



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices in the major terminal markets were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was seasonal light for first of month business. Food service demand was moderate with trading usually limited to regular suppliers. Floor stocks were at least sufficient for current needs. In the parts structure, breast items were fully adequate to ample but less burdensome than a day earlier. Dark meat was sufficient but clearing. Wings improved and were about sufficient for irregular needs. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights in a full range, but mostly desirable. Some week-end processing was planned.

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 10/06/03-10/10/03 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	53.00-56.00	53.00-65.00	56.11	23
Los Angeles	74.00			
New York	58.00-60.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	66.00-69.00	52.00-70.00	68.15	81

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 69.00 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.
904	64.17-71.25	68.82

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	210.00	1,391
BREASTS - B/S	185.00	5,042
BREASTS - WHOLE	92.50	1,758
THIGH MEAT - B/S	93.50	918
LEG QUARTERS	32.00	8,456
WINGS	86.50	2,969

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries were unchanged from Monday's final. Whole fryer market tone was steady to barely steady. Offerings were moderate to at times heavy with trade interest selective and cautious. Movement into all channels was mostly slow to moderate; slightly improved and occasionally fairly good into fast food for promotions. Floor stocks were in a full range with weights desirable to heavy. Buyer interest on parts remained limited and price sensitive as current inventories cover most trade needs. Supplies of all cuts were available with breast items in the longest position. The market tone was steady to firm on large wings, barely steady to weak on breast items and steady on the balance of parts.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was generally steady with early but limited prices in the major terminal markets reported as unchanged. Demand was fair but not aggressive for weekend business. Supplies were usually sufficient for full trade requirements. In the parts structure, all items were at least adequate or available with breast items often exceeding the demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at irregular but mostly desirable weights. Some processing was planned for the weekend.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last week. The market tone was about steady. Reported trading for next weeks' deliveries at unchanged to lower prices. Offerings were fully adequate to cover trade needs. Heavy

weights remained in the longest position. Retailer demand was moderate overall best for whole body and parts where features in progress. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Arizona – roasters 99, boneless breast 349, boneless thigh meat 199, split breast 179-279, thighs 99-129, drumsticks 99-129;

Colorado – roasters 75, boneless breast 379, boneless breast 2.5# bag IQF 600, boneless breast tenders 399, split breast 199, split breast 4# bag IQF 556, boneless thighs 199, boneless thighs 4# IQF 499, thighs 99-139, drumstick 99-139;

Northern California – whole body 69-149, whole body organic 229, whole cut-up 139, Cornish hen 149, boneless breast 199-399, boneless breast fillets 399, split breasts 129, wings 99, drumstick 99, thigh 99, leg quarters;

Southern California – whole body 69-119, whole cut-up 87-149, Cornish hen marinated 199, Cornish hen 99-199, roasters 149, boneless breast 187-499, boneless breast marinated 197, whole leg 98-99, leg quarters 77, leg quarters marinated 99, boneless leg meat 87-198, boneless leg meat marinated 199, split breast 97-159, thigh 77-169, drumstick 77-169, drumstick 5# bag 240,

(food service deli section fried – mixed 8 pieces 399).

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers increased slightly under normal demand entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes remained at least adequate for current needs, but were noted as better balanced. Movement through retail and distributive channels was lackluster. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least adequate but noted as less burdensome. Wings and tenderloins were sufficient. The balance of cuts were adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased entering the weekend and was sufficient in keeping seller offerings adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Live supplies were moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to light. Processor schedules were moderate and included limited operations on Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 60 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. Bone-in breasts were adequate and in a closer, better balance. Boneless skinless breasts remained available and slow to clear in several instances. Leg quarters were adequate and in manageable balance.

*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		59-74
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		63.22
NO. OF BOXES		9,843
CUMULATIVE	09/29/03-10/03/03	63.29
	09/30/02-10/04/02	48.10
NO. OF BOXES	09/29/03-10/03/03	40,330
	09/30/02-10/04/02	44,741

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

October 02

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

October 03

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	922	148.00-232.00	148-153	161.47	881	135.00-232.00	145-150	147.31	4,451	156.55
TENDERLOINS	225	170.00-217.00	170-175	175.68	225	165.00-217.00	165-168	175.52	1,077	175.90
BREAST - LINE RUN	85	85.00-96.00	-	90.12	107	85.00-96.00	86-88	88.46	547	89.89
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				330	77.15
LEGS	89	30.00-53.00	-	37.01	238	33.00-53.00	33-35	34.34	680	34.99
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	589	25.50-30.00	26-27	27.14	628	25.00-30.00	26-27	27.26	3,104	27.24
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,098	27.50-33.00	29-30	30.16	1,068	27.00-33.00	29-30	30.06	4,864	29.96
WINGS (WHOLE)	475	78.00-94.00	-	84.96	100	75.00-81.00	78-79	78.60	845	82.30
WINGS (CUT)	457	84.00-101.00	86-87	91.19	449	84.00-101.00	85-87	91.12	2,386	90.80
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				91	54.06
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				116	56.52
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				440	89.73
*****					*****					
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					
TRADING FOR OCTOBER 02, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.					TRADING FOR OCTOBER 03, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.					
	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u>				<u>RANGE</u>	<u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u>		<u>5-DAY AVERAGE</u>	
	49.75 - 55.00	51.82				46.50 - 52.50	50.08		52.25	

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 increased slightly under normal weekend draw, however, dealers remained cautious. Offerings of breasts items were at least adequate, but noted as less burdensome today. Dark meat cuts were clearing. Wings and tenderloins were adequate. Retail and distributive movement was about fair. The market tone was barely steady on breast items and no better than steady on the balance.

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

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	165-170	169.48	584,416	169.48	165-170	172.49	440,732	172.57	2,420,794	
TENDERLOINS	160-165	163.80	93,760	163.80	160-165	170.71	79,800	164.44	491,996	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	79-80	87.88	207,320	87.88	79-80	87.37	271,160	87.82	1,031,480	
BREAST - LINE RUN	79	81.32	127,800	81.32	79	81.78	153,600	82.24	722,400	
LEGS	38-39	38.84	222,160	38.84	38-39	38.30	210,040	38.32	1,130,320	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.94	403,917	28.94	28-29	28.17	368,577	28.47	1,694,551	
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	38.70	141,640	38.70	34-35	40.38	97,460	38.98	739,290	
THIGHS	28-29	39.24	50,600	39.24	28-29	39.45	81,920	38.96	297,040	
B/S THIGHS	84-85	86.71	100,000	86.71	84-85	87.51	44,680	85.95	376,660	
WINGS (WHOLE)	76-77	83.90	161,200	83.90	76-77	87.10	89,430	83.32	726,900	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.38	23,800	12.38	10-12	12.01	37,280	12.08	156,640	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.21	14,680	34.21	30-35	30.33	28,760	32.39	90,030	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	59.25	20,240	59.25	50-55	59.59	24,360	58.52	116,060	

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 WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	10/03	10/02	10/01	09/30	10/01	09/30	09/26	09/24	10/01	09/24
ALA	4,458	4,055	3,999	4,056	5.30	5.24	4,535	5.28	5.30	5.28
ARK	5,651	5,369	5,224	5,319	5.10	5.19	5,378	5.11	5.10	5.11
DELMARVA	2,210	2,331	2,310	2,345	5.47	5.47	2,974	5.44	5.47	5.44
KY-LA-TN	1,819	1,973	1,977	2,011	4.82	4.88	2,178	4.91	4.82	4.91
MISS	2,848	3,038	2,945	3,053	5.29	5.36	3,167	5.22	5.29	5.22
NC	2,195	2,271	2,125	2,239	5.87	6.07	3,625	6.28	5.87	6.28
TEXAS	2,291	2,389	2,521	2,460	5.05	5.14	2,489	5.00	5.05	5.00
TOTAL	21,472	21,426	21,101	21,483	5.25	5.31	24,346	5.30	5.25	5.30
MON-FRI	107,590(A)						109,938(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 03-Oct 03 and 4-Oct-03 is estimated to be 32,125,000 down 12.07 percent from a week ago and up 3.2 percent from a year ago. (Last week 36,534,000; last year 31,132,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 04-Oct-03 is estimated to be 156,242,000 head down 2 percent from a week ago, and down 2 percent from a year ago (Last week 160,024,000 Last year 159,097,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	101-103
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	100
ROASTERS 4# & UP	89-105
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	91
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	89-89
DUCKS	152-175

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 20-Sep-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	24,812	29,830	51,708
Avg Weight	3.82	4.79	6.14
% of total /1	23%	28%	49%

COMPARISONS

Last week	24,993	29,801	51,995
Avg Weight	3.85	4.78	6.17
% of total /1	23%	28%	49%
Same week, yr ago /2	25,551	20,798	52,410
Avg Weight	3.82	4.81	6.06
% of total /1	26%	21%	53%

To date/2003	890,884	900,674	1,713,839
To date/2002	995,280	845,944	1,580,400

/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 W/E 27-Sep-03 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	160,024	1,280	1,611	2,891	433
AVG WT	5.24	3.34	7.80	5.83	6.56
LAST WEEK	156,044	1,153	1,418	2,571	402
SAME WK YR AGO	157,307	1,832	1,556	3,388	400
AVG WT	5.09	3.32	7.81	5.38	6.44
TO-DATE/2003	5,983,277	57,707	54,658	112,365	16,088
TO-DATE/2002	6,057,898	68,351	54,462	122,813	16,506

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 159.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 162 million head or 2.6 million head more than or 102% of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: SEP 30, 2003
 PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.35ea.	Silkie 1.75 - 2.00ea.
Pekin Ducks	3.00 - 4.00ea.	Pigeons 1.85 - 2.10ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.40 - .55	White Pigeons 3.25 - 3.75ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.60 - .90	Rabbits 4-6 LBS .95 - 1.15
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.60 - .80	Rabbits 6-9 LBS .80 - 1.05
Crossbred Roasters 4-6 LBS	.70 - 1.00	Bunnies 1.00 - 3.50ea.
Crossbred Roasters 7-11 LBS	.60 - .80	Guinea Pigs 2.00 - 4.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	2.50ea.	Goats 20.00 - 29.00ea.
Banty Roasters	3.75 - 4.75ea.	Doves 3.00 - 5.25ea.
Banty Hens	2.50 - 3.00ea.	Pullets 4-6 LBS .75 - .90
Leghorn Hens	.10 - .12	Total Coops Sold 433
Leghorn Roasters	1.00 - 1.10	

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 29-SEP-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)	68.00-69.50	68.00-69.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65.00-86.50	68.00-75.00

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 steady. Demand was moderate to good. Schedules full-time. Weights were in the desirable range. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz. boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$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 29-SEP-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	107-124	125

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

WEEK ENDING	SLAUGHTERED MILLION HEAD	AVAILABLE MILLION HEAD	PCT	AVG WT
AUGUST 23	162.5	160.3	101%	5.19
30	164.1	157.2	104%	5.05
SEPTEMBER 6	138.7	156.1	89%	5.15
13	160.4	157.1	102%	5.18
20	157.9	158.4	100%	5.30
27	162.0	159.4	102%	5.24
YEAR TO DATE	6056.0	6123.4	99%	
OCTOBER 4		158.9		
11		158.6		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

W/E	10/04/03	09/27/03	% CHG	10/05/02	% CHG
Broilers	156,242,000	160,024*	-02	159,097*	-02
Cattle	653	681	-04	683*	-04
Hogs	2,049	1,999	+03	1,987*	+03

Under Federal Inspection

*ACTUAL

