



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 18, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 21

ISSN 1522-0567

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were lower in the West, irregular elsewhere. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak in the West, about steady to steady in the remaining areas. Demand was fair to fairly good and improved except in the Northeast where movement was usually slow. Availability was mixed, but was fully capable to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were in the best balance and at times well cleared. Wings and leg items were adequate to heavily supplied with light to fair demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy.

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 02/21-02/26/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
	(Including branded product)			
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	40.00-43.00	33.00-60.00	42.43	28
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	61.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	40.00-45.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	62.50	—		
	Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	53.00-56.00	35.50-57.50	55.25	86

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT	
	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
571	52.35-59.00	57.34
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	133.50	3,895
BREASTS - WHOLE	65.50	1,755
THIGH MEAT - B/S	76.50	596
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	7,700
WINGS	54.50	2,631

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

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand was slow to fair, best for features and fast food promotions. Supplies were more than sufficient to handle current needs. In the parts structure, breast items were adequate to close balanced with fair to good movement aided by retail ads. Wings were adequate to fully adequate with light demand, and leg items were balanced with movement fair. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were 1 cent lower than last Fridays' levels. Offerings adequate on small sizes and ample on heavier weights. Buyers' needs only fair. Retail demand improved to cover the holiday 3-day weekend. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. The market tone was weak on wings, steady on leg quarters and firm on bone-in breasts.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading into Chicago were unchanged, TFEWR elsewhere. Whole fryer trade sentiment was mostly steady. Offerings were sufficient with buyer interest mixed. Movement into all channels was slow to fairly good, best demand in Chicago. Floor stocks were at least adequate, sizes desirable to heavy. Parts trading was mixed for the irregular offerings with good inquiry noted on bone-in breasts and boneless/skinless breasts. Supplies were adequate on all items. Trade sentiment was fully steady on whole breasts, barely steady to instances weak on wings, steady on the remainder of parts.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair at best. Offerings continued to easily handle trade needs. Movement into retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow. The market tone was about steady. In the parts market, bone-in breasts were usually tight and the balance of items was at least adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair at best. Seller offerings varied from plant to plant, but were sufficient for trade needs. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were in a full range of light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 45 to 57 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breast were in good balance and well cleared. Wings were ample. Other items were at least adequate to fully 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	42-58
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	48.55
NO. OF BOXES	7,180
CUMULATIVE 02/14/00-02/18/00	49.01
02/15/99-02/19/99	55.90
NO. OF BOXES 02/14/00-02/18/00	37,690
02/15/99-02/19/99	30,512

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

FEB 17, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEB 11, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	682	118.00-162.00	120-125	122.85	667	116.00-162.00	118-120	122.57	3,132	122.48
TENDERLOINS	115	110.00-165.00	-	130.00	269	115.00-200.00	115	143.81	700	132.71
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	56.00-70.00	-	56.93			TOO FEW TO REPORT		488	57.15
FRONT HALVES	110	47.00-51.00	-	48.77	45	49.00-50.00	-	49.78	486	46.73
LEGS	160	28.00-35.00	28-29	33.25			TOO FEW TO REPORT		516	31.74
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	501	15.00-20.00	17-18	17.31	440	17.00-17.50	-	17.07	2,346	17.39
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,298	18.50-22.00	20-21	20.68	1,140	18.50-21.00	20-21	20.27	6,132	20.61
WINGS (WHOLE)	194	39.00-55.00	42-45	45.98	99	40.00-46.50	42-44	43.51	676	46.61
WINGS (CUT)	579	51.00-74.00	53-55	56.39	297	44.00-74.00	50-54	54.18	2,340	56.78
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT		TFEWR	
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT		TFEWR	
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT		23	62.74

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR FEB 17, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

**TODAY'S
AVERAGE**

RANGE	AVERAGE
31.00 - 35.50	33.04

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR FEB 18, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

**TODAY'S
AVERAGE**

RANGE	AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
33.00 - 33.75	33.43	32.30

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 ended the week on a quiet note and most dealers expressed little optimism for next week. Offerings of bone-in breasts were mostly short, however, buyers were reluctant to purchase at current asking prices. The balance was more than adequate for the limited demand. Retail and distributive movement was slow to occasionally fair where features were in progress. The market tone was weak on wings and steady to barely 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	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130	132.01	273,720	130128.36	542,400	129.98	1,876,722			
TENDERLOINS	110-115	119.84	66,880	110-115	120.68	98,760	120.01	363,056		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	54-55	62.56	181,600	54-55	62.84	145,000	61.63	750,300		
BREAST - LINE RUN	54	58.31	192,600	5458.45	99,000	56.30	781,560		26-27	
LEGS	26-27	32.39	215,000	32.48	196,320	32.41	861,000		15-16	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15-16	19.34	343,924	18.32	402,760	19.46	1,494,837		36-37	
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	34.60	61,440	35.73	67,440	34.59	419,320		21-22	
THIGHS	21-22	26.11	61,760	28.68	53,240	27.08	319,912		70-71	
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.97	29,920	72.59	41,620	72.42	149,410		41-42	
WINGS (WHOLE)	42-43	50.41	154,920	49.34	181,280	50.94	844,760		10-12	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.03	51,794	12.16	47,680	12.06	233,114		30-35	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.40	33,720	34.05	35,520	33.96	171,895		55-60	
GIZZARDS	55-60	59.41	49,800	59.38	48,200	59.31	233,430			

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)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	02/18	02/17	02/16	02/15	02/16	02/15	02/11	02/09
ALA	3,792	3,885	3,597	3,803	5.00	5.08	4,033	5.05
ARK	5,491	5,153	5,060	5,070	4.86	4.97	5,430	4.78
DELMARVA	2,310	2,422	2,385	2,403	5.11	5.24	2,666	5.30
KY-LA-TN	1,990	2,011	2,024	2,014	4.40	4.37	1,761	4.41
MISS	2,864	2,755	2,460	2,761	5.06	5.14	3,082	5.11
NC	3,293	2,613	2,533	2,555	5.75	6.01	3,274	5.79
TEXAS	1,700	2,199	2,216	2,164	4.69	4.70	2,379	4.68
TOTAL	21,440	21,038	20,275	20,770	4.99	5.06	22,625	5.00
MON-FRI	105,301(A)						105,353(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 18-Feb 00

19-Feb-00 is estimated to be 32,077,000 down 5.52 percent from a week ago and up 2.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 33,951,000; last year 31,185,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 19-Feb-00 is estimated to be 157,864,000 head up 1.2

percent from a week ago, and up 6.9 percent from a year ago

(Last week 156,048,000 Last year 147,619,000)

**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
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309-316

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

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

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Feb. 05, 2000 (Preliminary),

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

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	35,911	28,783	43,210
Avg Weight	3.82	4.79	6.15
% of total /1	33%	27%	40%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	27,727	28,988	41,676
Avg Weight	3.72	4.76	6.06
% of total /1	28%	29%	42%
Same week, yr ago /2	33,555	27,475	42,166
Avg Weight	3.94	4.88	6.12
% of total /1	33%	27%	41%
To date/2000	156,756	150,044	206,588
To date/1999	166,149	156,838	217,479

/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 12-Feb-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	156,048(A)	1,976	1,362	3,338	393
AVG WT	4.87	3.43	7.79	5.21	6.79
LAST WEEK	160,713	1,998	1,244	3,242	480
YR AGO	150,347	2,258	1,236	3,494	468
AVG WT	4.97	3.36	7.87	4.96	6.61
TO-DATE/2000	921,092	12,243	7,966	20,209	2,904
TO-DATE/1999	906,867	13,500	7,930	21,430	2,930

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 152.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 157.9 million head or 5.8 million head more than or 104 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: FEB 15, 2000

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.50 - .68	Silkie	2.75 - 3.50ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.56 - .72	Geese 9 - 14	.24 - .32
Pekin Ducks	.40 - .62	Pigeons	2.75 - 3.10ea.
Red Fowl 4 - 4.5	.50 - .74	White Pigeons	2.90 - 3.25ea.
Red Fowl 5 - 6	.70 - .94	Rabbits 4 - 6	.90 - 1.28
Crossbred Fowl 5 - 9	.50 - .84	Rabbits 7 - 11	.90 - 1.10
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - 1.14	Bunnies	1.50 - 5.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.50 - .94	Guinea Pigs	2.00 - 4.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.10 - 1.75	Goats	42.00 -56.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.50 - 6.00ea.	Kid Goats	20.00 -28.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 3.50ea.	Doves	3.75 - 5.00ea.
		Pullets 4 - 6	.60 - .84

Total Coops Sold 610

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 14-FEB-2000

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)	54-55	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

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 were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was fair to good. Sizes were desirable and slaughter schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs \$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 14-FEB-2000

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	
JANUARY	8	157.5	144.3	109	5.01
	15	158.4	148.5	107	5.10
	22	149.7	150.6	99	5.20
	29	146.1	151.7	96	4.89
FEBRUARY	5	162.7	152.4	107	5.16
	12	157.9	152.1	104	4.87
YEAR TO DATE		932.3	899.6	104	
FEBRUARY	19		152.5		
	26		152.7		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 12-Feb-00 IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 3,940 HD, 20,173 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 698 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	02/19/00	02/12/00	% CHG	02/20/99	% CHG
Broilers	157,864	*156,048	+01	*147,619	+07
Cattle	686	698	-02	*665	+03
Hogs	1,908	1,900	0	*1,926	-01
Under Federal Inspection					
* ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were unchanged on light canners, but unchanged to slightly higher on heavies when compared to a week earlier. Demand was generally good for about adequate offerings of heavy canners, and only moderate interest for adequate offerings of lights. The undertone was fully steady on heavy canners and steady on lights.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 26-27 MAJORITY	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 34-40 MAJORITY 38-39
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 26-30 MAJORITY 26-28	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 35.25-41 MAJORITY 39.5-40

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was fair for slightly reduced but adequate offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal to less than normal for next week. Undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate to good for about adequate to adequate offerings. The undertone was mostly steady to fully 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 f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	(2)
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0	(1)
Eastern Light	0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.5	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	0

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants schedules moderate. Offerings irregular.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices remain unchanged. Demand was usually light to instances moderate with offerings continuing mostly adequate to burdensome for current processor needs. Alternative forms of disposal were prevalent at this time. Trade sentiment steady.

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