giblets. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required within the Commodity Specification for Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Thighs, Bulk Parts (224290) – Chilled chicken thighs, (without back portion), bulk packed for further processing. Thighs must weigh between 2.50 and 10.50 ounces (70.87 and 297.66 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 7 pounds (1.13 to 3.18 kg) per whole carcass, without necks and giblets. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required within the Commodity Specification for Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Drumsticks, Bulk Parts (224390) – Chilled chicken drumsticks, bulk packed for further processing. Drumsticks must weigh between 2.50 and 7 ounces (70.87 and 198.44 g) each, or be produced from ready-to-cook broiler/fryer chickens which weigh 2.50 to 7 pounds (1.13 to 3.18 kg) per whole carcass, without necks and giblets. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required within the Commodity Specification for Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Invitation No. 1, inviting offers due by 12 noon, Central Time, Monday, June 12, will be issued in the near future. Acceptances will be announced by midnight Friday, June 16, for products to be delivered from July 1 to July 15 and July 16 to July 31. Subsequent invitations will be issued inviting offers due the second and fourth Monday of each month.

All offers must be submitted electronically through the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) website at <https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?>. Offers submitted by any means other than DEBES will be considered nonresponsive.

There are some important changes to this year's program. All packaging materials must be tamper-evident. Additionally, all delivery units—truck lots and less-than-truck (LTL) quantities—must be secured at all times prior to unloading with tamper resistant, serially numbered, high-security seals. The contractor must maintain a record of each seal number used for truck lot and LTL delivery units. Additionally, the contractor must ensure that the applicable seal identification number is on each bill of lading, shipping manifest, certificate, or other delivery documents for each delivery destination. When LTL delivery units are transported on the same trailer and destined for multiple recipients, the trailer must be sealed after each delivery. The seal number must be recorded on the appropriate delivery documents and correspond with the applied seal at the time of arrival at the next destination. All contractors and subcontractors must have a documented and operational food security plan that provides for the security of a plant's production processes. This plan will be audited by the USDA AMS Grading Branch.

Although most other provisions of the program are similar to the program operated last year, offerors are urged to carefully read all applicable terms and conditions of USDA-1, as amended, Announcement PY-307, Appendix-1, the Commodity Specifications for Chicken Parts, Batter/Breaded Chicken Parts, and Bulk Pack Chicken and Chicken Parts dated May 2006, which will be distributed to the trade, and Invitation No. 1.

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The frozen cut-up chicken, in either eight pieces, parts, or breast and leg quarters, and the cooked batter/breaded chicken parts are for preparation and consumption in their present form by recipients. Bulk pack chicken and bulk pack chicken parts will be purchased for delivery to a processor and are for conversion to further-processed products in accordance with contracts with recipients.

Inquiries may be made by telephoning (202) 720-7693 or addressing the Contracting Officer; USDA/AMS/Poultry Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0260; 1400 Independence Ave., SW; Washington, D.C. 20250. An electronic version of this Food Purchase Report can be obtained through the world-wide-web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp>.

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