



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak in the East, steady at best elsewhere. Demand was irregular as interest shifted to holiday items. Also, in the Central region, current and predicted snow storms and icy conditions affected retail and food service movement and detained deliveries. Offerings were adequate to ample and often discounted on wogs. In the parts structure, breast items were better balanced and improved, wings remained in the strongest position, and dark meat items were more than sufficient for the light demand. 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 61.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 58.50 cents last year on the 15th of December, 1999.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
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BREASTS - B/S	126.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	64.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	82.50
LEG QUARTERS	26.00
WINGS	83.50

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

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES WEEK ENDING 12/09/00	2000	1999	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	175,884	180,792	-03
CHICKS PLACED	143,108	142,905	0

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES DOWN 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 176 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 9, 2000. This was down 3 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 SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 143 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 9, 2000. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through December 9, 2000, were 7.04 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-Jan-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.6 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 144.0 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 148.5 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 158.4 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 53.73 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN Market tone about steady with early trading for next week at mainly unchanged prices. Offerings ample with discounts still common. Retailer demand seasonally light overall. Floor stocks adequate.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was about steady. Demand was light to instances moderate with mixed trading as seasonal interest increases. Supplies were at least sufficient with wogs more available and slight discounting noted. Some processing schedules were interrupted or cancelled due to heavy snowfall and ice in various areas. In the parts structure, wings continued short of an active call. Breast items were closer balanced and less available with movement fairly good, and dark meat items were at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

MIDWEST The trade sentiment on whole broiler/fryers was steady at best. Offerings of Wogs were heavy, whole birds light. Movement into retail and food service channels was irregular with businesses in the upper Midwest beginning to show some movement following a major winter storm and areas in the lower Midwest currently affected by a major winter storm. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with slowed or disrupted deliveries in area. Weights were desirable. Trading on parts was limited on light offerings. Supplies were at least adequate for trade needs with breast items balanced, wings well cleared and dark meat items long. The market tone was steady on wings and breast items, cautiously steady with a weak undertone on leg quarters.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained light during midweek trading, with most dealers cautious and limiting purchases to most immediate needs. Offerings of all sizes were fully adequate to ample and usually discounted. Movement into retail and distributive channels was generally slow as the more traditional holiday items entered the market. The market tone was barely steady to weak. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were generally adequate, and bone-in breasts were usually adequate to balanced. Wings were staying well cleared, however, the balance of product was more than sufficient for current needs.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light and unaggressive as once again buying interest had shifted to other items for the upcoming pre-holiday period. Seller offerings were readily available, competitively priced and difficult to clear. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights remained mixed in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules varied and were moderate to moderately heavy overall. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 48 to 62 cents. Trade sentiment continued weak. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts and wings cleared best. All items were generally noted as 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	40-61
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	51.34
NO. OF BOXES	12,088

*7 of 8 plants reporting.

DECEMBER 12, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 13, 2000

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

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	946	100.00-195.00	120-135	139.74
TENDERLOINS	73	135.00-205.00	135-140	154.18
BREAST - LINE RUN	84	64.00-67.00	64-67	64.25
FRONT HALVES	71	50.00-53.00	-	52.46
LEGS	86	29.00-45.00	29-30	30.12
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	467	18.50-25.00	18.5-19	19.60
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,460	22.00-28.00	22-24	25.12
WINGS (WHOLE)	300	78.00-87.00	82-85	84.16
WINGS (CUT)	575	92.50-109.00	93-94	97.95
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	936	102.00-195.00	125-135	140.71
TENDERLOINS	52	135.00-205.00	135-140	161.92
BREAST - LINE RUN	84	64.00-67.00	-	64.25
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	86	29.00-45.00	29-30	30.12
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	387	18.50-25.00	18.5-19	19.32
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,540	21.00-28.00	22-24	24.93
WINGS (WHOLE)	300	78.00-87.00	82-85	84.16
WINGS (CUT)	442	92.50-109.00	94-95	99.78
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	52	80.00-83.00	-	82.42

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

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
34.25-41.50	36.03	35.50 - 38.75	35.91	35.65

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 was about fair during midweek trading, however, most dealers were limiting purchases as holiday items arrive and become the focal point of the marketplace. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were generally adequate, and bone-in breasts were usually adequate to balanced. Wings remained the better item and continued to clear well. Dark meat cuts were readily available, and leg quarters were in the longer position. Movement into retail and distributive channels was seasonally light. The market tone was fully steady on breast items and wings, about 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	DECEMBER 12, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	115-120	116.97	767,956
TENDERLOINS	130-135	135.00	185,230
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	65.46	314,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	61.88	156,000
LEGS	33-34	36.00	318,520
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21-22	22.35	715,634
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	33.18	258,210
THIGHS	30-31	33.41	215,230
B/S THIGHS	78-79	82.39	61,390
WINGS (WHOLE)	79-80	87.47	271,760
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	78,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	42.67	101,265
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	65-70	69.76	122,850

ITEM	DECEMBER 13, 2000		
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	115-120	120.35	673,320
TENDERLOINS	130-135	132.54	148,440
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	64.48	336,160
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	61.76	228,000
LEGS	33-34	37.20	194,520
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21-22	22.66	577,432
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	33.30	221,360
THIGHS	30-31	34.78	149,240
B/S THIGHS	78-79	82.23	67,680
WINGS (WHOLE)	80-81	88.54	407,280
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	86,280
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	43.61	92,520
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	65-70	69.90	127,440

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	
	12/13	12/12	12/11	12/08	12/11	12/08	12/06	12/04
ALA	3,566	3,957	3,843	3,803	5.12	4.88	3,887	5.15
ARK	4,197	5,181	5,177	5,417	4.91	5.02	4,867	5.09
DELMARVA	2,350	2,155	2,196	1,952	4.95	5.02	2,294	5.07
KY-LA-TN	2,012	2,013	2,021	1,697	4.51	4.26	2,062	4.64
MISS	2,709	2,755	2,828	2,794	5.08	4.98	2,807	5.11
NC	2,653	2,563	2,643	3,113	5.91	6.01	2,606	6.17
TEXAS	2,325	2,266	2,321	2,322	4.85	4.81	2,268	4.86
TOTAL	19,812	20,890	21,029	21,098	5.06	5.00	20,791	5.13
MON-WED	61,984 (A)						61,997 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 13-Dec 00 is estimated to be 29,641,000 down 4.91 percent from a week ago and up 2.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 28,865,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	81-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-93
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	81
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	294
RABBITS-CUT UP	299

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 93-96
	DRY PACK 103-106
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 105-112
	DRY PACK 112-119
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 98
	DRY PACK 94
DUCKS	152-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING DEC-16-00

CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
	CURRENT WEEK 12/16/00 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/09/00
BRO-FRY	152,726 (2)	147,293
LT HENS	1,894	1,952
HVY HENS	1,214	1,371
CHECK TOTAL	155,834	150,616

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 16-Dec-00 is 146.1 million head compared to 150.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 153.0 million head or 6.9 million more than estimated available. For week of 23-Dec-00 the estimated available is 141.3 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM 11-Dec-00	70,827		73,666	
AM 1-Dec-00	71,624		75,849	
CHG	-797		-2,183	
PCT CHG	-1		-3	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/11/00	12/04/00	12/14/99	12/11/00	12/04/00	12/14/99
PACIFIC						
COAST	6,355	6,000	6,928	7,689	7,626	13,543
LOS ANGELES	157	156	196	2,059	1,978	4,181

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 12/12/00

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.55	1.25	.75	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.90	1.05	1.00	MIXED FOWL ea.	.50	4.00
BANTAMS lb.	-	.75	-	BANTAMS ea.	.85	1.75
BROILERS lb.	.60	.90	.69	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.30	1.00	.67	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	4.75	6.50
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.90	1.70	1.30	ROOSTERS ea.	.50	5.50
GEESE lb.	-	.30	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.75	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.40	1.30	.78	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.80	1.10	.90	RABBITS ea.	1.50	4.00
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	3.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	3.50	6.50
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	3.00	10.00
SILKIES ea.	.50	2.00	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	142					

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2000

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		58-62
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		60-69

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending December 8, 2000

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	58.45	135.26	77.29	19.32	19.32	45.89
High	60.00	144.92	91.79	33.82	28.98	45.89
Mostly	59.23	144.92	86.95	24.15	19.32	45.89
SAN JUAN						
Low	57.97	140.09	86.95	24.15	4.83	45.02
High	60.39	159.42	106.28	36.23	8.70	45.02
Mostly	58.94	144.92	96.62	28.98	5.80	45.02
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	58.07	135.26	72.46	19.32	19.32	45.89
High	59.61	144.92	91.79	28.98	28.98	45.89
Mostly	58.94	144.92	86.95	24.15	24.15	45.89
BECERRA						
Low	55.55	135.26	82.12	24.15	16.91	48.31
High	60.39	159.42	106.28	38.65	28.98	48.31
Mostly	58.94	144.92	91.79	28.98	19.32	48.31

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