



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 19, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 08

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady to weak. Demand was slow to fair as harsh weather conditions in the Northeast continued to affect movement. Supplies were more than sufficient to handle light trade needs. In the parts structure, availability was adequate to ample for wings, balanced to short for breast items, and mostly sufficient for dark meat items. Trading was best for breast items, particularly bone-in and boneless skinless, and wings were slow. 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 declined .25 cents to 58.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.75 cents last year on the 20th 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	133.50	
BREASTS - WHOLE	69.00	
THIGH MEAT - B/S	74.50	
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	
WINGS	79.50	

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 01/15/00	2000	1999
EGGS SET	179,717	177,385
CHICKS PLACED	144,821	141,953
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		+01
		+02

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 180 million eggs during the week ending January 15, 2000. This was up 1 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 Up 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 145 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 15, 2000. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through January 15, 2000, were 289 million, up 1 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 26-Feb-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 152.7 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 152.5 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 152.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 149.4 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 57.89 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Offerings fully adequate with surplus product offered at discounted levels. Buyers' interest was light. Retailer demand was moderate to fairly good where featured. Floor stocks generally adequate. The market tone was fully steady on breasts with bone-in in the strongest position, wings were barely steady and balance of parts generally steady.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand was slow to fair with light trading. Supplies were at least adequate and readily available for trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were balanced to short with increasing interest, and wings were adequate to fully sufficient and moving slowly. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady to barely steady, instances weak. Additional whole bird and wog offerings were limited for the light buyer interest. Retail and food service movement was seasonal, light to fairly good, best where features were in progress. Floor stocks were balanced to ample with sizes desirable. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were harder to find and trading was moderate to active, boneless/skinless breasts were at least adequate and clearing. Supplies of wings were at least adequate, dark meat items were adequate to fully adequate for the light to fair demand. Limited features stimulating some additional interest. Features noted in Chicago on whole fryers at 79 cents, leg quarters at 29 cents and boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.79. In Michigan, pick-of-the-chick featured at \$1.00 and boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.49. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on breast items, barely steady to weak on wings, about steady on the balance.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was still struggling. Offerings were generally available on all sizes. Retail and distributive movement was no better than fair. The market tone remained no better than steady. In the parts market, breast items continued to strengthen. Wings were becoming more available and the remainder of parts were usually steady.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds remained irregular and both recent plant closings and adverse weather in shipping channels continued to disrupt activity. Offerings varied from tight to fully adequate. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were desirable to heavy and projected to decline if harsh freezing conditions persist. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 44 to 56 cents. Trade sentiment was generally steady. In the parts complex, bone-in and boneless skinless breasts were in demand. Wings were readily available. Leg items 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	43-60
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	47.23
NO. OF BOXES	9,070

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	677	112.00-174.00	115-120	121.92
TENDERLOINS	75	110.00-180.00	115	133.83
BREAST - LINE RUN	123	61.00-67.00	-	61.39
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	462	15.25-19.00	15.5-16.5	16.21
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,220	17.50-21.00	19-20	19.77
WINGS (WHOLE)	63	77.00-80.00	78-79	78.05
WINGS (CUT)	439	85.00-92.00	87-89	87.38
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	67	65.00-75.00	-	66.76

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR JAN. 19, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
	31.00-35.50	32.86	32.29

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 mostly fair. Offerings of bone-in breasts were difficult to locate. Boneless, skinless breasts were moving well and continued to strengthen. Wings were becoming more available. All other parts were at least adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was about moderate with some features increasing consumer interest. The market tone was firm on breast items, barely steady to weak on wings, and about 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

ITEM	JAN 18, 2000			JAN 19, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	132.37	276,680	130-135	130.38	454,160
TENDERLOINS	120	115.01	64,560	120	115.29	71,800
BREAST - WITH RIBS	57-58	63.38	206,160	60-61	68.27	199,160
BREAST - LINE RUN	57	61.52	135,360	60	64.99	108,160
LEGS	26-27	30.86	171,040	26-27	31.67	180,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.39	415,688	16-17	18.26	241,360
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	33.25	92,870	34-35	33.36	112,230
THIGHS	21-22	29.76	75,880	21-22	29.99	70,720
B/S THIGHS	70-71	76.33	19,290	70-71	75.10	26,760
WINGS (WHOLE)	75-76	82.25	218,240	74-75	84.17	199,080
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.05	54,760	10-12	12.01	55,320
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.91	48,840	30-35	34.15	46,040
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.60	80,600	55-60	59.73	77,780

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		ACTUAL WTS	
	01/19	01/18	01/17	01/14	01/17	01/14	01/12	01/10
ALA	3,899	3,661	2,121	3,926	4.75	5.08	3,687	5.15
ARK	5,205	5,093	4,885	4,923	4.96	4.80	5,108	4.98
DELMARVA	2,424	2,392	783	2,772	5.29	5.10	2,415	5.32
KY-LA-TN	1,925	2,068	1,746	2,335	4.43	4.44	2,055	4.53
MISS	2,724	2,515	1,023	3,062	4.48	4.79	2,644	5.26
NC	1,841	2,608	1,485	3,450	5.91	5.75	2,522	5.93
TEXAS	2,238	2,240	2,065	2,211	4.78	4.76	2,246	4.85
TOTAL	20,256	20,577	13,730	22,679	4.92	4.99	20,677	5.15
MON-WED	56,519 (A)						61,778(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 19-Jan 00 is estimated to be 30,305,000 down 2.33 percent from a week ago and up 2.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,028,000; last year 29,497,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	77-81
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

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104
	ICE PACK	92-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	112
	ICE PACK	104-107
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-162

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING JAN -22-00

CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
	CURRENT WEEK 01/22/00 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 01/15/00
BRO-FRY	147,587 (2)	160,954
LT HENS	2,009	2,099
HVY HENS	1,284	1,335
CHECK TOTAL	150,880	164,388

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 22-Jan-00 is 150.6 million head compared to 146.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 149.4 million head or 1.2 million less than estimated available. For week of 29-Jan-00 the estimated available is 151.7 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	LBS			LBS		
AM 17-Jan-00	84,761			98,497		
AM 1-Jan-00	65,047			75,162		
CHG	19,714			23,335		
PCT CHG	30			31		

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	01/17/00	01/10/00	01/18/99	01/17/00	01/10/00	01/18/99
PACIFIC						
COAST	6,281	5,844	15,014	12,150	12,524	6,827
LOS ANGELES	123	156	233	3,079	3,107	499

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 01/18/00

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.55	.60	.57	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.25	.80	.59	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	.35	.40	.38	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	.70	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.70	1.25	.85	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	.30	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.70	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.25	.30	.28	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.70	1.15	.89	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.25	2.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	2.00	3.50
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 30

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 17, 2000

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	56-63
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	58-66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending January 14, 2000

	Whole		Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/	Hens
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	
RAYON						
Low	57.64	100.87	64.85	21.62	7.21	45.63
High	59.56	115.28	74.45	33.62	9.61	45.63
Mostly	58.60	110.48	67.25	24.02	7.21	45.63

SAN JUAN

Low	57.16	105.68	67.25	24.02	5.76	45.63
High	60.52	120.09	76.86	31.22	9.61	45.63
Mostly	59.56	115.28	74.45	26.42	7.21	45.63

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	57.16	98.47	72.05	20.66	4.80	45.63
High	58.60	115.28	81.66	31.22	8.65	45.63
Mostly	57.16	110.48	72.05	24.02	5.76	45.63

BECERRA

Low	56.68	105.68	67.25	21.62	4.80	47.07
High	58.60	120.09	76.86	33.62	8.65	47.07
Mostly	57.64	112.88	74.45	24.02	5.76	47.07

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