



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 12, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 05

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Retail demand was slow to fair, slightly better in parts of the Midwest, but still below expectations. Food service was moderate at best with fast food having best movement. Supplies were adequate to ample with extreme discounting and features not aiding in clearance. In the parts structure, trading was slow to moderate, best for wings, with numerous ads noted. Availability was close balanced for wings, and at least adequate for all other parts. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cents to 58.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.00 cents last year on the 13th of January, 1999.

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	132.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	67.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	74.00
LEG QUARTERS	20.00
WINGS	80.00

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 01/08/00	2000	1999	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	181,439	178,429	+02
CHICKS PLACED	144,183	144,630	0

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 181 million eggs during the week ending January 8, 2000. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Down Slightly

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 144 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 8, 2000. Placements were down slightly from the comparable week in 1999.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 19-Feb-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 152.5 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 152.2 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 150.0 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 152.2 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 58.16 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was barely steady to weak. Offerings ample and difficult to place. Sharp discounts were offered with little interest reported in additional product. Buyers' interest was light and centered on regular commitments. Demand for whole-body product was light to moderate, best to cover features in progress. Demand for parts was moderate to fairly good, best by fast food. Floor stocks were generally adequate to fully adequate. The market tone was barely steady on breasts with boneless in the weakest position, balance of parts about steady.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak, mostly weak. Demand was slow with little or no trading. Supplies were adequate to ample and hard to place even at reduced levels. In the parts structure, wings were becoming more available, but were still in balance and moving. Breast items were mixed with some interest for bone-in, but boneless skinless ample and selling at lower levels. Dark meat was usually sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights mostly desirable.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment on whole fryers barely steady to weak. Additional whole bird and wog offerings were slow to clear with lower offering prices prevalent. Fill in trading on small sized wogs into Ohio at 42 cents and into Chicago whole birds at 34 and 35 cents. Movement into all channels was irregular, slow to moderate, with features and fast food accounts providing best interest. Features noted in the St. Louis area on whole fryers at 49 cents, bagged leg quarters at 19, 29 and 39 cents and whole breasts at 69 cents. In Chicago, drums featured at 49 and 58 cents and thighs at 58 cents. Floor stocks were mixed, mostly adequate, with some receivers in Michigan being shorted on regular commitments of small sized whole birds. Weights desirable. Parts trading was seasonally light, instances fairly good on wings and leg quarters. Supplies were adequate to barely adequate on wings, balance of all other items at least adequate. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on wings, cautiously steady at best on the balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers showed no improvement and continued slow. Offerings were usually ample and discounting was common. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally slow. The market tone remained weak. In the parts market, bone-in breasts were about adequate. All other parts were more than sufficient for immediate needs.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds continued to be slow at most plants. Seller offerings varied and were in better balance in instances, but generally remained readily available. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 47 to 59 cents. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. In the parts complex, supplies of boneless skinless breasts varied from tight to ample. Leg items were generally noted as in decent balance. Wings were available and were often noted as slow in clearing.

*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	35-66
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	49.56
NO. OF BOXES	10,001

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

JANUARY 11, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

JANUARY 12, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	608	110.00-164.00	120-125	123.39
TENDERLOINS	173	120.00-170.00	120-125	125.20
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	46	27.00-34.00	27-28	27.91
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	299	15.75-19.00	16-17	16.42
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	3,221	17.50-21.00	20	19.98
WINGS (WHOLE)	86	75.00-78.00	-	76.60
WINGS (CUT)	514	87.50-95.00	88-90	90.35
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	849	109.00-164.00	120-125	120.57
TENDERLOINS	93	120.00-170.00	120-125	129.68
BREAST - LINE RUN	104	56.00-68.50	56-57	56.96
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	46	27.00-34.00	-	27.91
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	419	12.00-19.00	15-16	15.97
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	929	17.50-21.00	19-20	20.11
WINGS (WHOLE)	68	78.00-79.50	-	78.49
WINGS (CUT)	566	85.00-92.00	89-90	89.52
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 JANUARY 11, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR JANUARY 12, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
31.00 - 35.00	32.46

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
30.00 - 35.50	33.24	33.14

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 generally slow and typical of midweek. Offerings of bone-in breasts were becoming less available, and the balance of items was at least adequate to handle current needs. Retail and distributive movement was no better than fair. The market tone was steady at best.

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

ITEM	JANUARY 11, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125	125.03	551,040
TENDERLOINS	120-125	125.12	87,400
BREAST - WITH RIBS	50-51	59.30	185,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	50	52.48	138,640
LEGS	26-27	31.44	208,280
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.65	554,691
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	32.36	93,870
THIGHS	21-22	24.95	147,760
B/S THIGHS	70-71	74.33	33,190
WINGS (WHOLE)	75-76	83.11	215,940
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.06	54,360
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	39.26	43,090
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.85	75,050

ITEM	JANUARY 12, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125	128.07	408,360
TENDERLOINS	120-125	124.83	75,400
BREAST - WITH RIBS	50-51	59.11	229,440
BREAST - LINE RUN	50	53.33	162,120
LEGS	26-27	31.86	187,960
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.15	633,270
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	32.68	104,260
THIGHS	21-22	29.17	69,560
B/S THIGHS	70-71	75.47	22,000
WINGS (WHOLE)	75-76	84.10	217,640
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	53,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	39.71	39,920
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	63.95	67,840

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	
	01/12	01/11	01/10	01/07	01/10	01/07	01/05	01/03
ALA	3,879	3,880	3,768	4,061	5.15	5.24	3,618	4.92
ARK	5,094	5,249	5,096	5,850	4.98	4.85	4,856	5.10
DELMARVA	2,421	2,436	2,426	2,824	5.32	5.11	2,436	5.23
KY-LA-TN	2,037	2,020	1,863	2,397	4.53	4.37	1,991	4.55
MISS	2,673	2,546	2,412	3,011	5.26	4.94	2,697	4.99
NC	2,612	2,649	2,557	3,345	5.23	5.67	2,566	5.83
TEXAS	2,248	2,181	2,227	2,223	4.85	4.68	2,213	4.88
TOTAL	20,964	20,961	20,349	23,711	5.15	5.01	20,377	5.10
MON-WED	63,038 (A)						59,483 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12-Jan 00 is estimated to be 31,364,000 up 2.57 percent from a week ago and up 5.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,578,000; last year 29,825,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	78-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	79-88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326
SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY	
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 92-98
	DRY PACK 104
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-107
	DRY PACK 112
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 91
	DRY PACK 98
DUCKS	149-162

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING JAN -15

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	01/15/00 (1)	THOUSAND HEAD	01/08/00	THOUSAND HEAD
BRO-FRY	160,954 (2)		157,538	
LT HENS	2,099		2,089	
HVY HENS	1,335		1,691	
CHECK TOTAL	164,388		161,318	

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 15-Jan-00 is 148.5 million head compared to 157.5 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.9 million head or 14.4 million more than estimated available. For week of 22-Jan-00 the estimated available is 150.6 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM 10-Jan-00	75,469		76,673			
AM 1-Jan-00	65,047		75,162			
CHG	10,422		1,511			
PCT CHG	16		2			

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	1/10/00	1/03/00	1/11/99	1/10/00	1/03/00	1/11/99
PACIFIC COAST	5,844	5,873	15,259	12,524	12,595	9,936
LOS ANGELES	156	126	241	3,107	3,611	4,029

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 01/11/00

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG			
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG	
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.50	.95	.81	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	.40	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	3.50	-
BROILERS lb.	-	1.00	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	6.50	9.25	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.00	2.00	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.85	1.35	1.00	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	2.60	3.05	2.82	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.50	1.00	.80	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.10	1.35	.86	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	4.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	9.00	9.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	2.50	5.50	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-				

TOTAL COOPS 80

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 JANUARY 1, 2000

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		60-63
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		65-66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending January 7, 2000

	Whole Chickens		Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
	Breasts					
RAYON						
Low	54.87	95.43	62.03	19.09	4.77	45.33
High	56.78	119.29	76.35	28.63	7.16	45.33
Mostly	56.78	109.75	66.80	23.86	4.77	45.33
SAN JUAN						
Low	55.35	104.98	64.42	19.09	4.77	46.76
High	57.26	119.29	75.39	31.02	9.54	46.76
Mostly	56.78	116.91	66.80	23.86	5.73	46.76
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	55.35	104.98	66.80	21.47	5.73	45.33
High	58.22	124.06	81.12	33.40	9.07	45.33
Mostly	56.31	116.91	73.96	26.24	7.16	45.33
BECERRA						
Low	56.78	100.21	64.42	19.09	5.73	46.76
High	59.17	114.52	76.35	31.02	7.16	46.76
Mostly	57.26	112.14	71.58	26.24	5.73	46.76

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