



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak in the Midwest, steady to about steady elsewhere. Demand overall was seasonally slow to fair with trading limited to regular commitments; however, interest was strongest for fast food promotions, retail and Easter related ads. Supplies of all sizes were adequate to ample for trade needs. In the parts structure, tenders were balanced to tight with the best movement, and the remaining items were at least sufficient or 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 remains unchanged at 63.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.50 cents last year on April 10, 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	180.50
BREASTS - B/S	156.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	86.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	64.50
LEG QUARTERS	21.50
WINGS	69.00

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

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was about steady. Demand was seasonally slow to fair with light trading with most utilizing regular commitments to satisfy needs. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient. In the parts structure, movement was fair at best. Tenders were balanced to close and moving, but the remaining items were at least adequate or readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was cautious and noted as hand-to-mouth as dealers maintained balanced floor stocks and saw no need to extend inventories. Offerings were sufficient for current needs. Retail and distributive demand was seasonally slow. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least adequate. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate. Tenderloins were balanced.

MIDWEST Market tone for whole fryers continues barely steady to weak. Offerings were sufficient to ample for the light trade interest. Retail and food service demand was limited with features and Easter items taking precedence. Feature noted in the Chicago area, whole birds at 99 cents and leg quarters at 38 cents. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Weights were mostly desirable. Parts interest centered on tenderloins with remaining items light to fair. The market tone was fully steady to firm on tenders, barely steady to weak on the balance.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady. Offerings remained in an adequate to ample position with heavy weight whole body product in the longest position. Buyer's needs were limited to regular commitments, with interest in additional product somewhat slow to develop. Demand was moderate, best for parts. Floor stocks generally adequate to cover current needs. The market tone was overall steady on parts.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 04/05/03		PERCENT CHANGE
	2003	2002	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	207,900	212,490	-02
CHICKS PLACED	167,672	168,978	-01

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 208 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 5, 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 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 168 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 5, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through April 5, 2003 were 2.32 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 17-May-03 IS ESTIMATED AT 155.1 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 155.6 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 159.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 160.0 MILLION HEAD AND THE COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 55.95 CENTS PER POUND.

APRIL 08, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 09, 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	925	130.00-230.00	131-135	134.11
TENDERLOINS	265	130.00-190.00	130-134	139.23
BREAST - LINE RUN	81	82.00-90.00	83-84	83.89
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	92	24.00-38.00	24-27	27.85
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	614	16.00-19.50	16-18	17.18
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,077	18.00-26.00	19-21	20.45
WINGS (WHOLE)	282	45.00-70.00	-	66.90
WINGS (CUT)	442	60.00-84.00	78-81	79.29
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	915	131.00-230.00	132-135	135.59
TENDERLOINS	263	130.00-190.00	130-134	139.51
BREAST - LINE RUN	96	82.00-89.00	82-84	83.69
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	103	22.00-38.00	25-27	27.13
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	658	16.00-19.50	17-18	17.39
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,067	18.00-26.00	19-20.5	20.01
WINGS (WHOLE)	282	45.00-70.00	-	66.90
WINGS (CUT)	485	60.00-84.00	78-80	78.41
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	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
42.00 - 45.75	44.43	43.50 - 46.25	44.80	44.51

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 and unaggressive as dealers continued to work hand-to-mouth during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were sufficient for most immediate needs. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate. Tenderloins were closely cleared. Retail and distributive draw was seasonally light. The market tone was about steady.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES APRIL 08, 2003 APRIL 09, 2003

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	145-150	148.02	590,064
TENDERLOINS	120-125	117.06	235,370
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	86.24	150,840
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	79.94	101,440
LEGS	32-33	32.61	279,760
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.89	542,062
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	27.73	133,740
THIGHS	22-23	33.44	57,750
B/S THIGHS	62-63	67.55	98,940
WINGS (WHOLE)	58-59	58.63	185,980
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.01	27,440
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	26.35	25,085
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	40.12	30,020

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	145-150	148.85	384,920
TENDERLOINS	120-125	131.90	118,420
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	85.15	174,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	80.53	118,640
LEGS	32-33	32.19	319,920
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	21.04	405,461
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	28.46	141,280
THIGHS	22-23	31.41	70,960
B/S THIGHS	62-63	67.51	72,582
WINGS (WHOLE)	58-59	61.08	138,160
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.75	42,120
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.02	14,480
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	42.23	19,400

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	
	04/09	04/08	04/07	04/04	04/07	04/04	04/02	03/31
ALA	3,815	3,963	3,991	4,257	5.29	5.22	3,884	5.24
ARK	5,241	5,267	5,273	5,091	5.09	4.84	5,113	5.04
DELMARVA	2,369	2,159	2,271	2,201	5.28	5.07	2,291	5.14
KY-LA-TN	1,904	1,948	1,905	1,800	4.94	4.70	1,835	4.94
MISS	2,915	2,785	2,577	2,274	5.44	5.22	2,808	5.28
NC	2,449	2,574	2,525	2,659	6.15	5.84	2,414	6.02
TEXAS	2,451	2,427	2,447	3,182	5.09	4.86	2,391	5.02
TOTAL	21,144	21,123	20,989	21,249	5.31	5.09	20,736	5.22
MON-WED	63,709(A)				62,920(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 09-Apr 03 and is estimated to be 31,634,000 up 1.66 percent from a week ago and up 0.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,116,000; last year 31,476,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	91-93
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#		-
HENS OVER 5#		65
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 12-APR-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	04/12/03 (1)		04/05/03	
	THOUSAND HEAD			
BRO-FRY	158,820	(2)	155,248	
LT HENS	2,130		1,961	
HVY HENS	1,263		1,444	
TOTAL	162,213		158,653	

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 12-Apr-03 is 154.3 million head compared to 159.4 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 159.1 million head or 4.8 million more than estimated available. For week of 19-Apr-03 the estimated available is 154.5 million head.

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

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 04/07/03	194,464		61,836	
AM 03/01/03	174,509		68,879	
CHG	19,955		-7,043	
PCT CHG	11		-10	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	4/07/03	3/31/03	4/08/02	4/07/03	3/31/03	4/08/02
PACIFIC COAST	10,720	11,214	14,226	9,180	9,386	3,634
LOS ANGELES	898	1,370	98	3,831	4,217	2,006

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 APRIL 07, 2003

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

JACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

	FOR 4/08/03		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.50	1.15	.77
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	1.40	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.50	1.00	.72
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	1.15	1.50	1.37
GEESE lb.	-	.80	-
TURKEYS lb.	.25	1.00	.45
DUCKS lb.	.80	1.60	.98
RABBITS lb.	.50	2.60	2.08
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 122

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending April 4, 2003

	Whole		Legs Necks, Backs		Livers/	
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	55.30	127.61	72.31	12.76	17.01	59.55
High	60.40	136.12	76.57	21.27	21.27	59.55
Mostly	58.28	127.61	72.31	17.01	17.01	59.55
SAN JUAN						
Low	58.28	123.36	76.57	21.27	10.63	53.17
High	61.25	140.37	89.33	25.52	14.89	53.17
Mostly	59.55	127.61	89.33	23.40	12.76	53.17
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	55.30	127.61	72.31	12.76	12.76	59.55
High	59.98	136.12	76.57	21.27	17.01	59.55
Mostly	58.70	127.61	72.31	17.01	17.01	59.55
BECERRA						
Low	58.70	127.61	80.82	21.27	14.89	53.60
High	61.25	140.37	89.33	25.52	19.14	53.60
Mostly	60.40	136.12	85.07	25.52	17.01	53.60

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light to fair and sufficient in keeping the bulk of seller offerings adequate and in generally good balance. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 52 to 62 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were fully sufficient for current inquiry.

*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	50-65
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	54.73
NO. OF BOXES	7,551

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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