



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak, mostly weak and unsettled. Retail demand was moderate at best, mostly slow to fair with scattered features offering little improvements. Food service was fair to fairly good. Supplies were balanced to ample with sharp discounts doing little to clear product. In the parts structure, trading was strongest for wings with offerings actively sought. The remaining parts were at least adequate and slow to move. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .75 cent to 60.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 70.75 cents last year on the 23rd of September, 1998.

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

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
BREASTS - B/S	175.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	84.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	60.50
LEG QUARTERS	21.50
WINGS	58.00

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 9/18/99	1999	1998	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	169,824	166,924	+02%
CHICKS PLACED	140,850	138,700	+02%

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 170 million eggs during the week ending September 18, 1999. This was up 2 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 Slightly

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 141 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 18, 1999. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through September 18, 1999, were 5.34 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 30-Oct-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.6 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 148.1 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 146.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 153.6 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 66.05 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was week. Offerings ample with heavy weights in the longest position. Steep discounts offered on additional product but rejected since buyers' needs were limited. Retailer demand moderate to fairly good, bust to cover ads. Floor stocks adequate overall. The market tone was fully steady on wings, barely steady on leg quarters and breasts.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Movement was extremely light to fair with little or no trading even at discounted levels. Supplies were adequate to abundant for needs. In the parts structure, wings continued to receive best interest with supplies close balanced to tight. All other parts were sufficient to heavily supplied and slow to move. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to slightly heavier.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment on whole fryers about steady to weak. Additional whole fryers and heavy WOGS offerings fully adequate with limited buyer interest at discounted prices. Retail movement was light to fair at best. Retail features in Chicago on whole fryers at 49 and 79 cents at major chains. Food service demand in a full range, slow to occasionally fairly good. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate with some distributors cancelling loads. Sizes desirable. Parts demand best on wings. Supplies of boneless skinless breast ample, rib on breast fully adequate, leg quarters adequate to ample, wings barely adequate. Trade sentiment was steady on wings, barely steady to weak on breast items and leg quarters.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was limited. Offerings easily satisfied the light buyer interest with heavier weights increasingly available at sharply discounted levels. Retail and distributive movement was slow and typical for the latter part of the month. The market tone was mostly reported as weak and unsettled. In the parts market, breast items were in a similar situation and very attractively priced in an effort to encourage trading.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light at most plants. Offerings ranged adequate to ample and were in the closer balance on the 3 pound and smaller sizes. 3.5 to 4.0 sizes were offered at sharp discounts in an effort to stimulate activity. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 53 to 65 cents. Trade sentiment was weak and unsettled. In the parts complex, wings were no more than adequate. Other items were generally noted as at least adequate for the lackluster buying interest.

*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	52-68
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	56.52
NO. OF BOXES	7,642

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1999

SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	814	125.00-195.00	150-155	155.61
TENDERLOINS	101	150.00-195.00	150-155	160.99
BREAST - LINE RUN	144	72.00-90.00	72-75	76.33
FRONT HALVES	105	47.00-60.00	-	51.33
LEGS	86	31.00-37.00	31-32	31.42
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	539	15.00-19.50	16-17	17.00
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,508	17.00-22.50	19-20	19.79
WINGS (WHOLE)	243	46.00-57.50	54-55	52.34
WINGS (CUT)	397	61.00-75.00	63-65	64.38
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	50	50.00-68.00	-	53.00

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	613	130.00-195.00	147-155	156.16
TENDERLOINS	107	150.00-195.00	150-155	160.65
BREAST - LINE RUN	144	75.00-90.00	75-77	77.17
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	86	30.00-37.00	30-31	30.49
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	430	14.00-19.50	15-16	15.52
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,378	17.50-22.50	18-20	19.41
WINGS (WHOLE)	123	48.00-56.50	49-51	53.49
WINGS (CUT)	452	61.00-75.00	63-65	65.26
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
31.00-39.75	34.17

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
31.00 - 38.75	35.24	34.43

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 interest was of a light and spotty nature. Offerings were usually in balance on all but breast items which were sharply discounted in an attempt to stimulate buyer interest. Movement through most retail and distributive outlets was slow and disappointing. The market tone was extremely weak on breast items, generally steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES **SEPTEMBER 21, 1999**

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	145-160	158.65	513,990
TENDERLOINS	150-155	155.19	50,040
BREAST - WITH RIBS	69-70	82.41	228,000
BREAST - LINE RUN	69	73.26	151,200
LEGS	28-29	35.22	236,040
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	21.14	271,488
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.67	98,130
THIGHS	19-20	31.65	53,338
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.96	22,400
WINGS (WHOLE)	56-57	64.01	157,040
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.26	19,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	64.08	19,354
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.97	19,340

SEPTEMBER 15, 1999

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	140-150	157.33	383,840
TENDERLOINS	150-155	153.08	32,120
BREAST - WITH RIBS	69-70	81.80	212,960
BREAST - LINE RUN	69	72.64	207,600
LEGS	28-29	35.40	131,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	20.37	261,328
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.67	70,320
THIGHS	19-20	28.12	62,060
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.59	30,280
WINGS (WHOLE)	56-57	63.72	159,360
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.19	24,320
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	64.39	16,000
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.18	23,080

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 WTS		
	09/22	09/21	09/20	09/17	09/20	09/17	09/15	09/13	
ALA	3,898	3,942	3,898	4,469	5.25	5.12	3,865	5.16	
ARK	5,198	5,304	5,224	6,248	4.99	4.74	5,078	4.81	
DELMARVA	2,458	2,504	2,473	3,070	5.12	4.96	2,455	5.10	
KY-LA-TN	1,795	1,805	1,806	2,224	4.55	4.32	1,712	4.46	
MISS	2,818	2,774	2,781	3,402	5.09	4.70	2,816	5.00	
NC	2,308	2,131	2,542	2,586	6.07	5.98	2,307	5.59	
TEXAS	2,139	2,147	2,096	2,617	4.77	4.67	2,047	4.74	
TOTAL	20,614	20,607	19,655	24,616	5.10	4.92	20,280	4.99	
MON-WED 61,142 (A)								61,314 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 22-Sep 99 is estimated to be 30,841,000 up 1.34 percent from a week ago and up 6.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,432,000; last year 29,040,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-84
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 POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	92-98
	DRY PACK	107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-92
	DRY PACK	98
DUCKS		149-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPT -

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	09/25/99 (1)	09/18/99
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	158,676 (2)	158,026
LT HENS	1,982	2,029
HVY HENS	1,699	1,547
CHECK TOTAL	162,357	161,602

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 25-Sep-99 is 153.2 million head compared to 150.6 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 160.6 million head or 7.4 million more than estimated available. For week of 02-Oct-99 the estimated available is 151.8 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 20-Sep-99	187,990		96,446	
AM 1-Sep-99	192,814		95,979	
CHG	-4824		467	
PCT CHG	-3		0	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT

(IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	09/20/99	09/13/99	09/21/98	09/20/99	09/13/99	09/21/98
PACIFIC COAST	36,500	40,024	43,879	16,631	16,165	7,716
LOS ANGELES	318	1,045	567	6,456	6,139	3,004

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 09/21/99

	LO HI AVG			LO HI AVG		
	HEAVY FOWL lb.	.80	1.35	1.04	HEAVY FOWL ea	.-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	2.50
BANTAMS lb.	-	.35	-	BANTAMS ea.	.10	.55
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.15	.30	.23	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.05
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	.50
ROOSTERS lb.	.60	1.25	.83	ROOSTERS ea.	.25	.50
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.50	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.50	1.10	.90	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.10	1.05	.76	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	3.50
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea	3.75	10.75
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 89

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 SEPTEMBER 20, 1999.

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		60-63
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending September 17, 1999

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	49.41	111.42	67.82	24.22	5.81	46.02
High	51.35	125.96	87.20	29.07	7.27	46.02
Mostly	50.87	121.11	77.51	24.22	5.81	46.02
SAN JUAN						
Low	49.41	101.73	58.13	19.38	4.84	46.02
High	51.35	116.27	70.24	31.49	8.72	46.02
Mostly	50.87	106.58	62.98	24.22	7.27	46.02
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	49.41	111.42	67.82	19.38	5.81	43.60
High	50.87	125.96	87.20	29.07	7.27	43.60
Mostly	50.87	121.11	72.67	19.38	5.81	43.60
BECERRA						
Low	50.87	101.73	62.98	15.99	4.84	46.02
High	53.29	116.27	72.67	26.64	8.72	46.02
Mostly	51.35	101.73	67.82	21.80	5.81	46.02

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