



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 12, 2003  
VOL. 50 NO. 18

ISSN 1522-0567

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was about steady in the East, generally steady elsewhere. Retail demand was light to moderate, best for retail ads, food service was moderate to fairly good, best into fast food. Supplies of all sizes were at least adequate to available and competitively priced in some instances. In the parts structure, breast items were more than sufficient. Wings ranged adequate to ample, and dark meat was at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights in a full range.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 cents to 63.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.00 cents last year on February 13, 2002.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	169.00
BREASTS - B/S	150.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	84.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	58.50
LEG QUARTERS	20.00
WINGS	73.00

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

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was light to moderate best for ad activity and promotions. Food service was fair to fairly good, best for fast food. Supplies of all sizes were at least adequate for current trade requirements. In the parts structure, boneless skinless breast were readily available, bone-in breasts were fully adequate. Dark meat items were adequate and wings were available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to fair and noted as typical of midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate to available with discounting noted to stimulate interest. Retail and distributive draw was lackluster. The market tone was no better than steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were available and bone-in breast were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were readily available.

**MIDWEST** Whole fryer market tone was mostly steady. Producer offerings of whole birds and Wogs were in line with the very limited trade interest. Retail demand was mostly slow to light. Food service demand was mixed and spotty with fast food where promoted showing moderate interest and restaurants increasing for weekend holiday interest. Floor stocks were in balance to a little long, weights desirable. Trading on parts remained moderate on leg quarters and thighs, sluggish and limited on remaining parts. Offerings were sufficient on all items, although boneless/skinless breasts at times heavy and slow to clear. The market tone was steady on leg quarters and thighs, barely steady to weak on the balance of items.

**WESTERN** The market tone was about steady. Offerings were in close to fully adequate with small sized product in the tightest position. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good, best for parts. Floor stocks were generally adequate.

### CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 02/08/03	2003	2002	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	201,937	208,199	-03
CHICKS PLACED	165,277	165,373	0

### BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 202 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 8, 2003. 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 DOWN SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 165 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 8, 2003. Placements were down slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through February 8, 2003 were 988 million, down 2 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 22-Mar-03 IS ESTIMATED AT 152.7 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 153.0 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 155.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 155.1 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE 55.22 CENTS PER POUND.

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEBRUARY 12, 2003

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		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	640	126.00-236.00	126-130	131.38
TENDERLOINS	143	118.00-172.00	-	130.46
BREAST - LINE RUN	113	82.00-89.00	83-86	85.47
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	103	21.00-33.00	22-24	24.26
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	632	16.50-19.00	17-18	17.65
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	996	19.00-26.00	20-21	20.68
WINGS (WHOLE)	282	63.00-74.00	-	72.55
WINGS (CUT)	521	81.00-89.00	84-86	84.79
DRUMSTICKS	68	29.00-46.00	-	31.00
THIGHS	28	25.00-44.00	-	30.43
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	835	117.00-236.00	124-136	133.01
TENDERLOINS	115	120.00-172.00	120-125	134.78
BREAST - LINE RUN	121	82.00-88.00	84-86	84.96
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	123	21.00-33.00	22-24	23.73
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	680	16.50-19.00	17-18	17.59
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,156	19.50-26.00	20-21	20.56
WINGS (WHOLE)	102	63.00-73.50	-	69.80
WINGS (CUT)	432	81.00-88.00	84-86	84.22
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\*\*\*\*\*  
F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
45.50 - 49.00	46.28

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
44.25 - 48.50	46.30	46.15

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 and noted as typical of midweek trading. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were available. Bone-in breasts were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate and wings were readily available. Retail and distributive draw was light to fair. The market tone remained barely steady on boneless skinless breasts and wings, and 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 **FEBRUARY 11, 2003**

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	140-145	139.62	393,920
TENDERLOINS	110-115	109.48	70,470
BREAST - WITH RIBS	83-84	90.63	197,400
BREAST - LINE RUN	83	86.37	118,920
LEGS	31-32	33.82	116,600
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.82	674,205
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	26.08	157,220
THIGHS	21-22	31.42	67,510
B/S THIGHS	62-63	63.26	45,770
WINGS (WHOLE)	68-69	72.20	124,060
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.97	38,240
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.61	20,145
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	47.54	31,120

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	140-145	137.22	426,160
TENDERLOINS	110-115	116.80	76,820
BREAST - WITH RIBS	83-84	91.28	201,120
BREAST - LINE RUN	83	86.07	122,840
LEGS	31-32	31.37	215,760
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.70	399,684
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	25.63	131,520
THIGHS	21-22	31.27	67,080
B/S THIGHS	62-63	66.93	76,340
WINGS (WHOLE)	68-69	72.61	179,720
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.88	37,960
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	31.62	21,720
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	49.87	15,520

\*\*\*\*\*  
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	
	02/12	02/11	02/10	02/07	WTS	ACTUAL	WTS	ACTUAL
ALA	3,688	3,953	3,873	3,688	5.19	5.03	3,396	5.15
ARK	4,535	5,114	4,819	4,182	5.05	4.77	4,619	4.93
DELMARVA	2,356	2,343	2,338	2,116	5.23	5.11	2,325	5.23
KY-LA-TN	1,793	1,937	1,872	1,794	5.01	4.92	1,562	4.96
MISS	2,887	2,845	2,889	2,437	5.51	5.28	2,531	5.52
NC	2,414	2,599	2,557	2,659	6.06	5.85	2,379	6.18
TEXAS	2,467	2,452	2,313	2,359	5.04	5.10	2,331	5.01
TOTAL	20,140	21,243	20,661	19,001	5.28	5.12	19,143	5.25
MON-WED 62,765 (A)	60,786 (A)							

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12-Feb 03 and is estimated to be 30,132,000 up 4.89 percent from a week ago and down 2.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 28,726,000; last year 30,840,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	90-92
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	66
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	95-99
	DRY PACK	102-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-105
	DRY PACK	113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-98
	DRY PACK	-
DUCKS		152-166

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 15-Feb-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	02/15/03 (1)	THOUSAND HEAD		02/08/03
BRO-FRY	154,543 (2)			153,527
LT HENS	1,955			1,841
HVY HENS	1,301			1,425
TOTAL	157,799			156,793

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 15-Feb-03 is 153.6 million head compared to 159.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 154.9 million head or 1.3 million more than estimated available. For week of 22-Feb-03 the estimated available is 153.7 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)**

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS	LBS		LBS
AM 02/10/03	160,345			74,807
AM 02/01/03	155,703			76,443
CHG	4,642			-1,636
PCT CHG	3			-2

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)**

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	2/10/03	2/03/03	2/11/02	2/10/03	2/03/03	2/11/02
<b>PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES</b>	7,269	7,464	6,944	6,095	6,225	3,705
	1,404	1,375	111	4,008	3,918	2,258

**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 FEBRUARY 10, 2003

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	RANGE	
		58-64	61-79

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

	LOW HIGH AVG			FOR 2/11/03		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	1.20	.95	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	5.50
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.35	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.00	3.50
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.60	.65	.62	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	1.00
ROOSTERS lb.	1.10	1.40	1.22	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	1.35	1.55	1.50	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.45	1.70	.93	RABBITS ea.	1.00	6.00
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.50	3.50
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	1.75
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 64

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending February 7, 2003

	Whole		Legs		Necks, Backs		Livers/	
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	Hens		
Low	58.34	125.02	75.01	20.84	12.50	62.51		
High	62.93	133.35	83.35	22.92	16.67	62.51		
Mostly	60.84	133.35	83.35	22.92	12.50	62.51		

**SAN JUAN**

Low	59.18	125.02	79.18	20.84	14.59	55.01
High	62.09	133.35	87.51	31.25	18.75	55.01
Mostly	60.84	125.02	87.51	27.09	18.75	55.01

**NEW SAN JUAN**

Low	58.34	125.02	75.01	20.84	8.33	62.51
High	62.51	133.35	83.35	22.92	12.50	62.51
Mostly	60.01	125.02	83.35	20.84	12.50	62.51

**BECERRA**

Low	59.18	120.85	83.35	20.84	14.59	58.34
High	62.51	137.52	87.51	31.25	20.84	58.34
Mostly	60.43	133.35	87.51	27.09	18.75	58.34

**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair at best with the bulk of today's activity held to standing commitments. Seller offerings were fully adequate to ample and were more readily available on the 3.0 and 3.5 pound sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were 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 66 cents. Trade sentiment was barely steady. Boneless skinless breasts were clearing satisfactorily. Bone-in breasts were a bit of a push to clear. Leg quarters and wings fully adequate to ample.

\*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	50-68	
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	58.84	
NO. OF BOXES	7,750	

\*8 of 8 plants reporting.



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

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Vacant
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	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	