



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

MONDAY
MARCH 27, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 37

ISSN 1522-0567

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices trended slightly higher in the Northeast generally unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment ranged barely steady to fully steady in the Northeast, mostly steady elsewhere. Demand was light to moderate, and generally no better than fair. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate with heavier sizes adequate to tight in the Northeast. In the parts structure, thighs and thigh meat were in good balance to tight and moving well. All other items were at more than sufficient with light to fair movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to light, mostly desirable.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 3/27-04/01/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD	LOADS	WTD	LOADS
		AVG		AVG	
Bos/New Eng	50.00-51.00	50.62	17	57.04	32
Chicago	42.00-45.00	45.67	44	48.82	77
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—	—	55.88	43
Cleveland	TFEWR	—	—	58.58	12
Denver	61.50	61.43	17	61.43	38
Detroit	43.00-46.00	46.38	13	50.85	42
Los Angeles	62.00	61.07	63	60.25	163
New York	49.00-52.00	49.23	47	52.96	79
Philadelphia	48.00-52.00	49.33	15	49.81	34
Pittsburgh	44.50-52.00	48.71	17	51.88	67
St. Louis	45.25-45.75	45.31	18	49.07	44
San Francisco	62.50	62.09	29	64.46	63

Composite 12 City Weighted Average

Loads	03/27/00	Change/Last Wk	03/20/00	03/29/99
694	54.75	-0.61	55.36	54.52

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	48.50-54.00	51.37	40
Central	48.00-52.00	51.66	57
West	50.50-64.50	59.58	53

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	55.00-57.00	56.69	83
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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
1,160	42.00-59.00	56.20

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

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	142.50	4,084
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.50	2,070
THIGH MEAT - B/S	77.00	616
LEG QUARTERS	19.00	8,735
WINGS	57.50	2,983

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 remained light to fair at best. Offerings ranged about adequate to ample with smaller sizes in the longest position and larger birds in the closest position. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was slow to moderate. The market tone continued fully steady on the heavier sizes and barely steady at best on the lighter weights. In the parts market, supplies were more than adequate in meeting the light demand except thighs and boneless, skinless thighs which were adequate to tight.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was light to fair for the generally unaggressive buyer interest. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, thighs and thigh meat were in close balance and well cleared. All other items were adequate to fully adequate, with generally light trading. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment generally steady. Final majority prices unchanged from last Monday. Offerings generally adequate. Buying activity improved in Southern California and the Pacific Northwest to cover planned first-of-the-month ads. Retail demand was moderate to good. Dealers reported moderate weekend carryovers. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG average was 52.14 down .84 with the volume reported at 25 loads down 14 percent.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices for this week's trading were generally unchanged into all areas with prices into Ohio too few to report. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offerings of whole birds and wogs were moderate for the limited trade needs. Movement into all channels was light to fair. Floor stocks were adequate to ample, sizes desirable. Parts trading was light overall with select sized items and boneless/skinless thigh meat the best call. Supplies of all items in good balance to instances fully adequate on wings and boneless/skinless breasts. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak on wings and about steady on all other items.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was slow to fair at best and continued to center on the adequate and generally well balanced supply of 3.5 and 4.0 pound sizes. Smaller sizes were fully adequate to ample. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 51 to 63 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breast and leg quarters were adequate and in fairly good balance. Boneless skinless breasts and wings were readily available and generally slow to clear.

*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	48-71
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	54.63
NO. OF BOXES	9,096
*6 of 8 plants reporting	

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was light to fair and trading was unaggressive. Offerings were more than adequate to ample except thigh products which were generally tight. Boneless, skinless breasts and wings were reported to be in the longest positions. Retail and distributive movement was slow to fair. More features were noted compared to the previous week and centered mainly on boneless, skinless breasts. The market tone was fully steady to firm on thighs and cautiously 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 TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	135.66	568,160
TENDERLOINS	125-130	129.37	86,680
BREAST - WITH RIBS	63-64	73.10	201,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	63	68.09	172,680
LEGS	26-27	31.96	158,120
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.45	304,235
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	33.57	95,240
THIGHS	26-27	29.52	73,720
B/S THIGHS	76-77	80.34	29,160
WINGS (WHOLE)	50-51	60.70	202,360
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.72	38,760
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.17	28,640
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	50.05	51,760

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	1,094	113.00-153.00	125-135	128.32
TENDERLOINS	122	135.00-183.00	-	162.56
BREAST - WITH RIBS	166	64.00-84.00	64	69.11
FRONT HALVES	800	55.00-72.00	57-59	60.75
LEGS		NO TRADING REPORTED		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	245	16.00-18.00	16	16.21
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,955	17.25-19.00	17.25	17.28
WINGS (WHOLE)	170	50.00-65.00	50-54	53.47
DRUMSTICKS		NO TRADING REPORTED		
THIGHS	854	20.00-34.00	26	25.75

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	03/27	03/23	03/23	03/20	03/16
ALA	3,907	3,897	4.98	3,765	5.04
ARK	5,301	5,104	4.79	4,965	4.83
DELMARVA	2,359	2,384	4.94	2,133	5.00
KY-LA-TN	2,063	2,004	4.29	2,044	4.34
MISS	2,787	2,952	5.14	2,694	5.12
NC	2,525	2,527	5.76	2,425	5.75
TEXAS	2,277	2,280	4.70	2,238	4.78
TOTAL	21,219	21,148	4.95	20,264	4.99
MON	21,219(A)			20,264(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 27-Mar 2000 is estimated to be 31,746,000 up 4.40 percent from a week ago and up 11.31 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,408,000, last year 28,520,000)

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	613	125.00-187.00	125-135	134.51
TENDERLOINS	250	125.00-200.00	125-130	154.20
BREAST - LINE RUN		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	507	14.00-18.00	14-15	14.53
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,056	15.50-20.00	18-19	18.56
WINGS (WHOLE)	116	51.00-57.00	52-54	54.28
WINGS (CUT)	307	61.00-77.00	65-67	66.36
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 27, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

	TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
	41.00 - 43.00	41.27

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 03/27-03/31/00

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	122.00 - 150.00	130.00 - 135.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	65.00 - 76.00	65.00 - 68.00
LEGS	28.00 - 40.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	14.00 - 21.00	16.00 - 18.00
DRUMSTICKS	31.00 - 50.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	47.00 - 59.00	52.00 - 54.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	15.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25.00 - 38.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35.00 - 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. 24-MAR-00

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	16.00-18.00	-	16.00	-
WTD AVERAGE	16.44		16.00	

600,000 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	15.00	15.00	-	15.00
WTD AVERAGE	15.00	15.00		15.00

360,000 pounds, this includes 200,000 pounds for export shipment.

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15-20%				
RANGE	12.00-15.00	-	11.50-15.00	12.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.22		12.58	12.90

1,772,000 pounds, this includes 634,000 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
RANGE	-	-	-	12.75
WTD AVERAGE				12.75

240,000 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 Prices were slightly lower compared to the past week. Demand for spent hens was moderate with current schedules adequate for needs. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 27-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.75-19.5	CENTS/LB 11-13	11.75

* 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. 24-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	-	15.00	12.25-15.00	-
WTD AVERAGE		15.00	13.32	

224,400 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
15-20%				
RANGE	11.00	14.00	10.00-12.50	13.00-15.00
WTD AVERAGE	11.00	14.00	11.27	13.42

1,632,000 pounds, this includes 163,200 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 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 to slightly lower than a week earlier. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal to about normal. Undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 27-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16.5	8.25-11.25	10.63

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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