



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak, mostly weak. Retail demand was very light to fair with no optimism for improvement. Food service was slightly better with best interest for fast food. Supplies were more than sufficient to easily handle trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were in the longest position with light movement, wings were balanced and moving, and dark meat items were usually sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy weights.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined 1.00 cent to 59.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 70.25 cents last year on the 30th of September, 1998.

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

### DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
BREASTS - B/S	162.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	77.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	60.00
LEG QUARTERS	20.50
WINGS	59.50

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 9/25/99	1999	1998
EGGS SET	167,474	167,662
CHICKS PLACED	139,289	136,415
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		0
		+2

### Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Down Slightly

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 167 million eggs during the week ending September 25, 1999. This was down slightly 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 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 139 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 25, 1999. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through September 25, 1999, were 5.48 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 6-Nov-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.0 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 148.6 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 145.0 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 154.1 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 64.18 CENTS PER POUND.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The market tone was weak. Offerings ample. Heavy weights in the longest position. Buyers' cautious and needs centered on regular commitments. Retailer demand for whole body was light; demand for parts moderate at best. Floor stocks adequate overall. The market tone was weak on breasts and leg quarters, about steady on balance of parts.

**SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand was no better than moderate, mostly light to fair. Supplies were more than sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were well balanced with good movement, and all other items were adequate to ample with light interest. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate at desirable to heavy weights.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Whole fryer trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Offerings were fully adequate or available with limited buyer interest. In Chicago, fill-in trading on whole fryers noted at 37 cents. Retail demand was light to fair with first of the month demand irregular. Food service movement was fairly good in the Chicago area, slow to light elsewhere. Floor stocks were at least adequate. Sizes were desirable to heavy. Parts trading was mostly of a light and spotty nature with improved interest noted on boneless/skinless breasts in Chicago and Detroit areas as asking prices continue to move lower. Supplies of all items were adequate to ample. Trade sentiment was steady on wings, barely steady on leg quarters and barely steady to weak on breast items.

**NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was disappointing. Offerings were more than sufficient to handle the lackluster trading activity. Retail and distributive movement was still slow and not expected to improve much. The market tone remained weak and unsettled. In the parts market, product easily satisfied the spotty demand.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly in some instances, but remained generally light and unaggressive, on par with typical late month and mid-week activity. Offerings were readily available although sizes varied some plant to plant. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 48 to 60 cents. Trade sentiment was weak and unsettled. In the parts complex, all items were at least adequate for the light and spotty buying interest. Breast remained in heaviest supply.

\*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	48-73
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	52.94
NO. OF BOXES	6,917

\*6 of 8 plants reporting.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1999

SEPTEMBER 29, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	818	123.00-189.00	135-145	143.50
TENDERLOINS	146	140.00-190.00	140-145	152.81
BREAST - LINE RUN	136	55.00-84.50	-	63.47
FRONT HALVES	85	42.00-48.00	-	45.29
LEGS	87	26.50-35.00	27-28	27.18
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	560	14.00-19.00	15-16	15.89
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,526	17.50-21.25	18-19	18.94
WINGS (WHOLE)	123	52.00-58.00	52-55	56.05
WINGS (CUT)	484	63.00-76.00	66-68	68.85
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	870	131.00-189.00	135-145	146.65
TENDERLOINS	101	150.00-190.00	-	159.50
BREAST - LINE RUN	136	62.00-84.50	62-65	65.53
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	87	26.50-35.00	-	27.18
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	476	14.00-19.00	14-16	15.85
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,426	17.50-21.00	18-19	19.06
WINGS (WHOLE)	141	55.00-58.00	55-56	57.15
WINGS (CUT)	557	63.00-76.00	64-66	67.88
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	60	49.00-68.00	-	53.83

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 28, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
28.00-33.50	30.59

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
29.00 - 35.00	31.68	31.98

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 mixed with dealers cautiously making purchases. Offerings continued to be attractively priced, but trading activity was still disappointing. Retail and distributive movement was still slow with not much improvement expected. The market tone was barely steady to weak.

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

TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES SEPTEMBER 28, 1999

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-140	140.39	501,760
TENDERLOINS	150	155.28	53,140
BREAST - WITH RIBS	52-53	68.68	187,680
BREAST - LINE RUN	52	52.92	119,200
LEGS	25-26	32.85	200,840
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15-16	17.42	245,240
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	35.31	96,080
THIGHS	18-19	28.14	77,960
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.98	36,100
WINGS (WHOLE)	57-58	65.10	182,640
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.96	20,920
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	64.19	20,524
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.89	53,030

SEPTEMBER 29, 1999

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	144.78	364,720
TENDERLOINS	150	155.32	47,240
BREAST - WITH RIBS	52-53	64.44	265,760
BREAST - LINE RUN	52	52.20	133,200
LEGS	25-26	29.33	196,680
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15-16	18.15	412,398
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	33.09	97,690
THIGHS	18-19	24.43	121,200
B/S THIGHS	69-70	71.88	39,280
WINGS (WHOLE)	57-58	64.52	209,480
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.01	16,840
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	64.22	19,920
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.59	55,480

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	
	09/29	09/28	09/27	09/24	09/27	09/24	09/22	09/20
ALA	3,929	3,922	3,898	4,434	5.19	5.09	3,887	5.25
ARK	5,341	5,313	5,224	5,223	4.92	4.77	4,979	4.99
DELMARVA	2,452	2,497	2,473	2,767	5.13	5.07	2,430	5.12
KY-LA-TN	1,720	1,767	1,806	1,889	4.57	4.50	1,766	4.55
MISS	2,792	2,850	2,781	3,405	5.14	4.98	2,838	5.09
NC	2,578	2,553	2,542	3,287	5.92	5.67	2,291	6.07
TEXAS	2,090	2,120	2,096	2,541	4.86	4.78	2,047	4.77
TOTAL	20,902	21,022	20,544	23,546	5.10	5.00	20,238	5.10
MON-WED	62,745 (A)				60,092 (A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 29-Sep 99 is estimated to be 31,272,000 up 2.97 percent from a week ago and up 2.6 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,369,000; last year 30,484,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**

**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	84-90
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	91-97
	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

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	10/02/99 (1)	09/25/99
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	157,782 (2)	158,676
LT HENS	1,930	1,982
HVY HENS	1,809	1,699

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 02-Oct-99 is 151.8 million head compared to 150.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 159.7 million head or 7.9 million more than estimated available. For week of 09-Oct-99 the estimated available is 149.7 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE**

CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS	TURKS	POP
	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM 27-Sep-99	2,900	187,041	97,344
AM 1-Sep-99	3,039	192,814	95,979
CHG	-139	-5773	1365
PCT CHG	-5	-3	1

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT**

(IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	09/27/99	09/20/99	09/28/98	09/27/99	09/20/99	09/28/98
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	37,169	36,500	44,533	15,497	16,631	7,288
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	989	318	551	5,667	6,456	2,882

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

FOR 09/28/99

	LO	HI	AVG		LO	HI	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	.75	.54	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.85	.90	.88	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	2.25	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	.25	.35	-
BROILERS lb.	.50	.65	.53	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	.45	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	5.00	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	.50	2.00	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.50	1.20	.91	ROOSTERS ea.	-	.50	-
GEESE lb.	.10	.20	.15	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.40	-	TURKEYS ea.	2.25	7.50	-
DUCKS lb.	.40	1.25	.82	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.60	1.05	.77	RABBITS ea.	-	1.75	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	.50	1.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	-GUINEA FOWL ea.	4.00	9.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	7.00	10.00	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	3.25	-				

TOTAL COOPS 142

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 1999

HENS		RANGE
	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	58-63
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	66

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending September 24, 1999

RAYON	Whole	Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/	Hens	
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings		Gizzards
Low	49.51	106.78	67.95	24.27	4.85	43.68
High	51.45	126.19	87.36	29.12	5.82	43.68
Mostly	50.96	126.19	77.66	24.27	4.85	43.68

**SAN JUAN**

Low	51.45	97.07	67.95	19.41	4.85	48.54
High	53.39	116.48	77.66	29.12	7.28	48.54
Mostly	51.93	104.35	72.80	24.27	5.82	48.54

**NEW SAN JUAN**

Low	49.51	106.78	67.95	19.41	4.85	46.11
High	50.96	121.34	87.36	24.27	5.82	46.11
Mostly	49.99	121.34	72.80	19.41	4.85	46.11

**BECERRA**

Low	51.45	97.07	67.95	19.41	4.85	50.96
High	52.42	111.63	77.66	29.12	7.28	50.96
Mostly	51.93	106.78	70.38	21.84	7.28	50.96

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