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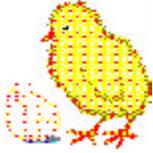
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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trucklot trading was light with majority prices in the West and Midwest unchanged, and unchanged to lower in the East when compared to a week earlier. Trade sentiment was reported as generally steady due in part to holiday weekend business. Retail demand was seasonal. Food service business was light to good with best movement noted into fast food channels. Supplies were reported as in balance to available for current inquiry. In the parts structure, demand was irregular with product usually adequate for requirements. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 12/27-01/01/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Including branded product)		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	54.00-55.00	—		
Chicago	49.00-52.00	48.00-61.00	51.83	23
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	63.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	64.00	—		
New York	49.00-51.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	64.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	58.00-59.00	42.50-59.50	57.86	82

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
452	53.92-60.15	58.40
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	134.00	3,173
BREASTS - WHOLE	69.00	1,484
THIGH MEAT - B/S	70.00	490
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	6,532
WINGS	75.50	2,283

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

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was fair to good best into fast food accounts. Supplies were usually sufficient for trade needs but clearing. In the parts structure, overall trading improved for the long holiday weekend with movement on breast items reported as below expectations to good. Supplies of dark meat items were adequate but clearing, and wings were slightly more available with only fair interest noted. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was about steady. Offerings readily available. Due to the extended holiday weekend most processors will be closed. Demand was light by stores, fairly good by fast food. Dealers anticipated close weekend clearances where difficulty in securing transportation will cause delivery delays otherwise moderate carryovers expected.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were unchanged into Chicago, TFEWR elsewhere. Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was about steady. Retail demand was slow to light, instances fair. Food service movement was irregular, light to fairly good with fast food accounts and catering moving best. Floor stocks were mixed with sizes desirable to heavier than desired. Parts trading was sluggish, instances moderate for the fully sufficient supplies. Parts trade sentiment was steady on all items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was slow and disappointing for the holiday week. Offerings were sufficient for the limited trade needs. Movement into retail and distributive channels was usually very slow as consumers were purchasing other holiday items. The market tone was usually steady. In the parts market, supplies were generally adequate. Trade sentiment was reported as about steady to steady.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly as sellers looked to clear inventories and buyers looked to insure an adequate supply through the holiday lengthened weekend. Offerings were adequate to tight with the smaller sizes in the heavier balance. Live supplies were seasonally moderate; weights were mostly desirable to light. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 55 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate. Leg items were generally noted in closest balance.

*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	51-67
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	57.99
NO. OF BOXES	10,268
CUMULATIVE	57.00
	12/20/99-12/24/99
	12/21/98-12/25/98
NO. OF BOXES	58.54
	12/20/99-12/24/99
	12/21/98-12/25/98
	40,982
	29,670

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>POUNDS</u> <u>(000)</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>	<u>WTD</u> <u>AVG</u>	<u>POUNDS</u> <u>(000)</u>	<u>WEEKLY</u> <u>WTD AVG</u>
BREAST - B/S	444	120.00-178.00	125-130	134.22	1,515	134.97
TENDERLOINS	39	135.00-160.00	-	143.77	657	154.06
BREAST - LINE RUN	192	64.00-72.00	64-68	67.33	284	65.93
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				367	61.08
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				76	29.26
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	186	16.50-19.00	17-18	17.60	701	17.58
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,168	20.00-21.00	-	20.12	3,670	20.34
WINGS (WHOLE)	68	72.00-78.00	72-75	73.94	351	72.57
WINGS (CUT)	417	80.00-91.00	84-86	86.28	1,493	85.87
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				39	34.00
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				6	34.00
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				110	66.43

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR DECEMBER 23, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

<u>RANGE</u>	<u>TODAY'S</u> <u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>5-DAY</u> <u>AVERAGE</u>
39.25 - 40.50	39.80	39.65

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 improved slightly for weekend needs but was still below expectations and only fair. Retail and distributive movement was only fair. Offerings were sufficient for traders requirements. The undertone was mixed but usually reported as steady.

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>CURRENT NEG</u> <u>TRADING*</u>	<u>WTD</u> <u>AVG**</u>	<u>VOL/LBS</u>
BREAST - B/S	125-130	134.39	471,320
TENDERLOINS	125	124.94	99,440
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	67.18	208,520
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	58.16	89,800
LEGS	26-27	31.08	162,840
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	17.96	494,905
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	31.95	91,410
THIGHS	21-22	28.02	70,640
B/S THIGHS	70-71	72.26	25,600
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	80.47	219,360
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.05	48,560
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	39.05	40,480
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.33	86,320

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG 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)

	<u>ESTIMATED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>AVG</u>		<u>AVG</u>
			<u>WTS</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>WTS</u>
	12/23	12/21	12/21	12/16	12/14
ALA	2,664	2,485	4.91	3,684	5.08
ARK	3,356	4,821	4.79	4,832	4.84
DELMARVA	2,392	2,435	5.22	2,387	5.30
KY-LA-TN	1,719	1,891	4.39	1,806	4.59
MISS	2,620	2,380	4.98	2,842	4.99
NC	2,538	2,541	5.87	2,313	5.90
TEXAS	2,171	2,120	4.86	2,218	4.74
TOTAL	17,460	18,673	5.00	20,082	5.06
MON-THUR	79,181(A)			79,112(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-Dec 1999 is estimated to be 26,122,000 down 13.32 percent from a week ago and up 107.80 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,135,000, last year 12,571,000)

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH FRYERS	78-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104
	ICE PACK	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-162

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Dec. 11, 1999 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----			

Head	27,976	20,230	41,371
Avg Weight	3.80	4.81	6.08
% of total /1	31%	23%	46%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	36,769	32,291	42,819
Avg Weight	3.86	4.83	6.17
% of total /1	33%	29%	38%
Same week, yr ago /2	27,342	28,622	39,481
Avg Weight	3.80	4.78	6.03
% of total /1	29%	30%	41%
To date/1999	1,557,549	1,507,603	1,989,113
To date/1998	1,637,050	1,730,442	1,481,837

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 18-Dec-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					

HEAD	149,008 (A)	2,594	2,544	5,138	384
AVG WT	5.05	3.40	7.70	5.53	6.95
LAST WEEK	151,438	2,167	1,425	3,592	545
YR AGO	154,374	2,562	1,395	3,957	509
AVG WT	5.02	3.36	7.96	4.98	6.72
TO-DATE/1999	7,541,759	103,480	71,715	175,195	22,109
TO-DATE/1998	7,303,981	101,368	63,072	164,440	22,554

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 139.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 150.8 million head or 11.3 million head more than or 108 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY -- DATE OF AUCTION DEC 21, 1999
PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.50 - .62	Silkie 2.50 - 3.00ea
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.50 - .62	Geese 9-14 .30 - .42
Pekin Ducks	.60 - .74	Pigeons 1.50 - 2.35ea
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.42 - .64	White Pigeons 2.50 - 3.00ea
Red Fowl 5-6	.60 - .88	Rabbits 4-6 1.30 - 1.84
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .92	Rabbits 7-11 1.20 - 1.54
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - .88	Bunnies 1.00 - 6.00ea
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.50 - .92	Guinea Pigs 3.00 - 8.50ea
Guinea Fowl	2.00 - 2.35	Kid Goats 10.00 - 32.00ea
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 5.50ea	Doves 3.50 - 5.50ea
Banty Hens	1.50 - 3.00ea	Chukars 3.00 - 3.50ea
Leghorn Hens	.12 - .24	Pullets 4-6 .60 - .84

Total Coops Sold 582

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 20-DEC-99
DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59-60	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	60-83	71-75
12 OZ.	60.48-69.66	
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14	
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43	

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

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

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was good. Sizes were desirable to instances heavy. Slaughter schedules were reduced this week and next for the upcoming holidays. Prices to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 20-DEC-1999

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
NOVEMBER 13	150.2	144.2	104	5.02
20	147.3	140.5	105	4.97
27	111.1	140.3	79	4.97
DECEMBER 4	155.9	143.6	109	5.08
11	153.3	144.1	106	5.01
18	150.8	139.5	108	5.05
YEAR TO DATE	7635.0	7539.0	101	
DECEMBER 25		137.9		
JANUARY 1		140.4		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 18-Dec-99

IN THOUSANDS
Broilers 4,118 HD, 21,084 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 716 lbs., Heavy Hens 2 HD, 15 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

NOT AVAILABLE

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Prices were irregular when compared to last week values. Trading was of light to fair volume as sellers are on reduced schedules. Demand was fair but unaggressive as users of canners were also on reduced schedules. Offerings were usually sufficient for full trade needs. The undertone was cautious and ranged from about steady to steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 25.5-26.25 MAJORITY	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 32-35 MAJORITY 33.5-34.5
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CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 25-27 MAJORITY 25-26	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 31.75-37 MAJORITY 36-36.75
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EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Demand was light for fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules are less than normal as most are on holiday schedules. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for at least adequate offerings of leghorn fowl. Finished sales were moderate. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Additional product demand was very light as most processors worked reduced schedules in observance of the upcoming holidays. Finished product movement was usually fairly good. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants worked reduced holiday schedules. Offerings ample.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was fair for fully adequate offerings. Trading was light as plants were generally on holiday schedules. Undertone was no better than steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for adequate supplies of heavy hens. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were moderate to good at retail outlets, slowing in distributive channels. Trade sentiment was only steady.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0-0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

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