



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 06, 2002
VOL. 49 NO. 146

ISSN 1522-0567

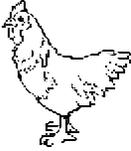
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were highly irregular, trending lower in the West and South, but higher in the Midwest and Northeast. Trade sentiment was weak in the West, steady to firm elsewhere. Retail demand was fair at best with few features. Food service was fair to moderate, best for catering services. Supplies were adequate to ample for heavy weights in the West and often discounted to help move; however, recent winter storms in other regions caused processing reductions and downtime which limited availability. In the parts structure, trading increased entering the weekend, but was still fair to moderate. Breast items were balanced with bone-in breasts in the best position, dark meat and wings were at least adequate and obtainable. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights light to heavy, mostly desirable.

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 12/09/02-12/14/02 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	41.00-44.00	41.00-56.75	44.67	24
Los Angeles	66.00			
New York	48.00-51.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	56.00-60.50	42.50-63.50	60.15	83

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 61.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
807	54.00-65.03	61.05
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:	WTD. AVG.	VOLUME
ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	(000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	169.00	1,274
BREASTS - B/S	127.00	4,588
BREASTS - WHOLE	63.50	1,133
THIGH MEAT - B/S	53.50	886
LEG QUARTERS	17.50	8,397
WINGS	46.50	3,395

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

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were 1 cent higher from Monday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offers varied, mostly light for the limited to instances fair trade interest. Demand into all channels was irregular, light to fairly good, fair at best into retail centers with catering operations showing best interest. Floor stocks were in a full range. Weights desirable. Trading on parts was selective best for boneless/skinless breasts and wings. Parts supplies were mixed, but generally adequate for current interest. The market tone was steady with some strength noted on breast items.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady, strongest where previous weather conditions affected production and availability. Demand entering the weekend was light to fair, best for features and to cover weekend needs. Supplies were sufficient to closer balanced for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was mixed. Breast items were in the best position with bone-in breasts in closest supply. Dark meat and wings were at least adequate and easy to obtain. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority for next week was 1 cent lower from last weeks' levels. Offerings remained in an ample position on heavy weight whole body product with lightweight sized whole body in fairly good balance with the current buying interest. Demand by retailer fair to fairly good, best to cover all features in progress. Dealers anticipated fair weekend clearances. Trade sentiment was fully steady on breast with bone-in product in the strongest position, balance of parts generally steady. Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated): Southern California - whole body 59-99, whole cut-up 139, Cornish hen 98, boneless breast 147-399, boneless breast marinated 499, breast fillets 377, breast tenders 377, boneless leg meat 69-119, split breast 79-239, whole leg 99, leg quarters 10# bag 290-390, wing 79-128, thigh 77-99, drumstick 49-99 and 5# bag 195, 8 pieces mixed fried 299-499; Northern California - whole body 99, whole cut-up 139, split breast 139-199, drumstick 99 and 4# bag IQF 299, thigh 99 and 4# IQF 299; Colorado - whole body 99, Cornish hen 89, Cornish hen twin pack 499 each, roaster 139 (buy one get one free), boneless breast 169-229, boneless breast 229 (buy one get one free), 8 piece mixed fried 449; Arizona - whole body 59-89, whole cut-up 99, boneless breast 359 (buy one get one free), boneless breast 299-369, breast tenders 299-459, wing 99, thigh 97-139 and 4# IQF 300, drumstick 99-139 and 4# IQF 300.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to instances fairly good entering the weekend. Seller offerings were about adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processors schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 50 to 63 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items were in good balance and well cleared. Other items were generally 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	46-65
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	52.90
NO. OF BOXES	5,331
CUMULATIVE	51.62
	12/02/02-12/06/02
	12/03/01-12/07/01
NO. OF BOXES	36,339
	12/02/02-12/06/02
	12/03/01-12/07/01
	50,084

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

DEC 05

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DEC 06

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	962	109.00-187.00	115-119	125.01	952	110.00-187.00	115-119	124.10	4,592	125.15
TENDERLOINS	109	105.00-179.00	105-110	122.36	102	105.00-179.00	105-110	123.55	463	125.43
BREAST - LINE RUN	105	61.00-75.00	-	69.48	63	62.00-75.00	-	72.98	388	72.48
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				298	54.35
LEGS	89	20.00-33.00	20-21	21.31	88	20.00-33.00	20-21	21.18	443	21.26
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	370	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.57	411	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.82	1,925	13.67
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,608	15.00-24.00	17-18	18.26	1,531	15.00-24.00	17-18	18.67	7,447	18.46
WINGS (WHOLE)	275	41.00-48.00	46-47	46.82	281	41.00-49.00	46-47	47.19	1,376	47.31
WINGS (CUT)	409	56.00-63.00	57-58	57.64	443	56.00-63.00	57-58	58.12	2,063	57.86
DRUMSTICKS	68	33.00-46.00	-	34.53	TOO FEW TO REPORT				340	34.53
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				142	37.44
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				100	57.00
*****					*****					
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					
TRADING FOR DEC 05, 2002 F.O.B. DOCK. TODAY'S					TRADING FOR DEC 06, 2002 F.O.B. DOCK. TODAY'S					
RANGE					RANGE					
31.50 - 36.75					31.50 - 37.88					
AVERAGE					AVERAGE					
33.16					35.25					
					5-DAY AVERAGE					
					33.94					

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 increased entering the weekend, but remained fair at best as dealers continued with a cautious and selective posture. Offerings of bone-in breasts remained no more than adequate and boneless-skinless breasts were balanced. Dark meat cuts were fully sufficient and wings were available. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally limited. The market tone remained fully steady to instances firm on bone-in breasts and at least steady on the balance. TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

DEC 05

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
TENDERLOINS	100-105	99.16	64,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	57-58	65.72	132,240
BREAST - LINE RUN	57	59.82	126,480
LEGS	31-32	28.44	224,000
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	17.80	431,887
DRUMSTICKS	21-22	29.15	38,400
THIGHS	20-21	30.92	35,600
B/S THIGHS	62-63	66.02	41,200
WINGS (WHOLE)	41-42	45.13	170,500
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.85	45,040
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.07	19,360
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	63.01	22,200

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
TENDERLOINS	100-105	104.07	95,617	102.56	532,228
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	66.89	156,314	64.40	761,394
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	62.63	124,400	60.46	656,080
LEGS	31-32	32.39	173,080	30.21	856,720
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.42	320,963	18.05	1,973,768
DRUMSTICKS	21-22	29.20	105,020	26.28	462,800
THIGHS	20-21	31.00	66,920	29.58	255,150
B/S THIGHS	62-63	64.02	72,680	63.87	312,560
WINGS (WHOLE)	41-42	47.17	206,710	45.86	858,530
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.30	43,160	12.13	204,240
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	31.29	16,800	31.37	73,860
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.35	21,920	63.83	92,840

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		AVG WTS	
	12/06	12/05	12/03	12/04	12/03	11/29	11/27	
ALA	4,090	4,074	3,993	4,051	5.12	5.14	3,187	5.08
ARK	5,278	5,273	4,848	5,220	4.90	5.08	3,683	4.84
DELMARVA	2,376	2,184	2,095	2,391	5.27	5.17	1,497	5.00
KY-LA-TN	1,972	2,003	1,651	1,960	4.93	4.95	1,678	4.77
MISS	2,514	2,886	2,731	2,854	5.51	5.36	1,921	5.34
NC	2,871	1,394	2,332	2,659	6.14	6.20	2,172	5.97
TEXAS	2,547	2,458	2,441	2,443	4.91	5.07	2,631	4.66
TOTAL	21,648	20,272	20,091	21,270	5.21	5.25	16,769	5.10
MON-FRI105,287(A)								78,851(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 06 and 07-Dec-02 is estimated to be 32,388,000 up 28.71 percent from a week ago and down 2.2 percent from a year ago. (Last week 25,164,000; last year 33,123,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 07-Dec-02 is estimated to be 152,275,000 head up 32 percent from a week ago, and down 3 percent from a year ago (Last week 115,454,000 Last year 156,932,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	89-91
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-89
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	69-75
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	92-94
	DRY PACK	96-102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	113
	ICE PACK	104
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	
	ICE PACK	92-98
DUCKS		152-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 23-Nov-02 (Preliminary),

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

Head	24,26325,229	37,723
Avg Weight	3.754.73	6.19
% of total /1	28%29%	43%

COMPARISONS

Last week	26,15826,610	46,014
Avg Weight	3.724.74	6.25
% of total /1	26%27%	47%

Same week, yr ago /2	18,55311,666	26,504
Avg Weight	3.764.87	6.20
% of total /1	33%21%	47%

To date/2002	1,206,5681,059,866	1,942,094
To date/2001	1,452,6901,279,591	2,026,125

/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 30-Nov-2002 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	115,454	1,223	1,010	2,233	312
AVG WT	4.98	3.47	7.79	5.42	6.56
LAST WEEK	149,717	1,663	1,556	3,219	410
SAME WK YR AGO	157,112	1,932	1,419	3,351	644
AVG WT	5.18	3.65	7.92	5.46	6.69
TO-DATE/2002	7,418,921	83,123	67,928	151,051	19,948
TO-DATE/2001	7,363,281	85,190	66,154	151,344	24,233

(A)The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 145.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 116.9 million head or -28.6 million head less than or 80% of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: DEC 03, 2002

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.60 - .70	Silkie	1.75 - 2.00ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.62 - .70	Geese	
Red Fowl 4-4.5 LBS	.40 - .52	9-14 LBS	.44
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.48 - .80	Pigeons	1.25 - 1.75ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.60 - .80	White Pigeons	2.00 - 2.10ea.
Crossbred Roosters		Rabbits	
4-6 LBS	.64 - .80	4-6 LBS	1.20 - 1.60
Crossbred Roosters		Rabbits	
7-11 LBS	.64 - .80	7-11 LBS	1.10 - 1.40
Guinea Fowl	.75 - 1.10	Bunnies	4.00 - 6.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 3.00ea.	Guinea Pigs	5.00 - 9.00ea.
Banty Hens	1.25 - 2.00ea.	Goats	35.00 - 37.00ea.
Leghorn Roosters	.15 - .20	Kid Goats	18.00 - 19.00ea.
		Doves	2.00 - 3.00ea.

Total Coops Sold 308

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 02-DEC-2002

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	140	146
MIDWEST MOSTLY	122-126	123-127

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-62	58-62
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	63-85	68-73

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 unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was moderate to at times fairly good. Weights were desirable. Schedules full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$.35-.50, livers at \$.75-1.70, and feet at \$.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 02-DEC-2002

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	116-124	125

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	AVG WT
OCTOBER	26 160.6	157.2	102% 5.22
NOVEMBER	2 157.1	156.2	101% 5.24
	9 157.5	155.3	101% 5.13
	16 156.0	151.3	103% 5.29
	23 151.5	146.2	104% 5.16
	30 116.9	145.5	80% 4.98
YEAR TO DATE	7507.9	7562.5	99%
DECEMBER	7 146.7	146.7	
	14 146.7	146.7	

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

W/E	-----THOUSANDS-----				
	12/07/02	11/30/02	% CHG	12/01/01	% CHG
Broilers	152,275	115,454*	+32	156,932*	-03
Cattle	675	631	+07	674*	0
Hogs	2,037	1,820	+12	2,100*	-03

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Majority prices were generally unchanged on both light and heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was fair to good with very limited trading. Supplies and offerings were in close balance to tight and clearing. The undertone was at least steady to fully steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
20.5-25 MAJORITY 21.5-22.5	30-36 MAJORITY 31-33

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21.5-26.5 MAJORITY 23.75-24.5	32-38 MAJORITY 33-34

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Offerings were at least adequate. Demand was light and generally unaggressive. Processing schedules for next week were normal. Movement of finished product was at least moderate and well cleared. The undertone was generally steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was light to moderate for adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal. Finished products was clearing. Trade sentiment was mostly steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Demand was mostly moderate with offerings fully adequate. Schedules were full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Interest was fairly good for about adequate offerings. Processing schedules were about normal. Finished products was clearing. Trade sentiment was mostly steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was mostly moderate. Offerings were generally sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were normal. Finished product supplies were about adequate and clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was generally steady.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY	RANGE	MAJORITY
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)

LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0-0	(1)
Eastern Light	0-0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0	(2)

(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

NEW YORK SEASONAL HOLIDAY ITEMS. FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 2, 2002.

CAPONS:

Prices to first receivers were unchanged. Supplies continued to be in close balance with anticipated needs. Processors were busy with December bookings. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Weights were in a full range of light to heavy, but mostly desirable.

DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:

6-9 LBS. 1.53-1.60 MOSTLY 1.57-1.59

GEESE:

Shipper asking prices were unchanged from prior week. Supplies of frozen USDA Grade A geese were in close balance. Processors were packing against prior bookings for the December holiday period. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Average weights are in a full range.

DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:

6-8 LBS.	TFEWR		
8-10 LBS.	2.10-2.30	MOSTLY	2.10-2.20
10-12 LBS.	2.10-2.30	MOSTLY	2.10-2.20
12 LBS. AND UP	2.10-2.30	MOSTLY	2.10-2.20

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