



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was generally mostly steady with some caution noted. Demand ranged light to moderate, best into food service. Supplies were more than sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were readily available and slow to clear. Breast items ranged adequate to fully adequate. Leg items were in close balance and clearing well. In production areas, live supplies were at least 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 remained unchanged at 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 62.00 cents last year on the 3rd of February, 1999.

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	145.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	75.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	76.50
LEG QUARTERS	20.00
WINGS	68.00

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 01/29/00	2000	1999
EGGS SET	179,615	176,765
CHICKS PLACED	145,100	141,088
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		+02
		+03

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 180 million eggs during the week ending January 29, 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 Up 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 145 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 29, 2000. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through January 29, 2000, were 579 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 11-Mar-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 153.5 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 153.3 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 150.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 151.4 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 57.32 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Offerings were adequate overall. Retail demand was fair to fairly good, best for parts. Floor stocks generally adequate. The market tone was weak on wings, fully steady on leg quarters and mainly steady on balance of parts.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mostly steady with some cautiousness noted. Demand was light to moderate, best where limited features were in progress. Supplies were generally sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were readily available and slow in clearing. Boneless skinless breasts were adequate. Bone-in breast were fully adequate. Leg items were in close balance. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights ranging desirable to heavy.

MIDWEST Whole fryer trade sentiment generally steady. Additional offers of whole fryers available with fill in trading into Chicago on whole fryers at 41 cents and WOGs at 43 cents delivered. Retail and food service demand light to moderate, best where scattered features are a factor and where first of the month activity is anticipated. Floor stocks were adequate in instances long in St. Louis. Sizes were desirable. Supplies of wings fully adequate to ample, bone in breast adequate to barely adequate, boneless skinless breast available and leg quarters adequate. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on bone in breasts, generally steady on the balance of items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was no more than fair. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate and the heavier birds were in the most available position. Retail and distributive movement continued light. The market tone was no better than steady. In the parts market, supplies were more than sufficient for current trade needs with wings and breast items in the weakest positions.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair, typical of normal mid-week activity and generally lacked indications of increased first-of-the month buying interest. Seller offerings were adequate to ample and were more readily available on the 3.5 to 4 pound sizes. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were generally heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 49 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment was steady at best. In the parts complex, all items were at least adequate for the light to fair and generally unaggressive buyer.

*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	46-63
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	52.72
NO. OF BOXES	7,153

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

FEBRUARY 01, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEBRUARY 02, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	503	135.00-197.00	135-140	144.03
TENDERLOINS	88	112.00-165.00	-	130.23
BREAST - LINE RUN	122	73.50-77.00	74-75	76.77
FRONT HALVES	115	48.00-50.00	-	49.39
LEGS	47	27.00-34.00	27-28	28.04
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	339	15.50-19.00	15.5-16	15.93
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,281	17.50-21.00	20	19.94
WINGS (WHOLE)	87	59.00-74.00	59-61	63.38
WINGS (CUT)	360	65.00-86.00	69-70	72.53
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	32	64.00-73.00	-	64.00

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 01, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
31.75 - 34.50	32.66

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.

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	628	127.00-197.00	135-140	140.53
TENDERLOINS	63	110.00-165.00	120	130.48
BREAST - LINE RUN	914	72.00-77.00	72-74	72.62
FRONT HALVES	115	47.00-51.00	-	49.43
LEGS	47	27.00-34.00	27-28	28.04
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	339	15.50-19.00	15.5-16	15.99
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,241	17.50-21.00	20-21	19.97
WINGS (WHOLE)	107	51.00-62.00	52-55	55.27
WINGS (CUT)	510	59.00-86.00	66-68	68.41
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 FEBRUARY 2, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
31.25 - 35.00	32.71	32.64

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity slowed as midweek approached and expectations for the first of the month were conservative. Offerings of all items were at least adequate. Discounting continued on wings and began to be observed on breast items. Retail and distributive movement was no better than fair. The market tone was weak on wings and breast items and no better than steady for 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	FEBRUARY 01, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145-150	151.44	294,770
TENDERLOINS	115	120.08	84,480
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	77.19	146,480
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	71.16	171,160
LEGS	26-27	30.84	305,680
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	19.61	480,693
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	34.71	117,920
THIGHS	21-22	27.13	88,520
B/S THIGHS	70-71	74.09	23,970
WINGS (WHOLE)	65-66	69.70	169,840
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.13	39,200
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.47	33,040
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.98	44,220

ITEM	FEBRUARY 02, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145	151.03	283,440
TENDERLOINS	115	120.15	50,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	77.55	178,280
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	70.45	162,200
LEGS	26-27	32.11	148,240
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	19.58	358,206
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	34.50	77,910
THIGHS	21-22	29.94	58,920
B/S THIGHS	70-71	74.59	21,080
WINGS (WHOLE)	62-63	69.50	163,600
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.01	32,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.06	29,480
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.66	46,520

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	
	02/02	02/01	01/31	01/28	01/31	01/28	01/26	01/24
ALA	3,914	3,946	3,745	1,111	5.18	4.94	3,795	5.05
ARK	5,149	5,220	4,720	768	4.95	4.55	4,956	4.93
DELMARVA	2,464	2,448	2,395	4,395	5.37	5.34	806	5.27
KY-LA-TN	1,962	1,938	2,027	1,929	4.49	4.23	1,874	4.48
MISS	2,743	2,666	2,595	1,243	5.34	4.99	2,647	5.14
NC	2,325	2,517	1,886	3,339	5.89	6.01	698	5.90
TEXAS	2,257	2,207	2,140	2,175	4.86	4.86	2,036	4.83
TOTAL	20,814	20,942	19,508	14,960	5.13	5.14	16,812	5.05
MON-WED	63,074	(A)					53,391	(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 02-Feb 00 is estimated to be 31,140,000 up 23.43 percent from a week ago and up 7.1 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 25,228,000; last year 29,077,000)

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	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	316

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

	ICE PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		92-97
	DRY PACK	104-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	95
DUCKS		149-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING FEB -05-00

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	02/05/00 (1)	01/29/00
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	143,667 (2)	148,606
LT HENS	1,912	2,057
HVY HENS	1,279	1,259
CHECK TOTAL	146,858	151,922

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 05-Feb-00 is 152.4 million head compared to 153.5 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 145.4 million head or 7.0 million less than estimated available. For week of 12-Feb-00 the estimated available is 152.1 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS
(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 31-Jan-00	94,070	72,932
AM 1-Jan-00	65,047	75,162
CHG	29,023	-2,230
PCT CHG	45	-3

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	01/31/00	01/24/00	02/1/99	01/31/00	01/24/00	02/1/99
PACIFIC						
COAST	8,578	3,085	17,335	11,957	12,586	12,655
LOS ANGELES	146	149	278	3,247	3,218	5,934

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 02/01/00

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	1.00	1.20	1.14	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	1.10	1.25	1.18	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	.75	1.00
ROOSTERS lb.	-	1.35	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	.15	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.30	.35	.32	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	.15	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.80	1.30	1.00	RABBITS ea.	1.50	2.50
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.75	3.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	8.00	9.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	6.50
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 50

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 31, 2000

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		58-63
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		60-66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending January 28, 2000

	Whole	Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/	
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	
RAYON					
Low	64.52	132.84	75.91	23.72	5.69 42.70
High	66.42	142.33	85.40	28.47	7.12 42.70
Mostly	65.47	142.33	75.91	28.47	5.69 42.70
SAN JUAN					
Low	64.05	123.36	75.91	18.98	5.69 47.44
High	66.42	132.84	85.40	23.72	7.12 47.44
Mostly	64.52	132.84	75.91	23.72	5.69 47.44
NEW SAN JUAN					
Low	64.05	123.36	75.91	23.72	5.69 47.44
High	65.47	132.84	85.40	28.47	7.12 47.44
Mostly	65.47	132.84	75.91	23.72	5.69 47.44
BECERRA					
Low	65.47	132.84	75.91	23.72	5.69 47.44
High	66.42	142.33	85.40	28.47	7.12 47.44
Mostly	65.47	142.33	85.40	28.47	7.12 47.44

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