



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was no better than steady in the East, steady elsewhere. Retail and food service demand was slow to fair, moderate to good for active ads and fast food. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was limited. Breast items were at least adequate, dark meat and wings available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable.

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 64.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.75 cents last year on March 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	170.00
BREASTS - B/S	155.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	86.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	62.50
LEG QUARTERS	22.00
WINGS	71.00

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

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was slow to fair, instances better where retail ads and fast food promotions were active. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, all items were at least adequate or available for the mostly light to fair trade interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained light to no better than fair during midweek trading as dealers were cautious and limited orders to normal commitments. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate to available, although, the lighter weights were often noted in the better position. Retail and distributive draw was limited. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least adequate. Dark meat cuts and wings were sufficient.

MIDWEST Whole fryer market tone continued steady. Offerings were light on smaller sizes, moderate on heavy weight product. Trade interest was very light to fair. Retail and food service demand was mixed, mostly light with instances of moderate to fairly good demand into some fast food promotions and scattered retail features. Floor stocks were in a full range, weights desirable to occasionally heavy. Trade interest on parts items was lacking with need and price resistance noted. Offerings of boneless/skinless breasts were light to moderate and slightly more available with all other items available. The market tone on all parts was steady overall.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady. Offerings were adequate. Buying activity was moderate overall. Retailer demand was moderate to fairly good where features in progress. Floor stocks were in good balance with needs. The market tone was about steady on parts.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 03/08/03	2003	2002	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	205,590	209,711	-02
CHICKS PLACED	163,738	171,686	-05

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 206 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 8, 2003. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 5 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 164 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 8, 2003. Placements were down 5 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through March 8, 2003 were 1.65 billion, 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 19-Apr-03 IS ESTIMATED AT 150.6 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 151.6 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 159.3 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 159.4 MILLION HEAD AND THE COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 54.09 CENTS PER POUND.

MARCH 11, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 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			WTD
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	883	132.00-235.00	134-140	138.08
TENDERLOINS	140	120.00-172.00	120-125	131.97
BREAST - LINE RUN	92	82.00-89.00	85-87	87.12
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	104	28.00-35.00	28-29	30.14
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	628	17.50-21.00	18-19	18.90
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	995	19.50-26.00	21-23	21.90
WINGS (WHOLE)	101	55.00-72.00	-	65.65
WINGS (CUT)	430	73.00-84.00	79-82	81.23
DRUMSTICKS	69	35.00-45.00	-	36.30
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	903	130.00-235.00	134-138	138.51
TENDERLOINS	147	120.00-172.00	120-125	134.26
BREAST - LINE RUN	112	82.00-89.00	83-85	86.21
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	93	27.00-35.00	29-30	30.37
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	633	17.50-20.50	19-20	19.07
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	985	19.50-26.00	21-22	21.89
WINGS (WHOLE)	101	55.00-72.00	-	65.65
WINGS (CUT)	637	73.00-84.00	79-82	81.00
DRUMSTICKS	69	35.00-45.00	-	36.30
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	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
45.25 - 49.50	48.23	46.25 - 50.750	49.80	49.04

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 remained light during midweek trading as dealers continued to work hand-to-mouth and keep floor stocks in close balance with the lackluster demand. Offerings of breast items were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts and wings were adequate. Retail and distributive draw was limited. The market tone was mostly steady.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES **MARCH 11, 2003**

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	150-155	144.90	531,320
TENDERLOINS	110-115	108.67	243,120
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	87.17	162,080
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	81.44	122,240
LEGS	32-33	33.03	344,920
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.76	464,298
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	27.31	149,870
THIGHS	22-23	34.03	51,770
B/S THIGHS	62-63	68.43	83,600
WINGS (WHOLE)	66-67	72.97	179,480
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.28	37,960
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	19.62	57,415
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	48.45	23,880

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	150-155	153.90	357,720
TENDERLOINS	110-115	113.29	114,980
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	87.36	180,120
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	81.13	91,720
LEGS	32-33	33.19	384,160
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	21.01	427,795
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	31.16	78,480
THIGHS	22-23	32.05	58,720
B/S THIGHS	62-63	69.89	68,600
WINGS (WHOLE)	66-67	73.11	199,400
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.78	48,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	27.98	15,240
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	48.78	21,960

 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 WTS	
	03/12	03/11	03/10	03/07	03/10	03/07	03/05	03/03
ALA	3,907	3,928	3,876	3,972	5.23	4.98	3,811	5.14
ARK	5,109	5,153	2,145	4,517	5.09	4.87	4,963	5.11
DELMARVA	2,287	2,332	2,336	2,260	5.08	5.01	2,354	5.14
KY-LA-TN	1,928	1,975	1,918	1,962	5.01	5.01	1,925	4.90
MISS	2,692	2,935	2,812	2,656	5.35	5.14	2,674	5.36
NC	2,443	2,461	2,477	2,659	5.92	5.96	2,374	5.99
TEXAS	2,447	2,437	2,422	2,293	5.02	4.78	2,446	5.02
TOTAL	20,813	21,221	17,986	20,070	5.26	5.08	20,547	5.23
MON-WED	63,250(A)						62,022(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12-Mar 03 and is estimated to be 31,139,000 up 0.99 percent from a week ago and up 3.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,833,000; last year 30,022,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		91-93
ROASTERS 4# & UP		80-95
HENS UNDER 5#		-
HENS OVER 5#		65-66
DUCKS		-
RABBITS-WHOLE		-
RABBITS-CUT UP		-
SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY		
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	96-99
	DRY PACK	103-104
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-105
	DRY PACK	113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-98
	DRY PACK	-
DUCKS		155-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 15-Mar-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/15/03 (1)	03/08/03
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	163,649(2)	149,672
LT HENS	1,698	1,597
HVY HENS	1,403	1,299
TOTAL	166,750	152,568

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 15-Mar-03 is 156.5 million head compared to 155.1 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 164.0 million head or 7.5 million more than estimated available. For week of 22-Mar-03 the estimated available is 155.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 03/10/03	184,523		64,269	
AM 03/01/03	174,509		68,879	
CHG	10,014		-4,610	
PCT CHG	6		-7	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	3/10/03	3/03/03	3/11/02	3/10/03	3/03/03	3/11/02
PACIFIC						
COAST	15,260	7,155	8,137	6,089	4,609	4,005
LOS ANGELES	1,378	1,369	62	3,725	1,383	2,561

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 MARCH 10, 2003

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE
		58-64
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	60-79

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

	LOW HIGH AVG			FOR 3/11/03		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.55	.65	.59	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.60	1.40	.83	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	3.75
BANTAMS lb.	-	.75	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.25	4.50
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.60	.85	.70	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.20
PULLETS lb.	.70	1.75	1.19	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	4.50	9.50
ROOSTERS lb.	.80	1.65	1.33	ROOSTERS ea.	2.25	7.50
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.65	.90	.78	TURKEYS ea.	-	8.00
DUCKS lb.	.75	3.00	1.08	DUCKS ea.	1.70	12.00
RABBITS lb.	1.00	1.55	1.34	RABBITS ea.	-	4.00
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.25	6.50
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	7.00	7.00	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.00	11.50
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 120

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending March 7, 2003

	Whole		Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/
	Chickens	Breasts	W/ Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards
Hens					
RAYON					
Low	59.24	122.57	81.71	12.26	16.34
High	61.28	63.33	130.74	89.88	20.43
Mostly	20.43	61.28	61.28	130.74	81.71
	16.34	16.34	61.28		
SAN JUAN					
Low	56.38	122.57	77.62	20.43	14.30
High	52.29	59.65	134.82	89.88	26.56
Mostly	18.38	52.29	57.20	126.65	85.80
	24.51	14.30	52.29		
NEW SAN JUAN					
Low	58.83	122.57	81.71	12.26	16.34
High	61.28	63.33	130.74	89.88	20.43
Mostly	20.43	61.28	61.28	130.74	81.71
	16.34	16.34	61.28		
BECERRA					
Low	56.79	118.48	81.71	20.43	16.34
High	51.48	58.01	130.74	85.80	24.51
Mostly	18.38	51.48	57.20	122.57	81.71
	22.47	16.34	51.48		

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was no better than fair. Seller offerings were fully adequate to ample and were generally in the closer better balance on the smaller sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 66 cents. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. In the parts complex, all cuts were adequate for the light and selective buyer interest.

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

RANGE	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	52-69
NO. OF BOXES	58.27
	7,326

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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