



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

 Majority prices trended higher in the Northeast and Midwest; unchanged in the West. Trade sentiment ranged steady to instances firm. Retail and food service demand was in a full range, mostly fair to good, best for retail ads, fast food promotions, and into resort locations. Supplies were adequate to well cleared with smaller sizes tight in the West. Plant schedules are mixed with some operations planned for Saturday and a few down Monday for Memorial Day. In the parts structure, trading was active to moderate with supplies in good balance and well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

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 05/26/03-05/30/03 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	52.00-55.00	52.00-62.00	54.62	25
Los Angeles	70.00			
New York	56.00-59.00			

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	64.00-66.50	54.00-67.00	64.83	80
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GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 65.00 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.
928	57.60-67.50	64.73

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	195.00	1,152
BREASTS - B/S	179.00	4,627
BREASTS - WHOLE	97.50	1,343
THIGH MEAT - B/S	70.00	851
LEG QUARTERS	24.00	8,163
WINGS	72.00	3,245

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

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Chicago's preliminary majority prices increased 3 cents from last Monday's final prices. Whole broiler/fryer market tone remains steady to fully steady, instances firm. Offerings were in close balance with buyers needs. Retail and food service demand was in a full range, fair to good as weather impacting activity in some areas. Floor stocks were clearing well and sufficient for needs. Weights were desirable to at times heavy. Supplies of breast items adequate to tight with balance adequate. The market tone fully steady on breast items and steady on remainder of items.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was fully steady to instances firm. Demand entering the weekend was fair to fairly good, best for retail ads and upcoming Memorial Day needs. Supplies were in good balance to tight with premiums noted. Processor schedules were reduced next week due to the holiday. In the parts structure, movement was moderate to good with availability of all items no more than adequate to tight. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last Fridays' levels. Trade sentiment was fully steady overall with trading reported for next weeks' deliveries at unchanged to higher prices. Offerings were mainly adequate with sized product in the closest position. Buyers were reluctant in securing extra product due to sellers' confidence and higher asking prices. Retail demand was good best to cover the Memorial Day weekend holiday. Dealers anticipated good weekend clearances. The market tone was firm on bone-in breast and generally steady on balance of parts.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Southern California – whole body 79-99, whole cut-up 139, roaster 139, marinated Cornish hen 99-199, cornish hen 6 count 998-1198, Cornish hen 12 count case 1899-1999, boneless breast 167-399, boneless leg meat 77-99, marinated leg meat 199, 40# case leg meat 2998, split breast 97, split breast 4# bag IQF 396, whole breast 99, leg quarter seasoned 77-79, leg quarter 77-89, marinated leg quarter 89, leg quarter 10# bag 170-290, leg quarter 40# case 899-1299, wing 117-137, wing IQF 4# bag 498, wing IQF 5# bag 499-699, thigh 79-99, thigh 4# bag IQF 300, drumstick 79-99, drumstick 5# bag 245, drumstick 4# bag IQF 300, 15 piece combo pack containing 5 each drumstick/thigh/wing 118 per pound, (food service deli section – fried mixed 8 piece 499-599, 12 piece 599, 24 piece drumstick and thigh 999);

Northern California – whole 89-129, split breast 179-199, split breast free range 239, thigh 79-99, drumstick 79-99, leg quarter 99, (food service deli section – fried mixed 8 piece 499-549, 50 piece 2999, 100 piece 5999, 250 piece 14999, and 500 piece 27999); Colorado – whole cut-up 119, Cornish 149, boneless breast 200-299, drumstick 99-199, drumstick 4# bag IQF 300, thigh 99-119, thigh 4# bag IQF 300, (food service deli section – fried mixed 8 piece 399-499, 16 piece 769 and 50 piece 2499); Arizona – Cornish hen 18 ounce 2 for 500, boneless breast 197-499, breast tender 249-449, boneless thigh meat 249, leg quarter 10# bag 390, wing drumette 149, thigh 49-129, thigh 4# bag IQF 300, drumstick 49-129, drumstick 4# bag IQF 300.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was moderate entering the holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes ranged balanced to adequate for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items were closely balanced. The remainder of cuts were clearing satisfactorily.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was good entering the weekend. However, some concern was apparent as additional interest was generally light and cautious. Seller offerings were fully sufficient for current inquiry. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were heavy when combined with operations planned for tomorrow. Most plants will close Monday, Memorial Day. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 57 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, supplies were generally well balanced to tight for prompt shipment.

*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		53-71
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		59.53
NO. OF BOXES		7,281
CUMULATIVE	05/19/03-05/23/03	58.77
	05/20/02-05/24/02	56.86
NO. OF BOXES	05/19/03-05/23/03	42,895
	05/20/02-05/24/02	48,403

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

MAY 22

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 23

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	915	157.00-249.00	157-162	162.20	799	159.00-249.00	159-165	168.60	4,493	168.22
TENDERLOINS	243	155.00-211.00	155-158	163.85	243	146.00-211.00	155-160	161.30	1,180	162.85
BREAST - LINE RUN	110	95.00-105.00	95-97	97.09	79	95.00-105.00	95-97	97.93	493	95.38
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				340	82.50
LEGS	88	29.00-40.00	29-30	30.00	88	29.00-40.00	29-30	30.00	519	29.26
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	885	21.00-23.50	22-23	22.28	769	21.00-23.50	21-23	21.87	3,446	22.00
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,040	23.00-26.00	24-25	24.81	1,290	23.00-28.00	24-25	24.97	5,620	24.80
WINGS (WHOLE)	315	69.00-73.00	70-72	72.22	276	69.00-73.00	70-72	72.49	1,254	72.25
WINGS (CUT)	475	82.00-85.00	-	83.36	445	82.00-91.00	83-85	84.19	2,534	83.71
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				340	40.91
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				140	42.03
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				100	73.20

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

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MAY 22, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.		TODAY'S	MAY 23, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.		TODAY'S	5-DAY
RANGE		AVERAGE	RANGE		AVERAGE	AVERAGE
49.50 - 55.75		52.61	53.00 - 54.25		53.44	52.36

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 continued fair to fairly good at times entering the weekend, although, dealers were cautious and attempting to coast through the holiday with closely cleared floor stocks. Offerings of breast items were balanced. Dark meat items were clearing well. The balance of cuts were adequate to balanced. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

ITEM	MAY 22			MAY 23			WEEKLY	
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	175	170.54	401,320	175	168.23	561,078	168.54	2,700,398
TENDERLOINS	155-160	159.57	94,640	155-160	159.22	109,720	158.43	620,400
BREAST - WITH RIBS	93-94	98.92	189,160	95-96	100.74	223,600	98.85	1,085,542
BREAST - LINE RUN	93	98.10	80,320	95	97.92	121,040	96.53	541,200
LEGS	34-35	36.51	183,200	34-35	33.74	288,240	34.28	1,270,760
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	26-27	25.32	491,926	26-27	25.09	559,252	25.03	2,659,995
DRUMSTICKS	27-28	34.71	77,260	28-29	33.31	163,567	31.71	744,077
THIGHS	27-28	35.22	67,140	27-28	36.29	81,631	35.12	358,461
B/S THIGHS	66-67	68.30	70,280	67-68	70.20	84,160	68.96	458,250
WINGS (WHOLE)	66-67	69.90	171,070	66-67	74.99	185,240	72.71	1,014,200
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.61	40,040	10-12	12.06	40,160	12.19	188,200
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25-30	23.60	12,440	25-30	24.35	17,400	25.49	70,370
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35-40	40.74	22,800	35-40	40.52	30,040	40.80	126,032

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 SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	05/23	05/22	05/21	05/20	05/21	05/20	05/16	05/14	05/16	05/14
ALA	4,172	4,005	4,048	3,824	5.22	5.26	3,981	5.16	3,981	5.16
ARK	5,055	5,115	5,203	5,201	5.03	5.04	4,660	5.01	4,660	5.01
DELMARVA	2,775	2,325	2,385	2,372	5.08	5.24	2,485	5.18	2,485	5.18
KY-LA-TN	2,691	1,978	1,893	1,948	4.79	4.87	1,924	4.89	1,924	4.89
MISS	2,565	2,981	2,881	2,926	5.38	5.34	2,463	5.31	2,463	5.31
NC	2,717	2,591	2,472	2,659	6.12	6.17	2,726	6.15	2,726	6.15
TEXAS	2,462	2,478	2,472	2,476	4.93	4.99	3,154	5.06	3,154	5.06
TOTAL	22,437	21,473	21,354	21,321	5.21	5.26	21,393	5.22	21,393	5.22

MON-FRI 108,582(A) 106,319(A)
 (A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-May 03 and 24-May-03 is estimated to be 33,568,000 up 4.57 percent from a week ago and down 0.3 percent from a year ago.
 (Last week 32,102,000; last year 33,658,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 24-May-03 is estimated to be 157,619,000 head up 1 percent from a week ago, and down 1 percent from a year ago
 (Last week 155,533,000 Last year 159,868,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	88-94
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	63
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-105
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	113
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	104-105
HENS OVER 5#	91-98
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	
DUCKS	155-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 10-May-03 (Preliminary),

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

Head	25,759	32,656	48,513
Avg Weight	3.79	4.82	6.09
% of total /1	24%	31%	45%

COMPARISONS

Last week	23,416	20,909	52,871
Avg Weight	3.77	4.75	6.15
% of total /1	24%	22%	54%

Same week, yr ago /2	26,861	29,599	50,265
Avg Weight	3.69	4.77	6.06
% of total /1	25%	28%	47%

To date/2003	461,458	439,996	825,438
To date/2002	575,398	456,401	903,804

/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 17-May-2003 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				

HEAD	155,533	1,493	1,313	2,806	418
AVG WT	5.25	3.42	7.93	5.53	7.01
LAST WEEK	155,587	1,586	1,364	2,950	483
SAME WK YR AGO	158,538	1,846	1,280	3,126	423
AVG WT	5.10	3.41	8.15	5.35	6.60
TO-DATE/2003	3,008,808	33,695	26,373	60,068	8,422
TO-DATE/2002	3,077,610	36,887	26,236	63,123	8,848

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.7 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 157.4 million head or 1.3 million head less than or 99% of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAY 20, 2003
PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
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Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.80 - .95	Banty Hens	2.50 - 3.50ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.80	Pigeons	2.85 - 3.10ea.
Pekin Ducks	3.00 - 4.25ea.	White Pigeons	3.85 - 4.00ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.50 - .70	Rabbits 4-6 LBS	1.50 - 1.80
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.60 - .72	Rabbits 6-9 LBS	1.80 - 2.06
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.50 - .80	Bunnies	2.00 - 8.00ea.
Crossbred Roasters		Guinea Pigs	4.00 - 7.00ea.
4-6 LBS	1.10 - 1.30	Goats	75.00 - 125.00ea
Crossbred Roasters		Kid Goats	15.00 - 30.00ea.
7-11 LBS	.50 - 1.10	Doves	3.50 - 4.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.70 - 1.85		
Banty Roasters	4.00 - 7.00ea.	Total Coops Sold	600

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 19-MAY-2003

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	124-128	125-130

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	57-65.50	61-64.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	60-86.50	68-72.50

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 was about steady. Demand was light to fair. Weights were desirable to instances light. Schedules mostly full-time to at times reduced. 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 \$0.30-0.45, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15. NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 19-MAY-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	107-124	125

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

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
APRIL	12	154.0	154.3	100%	5.17
	19	146.2	154.5	95%	5.31
	26	155.2	156.2	99%	5.16
MAY	3	158.7	158.3	100%	5.09
	10	157.5	159.2	99%	5.20
	17	157.4	158.7	99%	5.25
YEAR TO DATE	3045.4	3085.4	99%		
MAY	24	158.4			
	31	158.0			

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	05/24/03	05/17/03	% CHG	05/25/02	% CHG
Broilers	157,619	155,533*	+01	159,868*	-01
Cattle	763	749	+02	705*	+08
Hogs	1,807	1,811	0	1,857*	-03

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were generally unchanged on both heavy and light cannery when compared to a week earlier. Demand ranged light to fair. Trading was very light on heavy cannery. Offerings were in close balance. The undertone was generally steady on heavy cannery; at least steady on lights.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 21-25 MAJORITY 23-23.5	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 28-35 MAJORITY 32-33
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CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 22-26.5 MAJORITY 25-25.5	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 30-37 MAJORITY 33.5-34.5
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LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION Removal values were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent hens were fully adequate for current trade needs. Demand was fair to moderate. Processing schedules were reported as less than normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-10	7-8

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Disposal values were viewed as at least unchanged compared to the past week. Offerings of light fowl were fully adequate with line time booked at most plants in advance. Finished sales were slow. Costs of removal were expected to rise as processing operations decline in number.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were unchanged to lower. Offerings continued fully adequate to ample with demand light to moderate. Processors in need of additional spent fowl were paying to have birds placed at their respective facilities. Opinions of value were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-8.75	8-8.75

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings irregular.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR
SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 26-MAY-03

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was no better than fair for the mostly fully adequate offerings. Movement of finished product was fair to moderate. Processing schedules for next week were reduced due to the holiday. The undertone was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report on negotiations for next week. Demand was fair for fully adequate offerings of heavy hens. Slaughter schedules were reduced for the holiday week. Finished sales were moderate. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.



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