



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were generally unchanged when compared to previous week. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was usually slow to fair, and food service was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to ample with heavier weights at times tight in parts of the Northeast. In the parts structure, trading was slow to moderate with some caution reported. Availability was at least adequate, except for wings and occasionally thighs which were occasionally tight. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate. Weights covered the full range.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 3/20-03/25/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD	LOADS	WTD	LOADS
		AVG		AVG	
Bos/New Eng	48.50-50.00	48.74	17	53.15	28
Chicago	42.00-45.00	45.49	46	48.54	78
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—	—	58.71	31
Cleveland	TFEWR	—	—	57.27	14
Denver	61.50	61.43	17	61.28	39
Detroit	43.00-46.00	46.42	12	53.19	47
Los Angeles	62.00	61.23	56	60.64	126
New York	47.00-49.00	48.77	35	54.35	79
Philadelphia	46.00-49.00	46.11	9	47.66	27
Pittsburgh	44.50-49.00	46.50	14	52.95	68
St. Louis	45.25-45.50	45.02	18	49.22	51
San Francisco	62.50	61.60	31	64.99	56

Composite 12 City Weighted Average

Loads	03/20/00	Change/Last Wk	03/13/00	03/22/99
644	55.36	0.98	54.38	56.86

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	Majority	Wtd Avg	Loads
East	48.50-52.00	51.20	41
Central	48.00-53.00	51.77	57
West	53.00-66.75	59.47	60

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	55.00-57.00	55.94	82
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GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,168	42.00-61.00	56.31

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice pack parts:

ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	141.50		4,124
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.50		2,105
THIGH MEAT - B/S	76.00		621
LEG QUARTERS	19.50		8,840
WINGS	56.50		3,038

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

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers continued light to moderate as the week began. Offerings varied in size. Heavier weights were tight to adequate. Smaller sizes, particularly 2.5's, were more than adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was no better than fair. The market tone was fully steady on larger birds and no better than steady on the lighter weights. In the parts market, offerings were at least adequate in handling current needs.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was light to moderate, best for retail features and fast food promotions. Supplies were usually in good balance for present needs. In the parts structure, wings remained in a close balance to tight position and was held with confidence. Breast items were adequate to well cleared with good movement and dark meat was more than sufficient with light demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices were unchanged from last Monday. The market tone was generally steady. Offerings adequate. Buyers' interest was moderate at best. Retail demand was light to fairly good, best for parts and whole body where featured. Dealers reported moderate weekend carryovers. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG average was at 52.98 down .65 with the volume reported up 16 percent to 29 loads.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices for this week's trading were unchanged into Chicago, St. Louis and Detroit. Prices into Cleveland and Cincinnati were too few to report. Retail demand was fair at best in all areas. Food service movement was fair to good, best in the Chicago area. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Sizes desirable. Parts demand was light. Trade sentiment steady on all parts items except wings were steady to firm.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was only fair at best. Offerings were adequate and generally noted as clearing on the heavier sizes, but smaller sizes were available and slow to clear. Live supplies were about moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to light. Processing schedules, reduced by earlier scheduled in plant construction combined with some plants reducing operations, were light to moderate in total. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 49 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment was no better than steady. In the parts complex, inquiry was light and disappointing.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

RANGE	48-66
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	52.65
NO. OF BOXES	8,744
*6 of 8 plants reporting	

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was mostly quiet this morning as buyers continued to view the market with much caution. Offerings of thighs were sometimes tight and all other products were at least adequate for current needs. Movement into retail and distributive channels was slow to moderate and occasionally better where limited features were in place. The market tone was generally no better than steady.

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 TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135-140	138.87	423,920
TENDERLOINS	125	130.08	79,080
BREAST - WITH RIBS	64-65	72.73	189,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	64	67.27	192,760
LEGS	26-27	30.79	205,120
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.60	274,695
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	30.33	163,200
THIGHS	22-23	30.30	67,790
B/S THIGHS	71-72	74.30	33,920
WINGS (WHOLE)	50-51	60.37	216,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.85	44,200
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.12	29,580
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	58.83	61,800

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (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.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED OR CO2 PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	897	118.00-153.00	125-135	134.35
TENDERLOINS	130	120.00-195.00	120-135	152.16
BREAST - WITH RIBS	NO TRADING REPORTED			
FRONT HALVES	520	57.00-73.00	57-59	63.46
LEGS	NO TRADING REPORTED			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	335	16.00-18.00	16	16.68
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,843	17.00-19.00	17	17.05
WINGS (WHOLE)	190	44.00-61.00	53-54	53.20
DRUMSTICKS	NO TRADING REPORTED			
THIGHS	640	21.00	-	21.00

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	03/20	03/16	03/16	03/13	03/09
ALA	3,910	3,750	5.04	3,773	5.08
ARK	4,777	4,641	4.83	5,013	4.87
DELMARVA	2,125	2,422	5.00	2,360	5.01
KY-LA-TN	2,003	1,970	4.34	1,988	4.33
MISS	2,713	2,670	5.12	2,708	5.14
NC	2,577	2,569	5.75	2,569	5.66
TEXAS	2,128	2,285	4.78	2,252	4.79
TOTAL	20,233	20,307	4.99	20,663	4.99
MON	20,233(A)		20,663(A)		

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 20-Mar 2000 is estimated to be 30,271,000 down 2.37 percent from a week ago and up 3.66 percent from a year ago.
(Last week 31,007,000, last year 29,203,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED OR CO2 PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	590	126.00-187.00	128-135	133.61
TENDERLOINS	129	126.00-200.00	-	180.58
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	65.00-69.00	65-66	68.73
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	49	25.00-33.00	25-27	26.47
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	476	15.00-18.00	15-16	15.58
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,219	16.00-20.00	19-20	18.93
WINGS (WHOLE)	123	51.00-57.00	52-54	54.20
WINGS (CUT)	510	63.00-78.00	65-68	66.95
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 MARCH 20, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
39.00 - 41.50	39.79	40.25

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.

MIDWEST REGION PARTS PRICES PER LB., ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 03/20-03/24/00

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	130.00 - 150.00	130.00 - 135.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	64.00 - 76.00	65.00 - 71.00
LEGS	28.00 - 35.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15.00 - 22.00	17.00 - 18.00
DRUMSTICKS	29.00 - 50.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	48.00 - 59.00	53.00 - 55.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	15.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25.00 - 38.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	30.00 - 48.00	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	75-89
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	78-95
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	84-93
FROZEN DUCKS	135
FROZEN SQUABS	589

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	75-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104-108
	ICE PACK	92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	95
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-166

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 17-MAR-00

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	15.00-18.00	-	15.00-16.00	-
WTD AVERAGE	15.59		15.93	

787,000 pounds, this includes 272,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	15.00
WTD AVERAGE				15.00
280,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.				
15-20%				
RANGE	12.00-15.00	13.00	13.00	12.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	13.87	13.00	13.00	13.67
1,724,000 pounds, this includes 714,000 pounds for export shipment.				
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	12.75
WTD AVERAGE				12.75

320,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Trading was slightly lower compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were sufficient to maintain full schedules. Trade sentiment was generally no better than steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 20-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-19.5	CENTS/LB 10-13	12.13

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 17-MAR-00

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	20.00	20.00	12.50-13.00	13.25-15.00
WTD AVERAGE	20.00	20.00	12.79	13.66
510,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.				
15-20%				
RANGE	-	22.00	9.50-13.00	12.00-15.00
WTD AVERAGE		22.00	10.91	13.26
2,121,600 pounds, this includes 244,800 pounds for export shipment.				
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	14.00
WTD AVERAGE				14.00

40,800 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings. Processing schedules were usually normal. Under-tone was about steady to steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 20-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16	8.25-11.5	10.50
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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