



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 25, 1999
VOL. 46 NO. 101

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was slow to fair yet expected for this time of the month. Food service was fair to moderate with fast food outlets having best movement. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate. In the parts structure, availability of breast items were more obtainable but still in good balance and moving well. Wings were irregular but mostly sufficient to handle needs, and all other items were at least adequate with light movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .50 cent to 61.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 71.50 cents last year on the 26th of August, 1998.

DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
BREASTS - B/S	198.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	96.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	61.00
LEG QUARTERS	22.50
WINGS	53.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE		
WEEK ENDING 8/21/99	1999	1998	
EGGS SET	181,140	176,002	+03
CHICKS PLACED	142,681	137,633	+04

**08/18/99 - CHICKS PLACED SHOULD HAVE BEEN +04

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 3 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 181 million eggs during the week ending August 21, 1999. This was up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 81 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 4 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 143 million chicks for meat production during the week ending August 21, 1999. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through August 21, 1999, were 4.78 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 02-Oct-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 151.9 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 153.1 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 146.2 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 146.8 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 69.68 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Offerings in fairly good balance as heavier weights were more available than in previous weeks. Buying interest not up to expectations. Retailer demand was moderate to good, best to cover features by stores and specials by fast food. Floor stocks adequate. Trade sentiment steadier on breasts and generally steady on balance of parts.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was light to moderate with fair trading. Supplies were mostly sufficient for current needs. In the parts structure, breast items were close balanced to slightly more available, but still clearing well, particularly bone-in. Wings were well balanced and moving, and dark items were at least sufficient with fair demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offerings were adequate or available for the limited trade needs. Retail movement was very light to fair and typical for midweek. Food service demand was mostly moderate, best into fast food accounts. Floor stocks were at least adequate with sizes generally desirable. Parts trading was irregular as buyers and sellers differ on the value of items with limited features providing best interest. Supplies were more in balance on breast items and clearing well, remainder of items were at least adequate. The trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on breast items, wings unsettled and the balance of items steady.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was irregular. Offerings were generally in good balance to cover immediate trade requirements. Retail and distributive movement was slow, but as expected for the latter part of the month. The market tone was about steady. In the parts market, product was usually sufficient for most current trade interest, however, bone-in breasts were meeting with a bit more resistance.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally fair and about as expected for midweek trading. Offerings were adequate on the 3.5 and heavier sizes; fully adequate on the smaller sizes. Live supplies were moderate, with weights ranging light to desirable mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 55 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were in close balance. Leg items were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were generally adequate.

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

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	56-67
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	58.75
NO. OF BOXES	6,684

*5 of 8 plants reporting.

AUGUST 24, 1999

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

AUGUST 25, 1999

AUGUST 24, 1999					AUGUST 25, 1999				
POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	724	185.00-226.00	195-200	207.65	BREAST - B/S	678	186.00-228.00	190-200	206.46
TENDERLOINS	97	150.00-195.00	155-160	162.78	TENDERLOINS	62	145.00-195.00	155-160	165.97
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	125	85.00-90.00	85-89	87.18	FRONT HALVES	90	83.00-89.00	86.5-89	85.69
LEGS	132	30.00-36.00	30-31	30.85	LEGS	128	30.00-36.00	30-31	30.69
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	431	18.00-20.50	18-19	18.69	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	299	17.00-20.50	18-19	18.16
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,430	20.00-23.00	21-22	21.54	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,137	20.00-23.00	21-22	21.12
WINGS (WHOLE)	86	51.00-57.00	54-55	54.21	WINGS (WHOLE)	86	49.00-51.00	-	49.93
WINGS (CUT)	417	57.00-69.00	60-61	61.37	WINGS (CUT)	367	60.00-70.00	60-61	61.20
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	35	54.00-65.00	-	57.14	B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR AUGUST 24, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE TODAY'S AVERAGE
51.50-55.25 52.94

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR AUGUST 25, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE TODAY'S 5-DAY
AVERAGE AVERAGE
50.00 - 54.75 51.93 52.70

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 of a light and spotty nature. Offerings were adequate on most items with more resistance than usual noted on bone-in breasts. Movement through most retail and distributive channels was lax with some out front promotional interest developing. The market tone was fully steady, but cautious.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL

TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

AUGUST 24, 1999				AUGUST 25, 1999			
ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	195-200	198.90	445,400	BREAST - B/S	195-200	198.67	409,720
TENDERLOINS	150-155	155.06	41,650	TENDERLOINS	150-155	154.89	21,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	91-92	97.61	256,800	BREAST - WITH RIBS	92-93	99.89	193,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	91	96.40	155,460	BREAST - LINE RUN	92	97.28	102,600
LEGS	30-31	34.47	178,640	LEGS	30-31	35.86	105,040
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	21.26	435,630	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	22.45	276,840
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	35.27	103,300	DRUMSTICKS	34-35	32.86	75,880
THIGHS	20-21	27.23	103,250	THIGHS	20-21	32.75	44,800
B/S THIGHS	70-71	68.41	53,830	B/S THIGHS	70-71	72.82	18,920
WINGS (WHOLE)	49-50	57.05	198,000	WINGS (WHOLE)	49-50	57.23	153,160
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.12	24,240	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	14,760
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50	55.64	13,088	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50	50.00	12,120
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.22	30,630	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	45.03	29,240

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, 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 (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG	
	08/25	08/24	08/23	08/20	08/23	08/20	08/18	08/16
ALA	3,885	3,919	3,087	4,188	5.02	4.92	3,721	4.99
ARK	5,224	5,224	5,027	5,643	4.54	4.54	5,093	4.69
DELMARVA	2,411	2,445	2,453	2,603	4.99	4.85	2,478	4.95
KY-LA-TN	1,818	1,830	1,760	1,849	4.47	4.26	1,747	4.37
MISS	2,714	2,780	2,688	2,729	4.81	4.71	2,756	4.84
NC	2,593	2,616	2,562	3,259	5.54	5.44	2,491	5.55
TEXAS	1,993	2,035	1,854	1,941	4.56	4.42	1,906	4.52
TOTAL	20,638	20,849	19,431	22,212	4.84	4.77	20,192	4.86
MON-WED 62,144 (A)					60,309 (A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 25-Aug 99 is estimated to be 30,877,000 up 1.90 percent from a week ago and up 4.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,300,000; last year 29,633,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	81-83
ROASTERS 4# & UP	82-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	83-88
DUCKS	135
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRYDELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 93-98
	DRY PACK 107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104
	DRY PACK 112
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 92
	DRY PACK 98
DUCKS	149-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 28

CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
	CURRENT WEEK 08/28/99 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 08/21/99
BRO-FRY	160,496 (2)	150,833
LT HENS	1,896	2,056
HVY HENS	1,602	1,620
CHECK TOTAL	163,994	154,509

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 28-Aug-99 is 154.6 million head compared to 154.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.4 million head or 7.8 million more than estimated available. For week of 04-Sep-99 the estimated available is 151.5 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM 23-Aug-99	192,238		94,544	
AM 1-Aug-99	195,480		94,776	
CHG	-3,242		-232	
PCT CHG	-2		0	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT

(IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	08/23/99	08/16/99	08/24/98	08/23/99	08/16/99	08/24/98
PACIFIC						
COAST	37,767	39,801	43,328	17,148	17,171	8,758
LOS ANGELES	1,075	1,185	514	6,989	7,490	3,211

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 08/25/99

	LO	HI	AVG		LO	HI	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	1.05	.64	HEAVY FOWL ea.	.30	.40	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.25	.60	.49	MIXED FOWL ea.	1.75	2.25	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	.30	-	BANTAMS ea.	.35	2.00	-
BROILERS lb.	-	.60	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.40	.80	.65	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.35	.50	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	3.25	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.50	5.00	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.40	1.35	.82	ROOSTERS ea.	1.10	3.25	-
GEESE lb.	.35	.65	.46	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.55	-	TURKEYS ea.	4.00	14.00	-
DUCKS lb.	.85	1.50	1.44	DUCKS ea.	2.50	3.00	-
RABBITS lb.	.55	1.05	.78	RABBITS ea.	-	2.00	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	.75	3.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	11.00	13.50	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	1.75	3.75	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	13.00	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-				

TOTAL COOPS 161

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 AUGUST 23, 1999.

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		60-62
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending August 20, 1999

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	48.31	86.95	62.80	24.15	4.83	45.89
High	53.14	96.62	72.46	31.40	5.80	45.89
Mostly	50.72	96.62	72.46	31.40	4.83	45.89
SAN JUAN						
Low	52.17	96.62	62.80	15.94	4.83	48.31
High	53.14	115.94	72.46	28.99	7.25	48.31
Mostly	52.17	106.28	65.22	21.74	5.80	48.31
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	48.31	86.95	62.80	19.32	4.83	43.48
High	52.17	96.62	72.46	24.15	5.80	43.48
Mostly	50.72	96.62	72.46	24.15	4.83	43.48
BECERRA						
Low	50.72	94.20	62.80	19.32	4.83	46.86
High	53.14	111.11	82.12	28.99	7.25	46.86
Mostly	52.17	106.28	67.63	24.15	4.83	46.86

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,

POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Officer-In-Charge)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	