



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

MONDAY,
DECEMBER 16, 2002
VOL. 49 NO. 150

ISSN 1522-0567

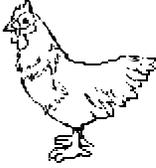
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were higher in the East, mostly unchanged elsewhere when compared to prior week. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was seasonally light to moderate, best for ads and traditional holiday items. Food service interest covered the full range with best movement into fast food and catering businesses. Supplies were in good balance for trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items and wings were in the best positions with supplies balanced to close, and dark meat was readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, 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 12/16/02-12/21/02 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	52.00-54.00	52.40	10	53.10	23
Chicago	41.00-44.00	44.87	44	46.45	92
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—	—	50.01	18
Cleveland	TFEWR	—	—	60.50	6
Denver	65.50	65.49	17	64.91	19
Detroit	43.00-45.00	44.33	12	49.82	35
Los Angeles	66.00	65.10	52	61.27	159
New York	49.00-52.00	50.61	23	50.10	45
Philadelphia	49.00-51.00	50.55	11	47.39	22
Pittsburgh	49.00-52.00	50.80	10	53.23	57
St. Louis	44.50-45.00	43.91	23	46.69	42
San Francisco	66.50	65.71	35	67.79	61

Composite 12 City Weighted Average

Loads	12/16/02	Change/Last Wk	12/09/02	12/17/01
579	53.89	0.16	53.73	55.25

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	48.00-50.00	49.80	32
Central	45.00-53.00	49.58	70
West	46.00-61.50	56.18	46

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	56.00-60.00	60.33	80
-------------	-------------	-------	----

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.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,134	41.00-65.01	60.43

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

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	161.00	1,419
BREASTS - B/S	130.00	4,958
BREASTS - WHOLE	64.00	1,178
THIGH MEAT - B/S	54.00	896
LEG QUARTERS	18.00	9,627
WINGS	47.00	3,485

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

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity was light to fair at best entering the week as dealers attempted to gauge market conditions. Offerings of all sizes were adequate to balanced for most immediate needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was limited. The market tone was fully steady. In the parts complex, boneless-skinless breasts were well cleared, however, bone-in breasts were at least adequate. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate to available. Wings were better balanced.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment steady to fully steady. Retail demand was fair to moderate, best for featured items. Food service was moderate to good, best for fast food and catering services. Supplies were sufficient to at times closer balanced for full trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was most active for breast items which were balanced to well cleared and moving well. Wings were better balanced and received renewed interest, and dark meat was available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices were unchanged from last week's levels. Trading reported for this week's deliveries on regular commitments at unchanged prices with new negotiations at unchanged to higher prices. Offerings were readily available for current needs. Demand by stores was moderate to good best where features planned, restaurants and fast food fairly good overall. Dealers reported moderate weekend carryovers. Trade sentiment was fully steady on wings and breasts but generally steady on dark meat items. Trading reported on parts for this week's delivery: leg quarters bulk 19-21.5 and 4/10s 21-21.5, bone-in breast 69-79 and boneless 122-130, wings in the low 60s, boneless leg meat 55-58. The Los Angeles negotiated weighted WOG average was up 1.92 to 49.61 with the volume reported at 31 loads down 3 percent.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER Majority prices unchanged into all areas with Ohio TFEWR from last Monday's final. Whole fryer market tone was steady to fully steady. Offers limited, buyer interest light to moderate. Retail demand light to moderate, traditional holiday items clearing well. Food service movement mixed into fast food, light to good, best for promotions; catering and restaurants noting moderate to fairly good interest. Floor stocks adequate, sizes mostly desirable, instances heavy in Ohio. Parts trading mainly producer to processor, good demand on front portions. The trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on breast items and wings, about steady on dark meat.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair and sufficient in keeping the bulk of offerings in fairly good balance. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 51 to 63 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to full steady. In the parts complex, all items were reported as adequate. Inquiry for wings varied with supplies generally noted as at least adequate for the current call.

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

U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	47-66
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	55.26
NO. OF BOXES	6,928

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate entering the week, however, dealers maintained balanced floor stocks in preparation for the competing holiday items entering the market. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts ranged balanced to adequate, however, bone-in breasts were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were available. Wings were clearing well. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally light to fair. The market tone was mostly steady to fully steady on wings and at least steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	CURRENT NEGOTIATED TRADING	WTD AVG	VOLUME /LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	128.10	379,200
TENDERLOINS	100-105	106.11	81,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	65.72	170,920
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	63.86	125,920
LEGS	31-32	30.35	304,520
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.01	340,416
DRUMSTICKS	21-22	29.92	64,000
THIGHS	20-21	30.54	41,080
B/S THIGHS	62-63	66.65	56,040
WINGS (WHOLE)	44-45	48.92	170,480
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.41	39,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.00	11,440
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	62.91	17,240

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-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	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,375	110.00-129.00	117-122	119.34
TENDERLOINS	226	100.00-158.00	-	119.83
BREAST - WITH RIBS	153	58.00-83.00	-	62.81
FRONT HALVES	223	52.00-74.00	-	54.23
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	641	15.00-17.00	15	15.13
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	2,542	16.50-18.00	16.5-17	16.97
WINGS (WHOLE)	161	38.00-76.00	-	41.68
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	1,118	14.00-36.00	14-15	14.49

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	12/16	12/12	12/12	12/09	12/05
ALA	4,236	3,955	5.07	4,142	5.07
ARK	5,312	5,146	4.94	5,131	4.96
DELMARVA	2,275	2,343	5.10	1,969	5.26
KY-LA-TN	2,001	1,959	4.58	1,989	4.84
MISS	2,990	2,978	5.31	2,892	5.35
NC	2,631	2,506	6.01	2,619	5.75
TEXAS	2,447	2,413	4.88	2,123	4.93
TOTAL	21,892	21,300	5.12	20,865	5.12
MON	21,892(A)			20,865(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 16-Dec 2002 is estimated to be 32,753,000 up 4.61 percent from a week ago and up 7.69 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,310,000 last year 30,415,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS 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	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	937	120.00-193.00	122-128	124.31
TENDERLOINS	142	110.00-166.00	-	124.89
BREAST - LINE RUN	128	63.00-68.00	64-66	64.08
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	88	21.00-33.00	21-22	22.55
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	398	15.00-18.00	15-16	15.39
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,411	17.00-24.00	17-19	18.45
WINGS (WHOLE)	280	44.00-47.50	46-47	46.82
WINGS (CUT)	415	59.00-63.00	60-61	60.53
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 DEC 16, 2002 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE	AVERAGE
37.50 - 40.00	38.20	37.08

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF DEC-16-20-2002

CENTS PER POUND	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	117.00 - 138.00	121.00 - 131.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	61.00 - 81.00	61.00 - 68.00
LEGS	25.00 - 37.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15.00 - 27.00	17.00 - 19.00
DRUMSTICKS	21.00 - 29.00	-
THIGHS	16.00 - 24.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	37.00 - 58.00	44.00 - 47.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	25.00 - 45.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40.00 - 42.50	-

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

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	79
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	82-86
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	
FROZEN DUCKS	
FROZEN SQUABS	589

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

FRESH FRYERS	88-90
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	75
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 92-93
	DRY PACK 96-101
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104
	DRY PACK 113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 92-98
	DRY PACK
DUCKS	152-166

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

CHICKEN 13-DEC-2002
 _____ PRICES _____ VOLUME _____
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED _____ PRICES _____ VOLUME _____
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	14.50-16.00	13.50	1,009,000	668,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.17	13.50		
15-20%				
RANGE	-	10.00-14.50	1,570,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		12.30		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

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

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

CHICKEN 13-DEC-2002
 _____ PRICES _____ VOLUME _____
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED _____ PRICES _____ VOLUME _____
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	13.00	81,600	-
WTD AVERAGE		13.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	11.00-13.00	10.00-14.00	1,270,000	856,800
WTD AVERAGE	12.00	10.72		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	10.00-11.00	80,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		10.50		

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

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair to moderate. Offerings were generally sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Finished product supplies varied but were mostly in close balance to short and well cleared. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 16-DEC-02.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-9.5	7.75-8.5	8.05
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were lower on hens traded for this weeks slaughter. Demand was moderate for at least adequate offerings of raw materials. Finished sales were seasonally active. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 16-DEC-02

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5.75-10	8-8.5	8.30

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,
 POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
Jackson, MS	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
Des Moines, IA	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
Bell, CA	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	