



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady in the Northeast, otherwise, generally steady. Demand ranged light to occasionally good, mostly light to fair. Movement was best into food service accounts and where retail features were in progress. Supplies were mostly adequate. In the parts structure, bone-in breasts and thighs were short to adequate and the balance was usually sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 57.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 57.50 cents last year on the 14th of April, 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	140.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	77.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	97.50
LEG QUARTERS	19.00
WINGS	55.50

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 04/08/00	2000	1999
EGGS SET	186,869	183,705
CHICKS PLACED	147,258	142,820
		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 187 million eggs during the week ending April 8, 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 147 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 8, 2000. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through April 8, 2000, were 2.03 billion, 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 20-May-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 153.7 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 157.2 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 154.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 154.3 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 61.02 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Market tone generally steady. Offerings easily adequate to cover full trade needs. Buyers interest was only fair. Retail demand was light to moderate for whole birds, moderate to fairly good for parts. Floor stocks in fair balance.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment remained mostly steady. Demand was fair to good and was best into food service channels and where retail features were in place. Supplies were generally adequate for current trade needs. In the parts market, supplies were mostly balanced to tight with bone-in breasts and thighs in the closest positions. Increased interest in leg quarters and improved movement of wings was noted. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady. Additional product offerings of wogs and whole fryers were limited, buyers generally satisfied with regular commitments. Retail demand was in a full range, best into the St. Louis area and where features active. Food service demand was mixed, slow to occasionally good, best into fast food accounts. Retail features were in progress in the St. Louis area on split breasts at 89 and 99 cents. Floor stocks were mostly in balance with needs. Some distributors noted being shorted on split breasts in Michigan and St. Louis. Weights were desirable. Parts trading was irregular, best for leg quarters and breast items, occasionally moderate on wings. Bone-in breasts and thighs were barely adequate to short, leg quarters adequate, balance of items fully adequate. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on whole breasts, fully steady on leg quarters and thighs, about steady on all other items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to good. Offerings were generally adequate to closely cleared. Movement into retail and distributive channels was moderate to good. The market tone was steady to fully steady. In the parts market, bone-in breasts were in close balance. All other items were adequate to at least adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds remained fairly decent; however, additional interest had tapered and was generally noted as light and typical of normal mid-week activity. Offerings were adequate to closely cleared. 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 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, whole breasts were tight. Other cuts were irregularly balanced, but at least 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	53-68
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	58.97
NO. OF BOXES	7,802

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

APRIL 11, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 12, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	503	124.00-190.00	130-135	134.74
TENDERLOINS	145	125.00-195.00	125-130	134.49
BREAST - LINE RUN	124	72.00-75.50	72-74	72.23
FRONT HALVES	90	65.00-70.00	-	67.33
LEGS	92	26.50-34.00	27-29	27.48
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	541	15.00-17.00	15-16	15.48
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,178	17.00-20.00	18-20	18.53
WINGS (WHOLE)	103	51.00-56.00	51-52	52.51
WINGS (CUT)	404	60.00-71.00	62-64	64.39
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD	ITEM
				AVG	
BREAST - B/S	442	124.00-190.00	130-135	134.69	BREAST - B/S
TENDERLOINS	60	120.00-195.00	-	144.66	TENDERLOINS
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	75.00-79.00	75-76	76.33	BREAST - LINE RUN
FRONT HALVES	90	59.00-66.50	-	63.25	FRONT HALVES
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				LEGS
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	236	15.00-17.00	-	16.44	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	980	17.00-19.50	18-19	18.19	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)
WINGS (WHOLE)	97	49.00-56.00	49-51	51.31	WINGS (WHOLE)
WINGS (CUT)	453	61.00-71.00	64-65	64.80	WINGS (CUT)
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				B/S THIGHS

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR APRIL 11, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR APRIL 12, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
40.00 - 43.50	41.41

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
37.00 - 41.75	39.85	40.93

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 interest was mostly moderate. Offerings were in close balance for bone-in breast. Boneless skinless breast were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were adequate. Leg items were in good balance. Movement into retail and distributive channels was light to fair, best where features were in progress. The market tone was fully steady on bone-in breasts, steady to fully 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	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	135-140	136.81	136.81	594,365
TENDERLOINS	125-130	129.51	129.51	102,080
BREAST - WITH RIBS	69-70	76.09	76.09	150,840
BREAST - LINE RUN	69	73.28	73.28	182,620
LEGS	29-30	32.55	32.55	212,240
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	20.63	20.63	486,875
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.00	34.00	107,750
THIGHS	28-29	32.51	32.51	71,220
B/S THIGHS	86-87	91.27	91.27	35,140
WINGS (WHOLE)	48-49	58.64	58.64	191,720
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.06	12.06	50,560
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.49	33.49	45,160
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	43.93	43.93	74,340

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	135-140	142.72	142.72	294,680
TENDERLOINS	125-130	130.50	130.50	78,120
BREAST - WITH RIBS	69-70	77.34	77.34	166,280
BREAST - LINE RUN	69	73.39	73.39	199,600
LEGS	29-30	31.94	31.94	164,440
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	20.96	20.96	266,977
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.45	34.45	117,190
THIGHS	28-29	32.79	32.79	68,690
B/S THIGHS	86-87	92.61	92.61	38,240
WINGS (WHOLE)	48-49	58.95	58.95	189,280
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.94	11.94	52,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.08	34.08	52,680
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.68	44.68	71,690

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		AVG	
	04/12	04/11	04/10	04/07	04/10	04/07	04/05	04/03
ALA	3,538	3,948	3,879	4,054	5.08	4.89	3,724	5.14
ARK	5,175	5,352	5,165	5,166	5.00	4.76	5,005	4.95
DELMARVA	2,323	2,332	2,348	2,226	5.12	5.09	2,285	5.14
KY-LA-TN	1,702	2,030	2,015	2,154	4.43	4.26	2,016	4.38
MISS	2,762	2,591	2,738	2,823	5.11	4.89	2,780	5.10
NC	2,429	2,475	2,389	2,279	5.80	6.01	2,561	5.80
TEXAS	2,228	2,258	2,265	2,410	4.96	4.78	2,134	4.93
TOTAL	20,157	20,986	20,799	21,112	5.07	4.90	20,505	5.08
MON-WED	62,123	(A)					62,009	(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12-Apr 00 is estimated to be 30,157,000 down 1.99 percent from a week ago and down 0.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,770,000; last year 30,382,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
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

	ICE PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		92-96
	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 APRIL 15-00

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	04/15/00 (1)	04/08/00
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	156,613 (2)	156,511
LT HENS	2,332	2,021
HVY HENS	1,390	1,414
CHECK TOTAL	160,335	159,946

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 15-Apr-00 is 149.4 million head compared to 153.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 157.4 million head or 8.0 million more than estimated available. For week of 22-Apr-00 the estimated available is 149.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

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

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 10-Apr-00	123,494		83,570	
AM 1-Apr-00	124,850		78,991	
CHG	-1,356		4,579	
PCT CHG	-1		6	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	04/10/00	04/3/00	04/12/99	04/10/00	04/3/00	04/12/99
PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES	15,337	15,746	26,859	13,734	13,217	15,825
	196	176	1,280	4,451	4,065	10,360

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 04/11/00

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	.95	.71	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	.15	.30	.17	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.50	.90	.68	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	1.50
BANTAMS lb.	-	1.15	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.75	4.25
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.50	1.30
PULLETS lb.	.60	1.75	1.15	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.75	9.50
ROOSTERS lb.	.90	1.40	1.22	ROOSTERS ea.	2.00	4.00
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	10.00
TURKEYS lb.	-	1.30	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.45	.50	.48	DUCKS ea.	5.75	9.75
RABBITS lb.	.90	1.40	1.25	RABBITS ea.	1.50	4.00
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	6.50
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	8.00	10.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	3.00	4.00
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	7.00	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	5.00
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 136

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 APRIL 10, 2000

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		57-61
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		61-66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending April 7, 2000

	Whole		Legs		Necks, Backs		Livers/	
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	Hens		
RAYON								
Low	74.05	126.66	77.95	24.36	5.85	51.15		
High	75.51	136.41	87.69	29.23	7.31	51.15		
Mostly	75.02	136.41	82.82	24.36	5.85	51.15		
SAN JUAN								
Low	72.59	131.54	77.95	29.23	5.85	57.97		
High	75.51	146.15	87.69	38.97	9.74	57.97		
Mostly	75.51	136.41	77.95	31.67	7.31	57.97		
NEW SAN JUAN								
Low	73.08	126.66	73.08	19.49	5.85	51.15		
High	75.02	136.41	87.69	29.23	7.31	51.15		
Mostly	75.02	126.66	77.95	24.36	5.85	51.15		
BECERRA								
Low	72.59	131.54	68.20	24.36	5.85	58.46		
High	74.05	141.28	82.82	38.97	8.77	58.46		
Mostly	72.59	136.41	77.95	29.23	7.31	58.46		

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