



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Trade sentiment was barely steady in the West, steady in the East and Midwest. Retail demand and food service ranged light to moderate at best. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to handle current trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were at least adequate to available and competitively priced in some instances. Dark meat items were adequate to available, and wings were in good balance to close, often tight for larger cuts. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights in a full range, but mostly desirable.

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 10/13/03-10/17/03 (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	56.17	25
Los Angeles	74.00			
New York	58.00-60.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	65.00-69.00	50.00-69.50	67.84	79

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 68.75 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.
890	64.01-71.00	68.61

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	205.00	1,376
BREASTS - B/S	184.50	5,037
BREASTS - WHOLE	91.50	1,753
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.50	913
LEG QUARTERS	32.00	8,446
WINGS	89.50	2,964

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

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority delivered prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged form last Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was generally steady. Offerings of whole birds were light to moderate with trade interest light. Retail demand remained sluggish overall; light to moderate at best. Movement into food service accounts was irregular; mostly moderate and best into fast food promotions. Floor stocks were adequate to sometime long. Weights were desirable to heavy. In the parts sector interest remained fairly good on wings, limited on all other parts. Supplies of wings were tight to short of full buyer needs; boneless/skinless breasts were ample and sharply discounted, whole breasts sufficient, and dark meat cuts were available. The market tone was fully steady to firm on wings, weak on boneless/skinless breasts, barely steady on whole breasts and mostly steady on the dark meat cuts.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was no better than steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to mostly fair, best for fast food and feature activity. Supplies were fully sufficient for current trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were available. Wings were balanced to close and moving seasonally well. Dark meat items were clearing satisfactorily. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market was barely steady with trading for next week at mainly unchanged prices. Offerings fully adequate to ample. Retailer demand fair. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances.

Ads noted this week:

Arizona- wholebody 99, boneless breasts 349-399, IQF 3# 499, 2.5# 599, leg quarters 79, drums, wings, or thighs 89;

Northern California- wholebody 99, cut up 139, boneless breasts 279-499, organic 699, breasts 189, leg quarters 79-89, legs 99, drums, thighs, or wings 149;

Southern California- wholebody California grown 59-69, southern 57-99, cut up California 149, boneless breasts 167-399, marinated 549, IQF 3# 399, boneless thigh 79, IQF 4# 499, boneless leg 87-119, marinated 199, breasts 99-199, leg quarters 29-89, 10# bag 420, marinated 59-99, wings 87-119, IQF 4# 599, thighs 77-99, drums 69-99, 10# bag 390, IQF 4# 299, roaster 149, cornish 199, 1999/12 pack, gizzards 69;

Deli- Rotisserie/roasted 359-478 ea., fried 8 pc. 399-499.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers increased slightly and was mostly moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes were adequate for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items were readily available. Tenderloins were fully adequate. Dark meat cuts were sufficient. Wings were tightly balanced.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to good and continued to keep seller offerings in good balance to well cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderately heavy when combined with operations planned for Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 60 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was at least steady. Wings were in short supply. Breast items were readily available. Leg cuts were irregularly balanced: some plants noted well cleared supplies, particularly on leg quarters and thighs, while others were fully adequate.

*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	57-71
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	64.24
NO. OF BOXES	8,612
CUMULATIVE	10/06/03-10/10/03 63.54
	10/07/02-10/11/02 48.68
NO. OF BOXES	10/06/03-10/10/03 40,683
	10/07/02-10/11/02 43,547

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

October 09

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

October 10

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	858	137.00-230.00	139-143	142.19	878	140.00-230.00	145-149	147.29	3,939	146.72
TENDERLOINS	232	160.00-217.00	160-162	166.39	235	150.00-217.00	150-158	162.22	927	169.24
BREAST - LINE RUN	110	78.00-96.00	79-81	81.18	115	80.00-96.00	82-85	83.57	595	86.31
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				250	73.52
LEGS	103	33.00-52.00	33-35	36.03	106	33.00-52.00	33-35	34.66	538	35.66
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	604	25.50-30.00	26-27	26.54	628	24.00-30.00	26-27	26.55	2,887	26.58
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,025	28.00-33.00	29-31	30.31	1,105	27.00-33.00	29-30	29.68	5,496	30.00
WINGS (WHOLE)	136	80.00-93.00	-	84.82	96	80.00-86.00	-	82.19	532	81.46
WINGS (CUT)	661	85.00-103.00	-	93.30	453	85.00-105.00	-	93.08	2,700	93.01
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				70	50.89
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				155	53.39
B/S THIGHS	88	80.00-98.00	-	86.55	85	82.00-98.00	-	87.18	448	89.44

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
 TRADING FOR OCTOBER 09, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
47.25 - 52.50	49.68	46.00 - 51.50	48.71	49.96

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 under normal demand entering the weekend, however, dealers remained cautious. Offerings of breast items remained available. Legs and leg quarters were at least sufficient. Wings continued to clear well. Tenderloins were fully adequate. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on wings, barely steady on breast items and about 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 AVG**	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	VOL/LBS	WTD		TRADING*	VOL/LBS	WTD		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	160-165	605,960	162.15	160	513,440	163.02	163.72	2,641,487		
TENDERLOINS	150-155	125,240	158.78	150	124,460	163.75	159.29	573,300		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	77-78	248,840	83.62	77-78	329,120	84.15	84.90	1,230,890		
BREAST - LINE RUN	77	129,200	77.52	77	90,800	79.22	80.07	612,680		
LEGS	38-39	188,720	39.94	38-39	277,080	37.41	38.34	1,264,720		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	781,468	29.04	28-29	451,567	28.57	28.71	2,551,984		
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	133,900	38.42	34-35	137,840	38.93	38.72	698,950		
THIGHS	28-29	72,870	37.43	28-29	71,280	40.23	38.61	346,750		
B/S THIGHS	84-85	98,600	85.86	84-85	75,840	85.58	86.72	393,630		
WINGS (WHOLE)	77-78	207,150	86.97	78-79	165,280	86.25	84.87	742,620		
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	42,520	12.38	10-12	30,680	12.12	12.15	185,120		
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	14,880	32.03	30-35	13,280	36.03	34.65	68,035		
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	20,600	59.28	50-55	30,240	61.29	59.72	136,340		

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	
	10/10	10/09	10/08	10/07	10/08	10/07	10/03	10/01	10/01	
ALA	4,139	4,014	4,004	4,046	5.29	5.33	4,413	5.30		
ARK	4,956	5,357	5,334	5,329	5.09	5.12	5,528	5.10		
DELMARVA	2,583	2,306	2,277	2,343	5.50	5.51	2,188	5.47		
KY-LA-TN	1,764	1,989	2,013	1,900	5.01	4.97	1,838	4.82		
MISS	2,655	3,033	2,880	3,110	5.44	5.42	2,832	5.29		
NC	2,444	2,392	2,323	2,323	6.17	6.13	2,560	5.87		
TEXAS	2,439	2,473	2,494	2,489	5.02	5.10	2,452	5.05		
TOTAL	20,980	21,564	21,325	21,540	5.32	5.34	21,811	5.25		

MON-FRI107,045(A) 107,462(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 10-Oct 03 and 11-Oct-03 is estimated to be 31,388,000 down 4.10 percent from a week ago and down 2.6 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,730,000; last year 32,237,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 11-Oct-03 is estimated to be 155,828,000 head down 2 percent from a week ago, and down 1 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 158,247,000 Last year 158,073,000)

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

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

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 27-Sep-03 (Preliminary),

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

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	18,785	26,724	33,161
Avg Weight	3.60	4.56	6.04
% of total /1	24%	34%	42%

COMPARISONS

Last week	24,812	29,830	51,708
Avg Weight	3.82	4.79	6.14
% of total /1	23%	28%	49%
Same week, yr ago /2	27,768	25,056	43,101
Avg Weight	3.88	4.85	6.10
% of total /1	29%	26%	45%

To date/2003	909,669	927,398	1,747,000
To date/2002	1,023,048	871,000	1,623,501

/1May 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 04-Oct-03 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	158,247	1,346	1,444	2,790	435
AVG WT	4.99	3.56	8.10	5.91	6.77
LAST WEEK	160,024	1,280	1,611	2,891	433
SAME WK YR AGO	159,097	1,892	1,622	3,514	391
AVG WT	5.11	3.64	7.94	5.62	6.50
TO-DATE/2003	6,141,524	59,053	56,102	115,155	16,523
TO-DATE/2002	6,216,995	70,243	56,084	126,327	16,897

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 160.2 million head or 1.3 million head more than or 101% of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: OCT 07, 2003

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.90 - 1.05	Silkie 1.50 - 2.00ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.90 - 1.00	Geese 9-14 lbs. .50 - .55
Pekin Ducks	3.00 - 3.50ea.	Pigeons 1.75 - 2.10ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 lbs.	.50 - .70	White Pigeons 3.00 - 3.25ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 lbs.	.70 - .95	Rabbits 4-6 lbs. .90 - 1.15
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.70 - .90	Rabbits 6-9 lbs. .80 - 1.00
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 lbs.	.90 - 1.05	Bunnies 2.50 - 7.50ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 lbs.	.60 - .90	Guinea Pigs 5.00 - 7.75ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.20 - 1.35	Goats 31.00 - 35.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.75 - 4.00ea.	Kid Goats 17.00 - 21.00ea.
Banty Hens	1.75 - 2.00ea.	Doves 4.00 - 5.50ea.
Leghorn Roosters	1.25ea.	Total Coops Sold 307

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 06-OCT-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	140	146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

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 remained unchanged. Trade sentiment mostly steady. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Schedules full-time. Weights desirable. 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 06-OCT-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

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

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
AUGUST	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
OCTOBER	4 160.2	158.9	101%	4.99
YEAR TO DATE	6216.2	6282.3	99%	
OCTOBER	11 158.6			
	18 158.1			

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	10/11/03	10/04/03	% CHG	10/12/02	% CHG
Broilers	155,828	158,247*	-02	158,073*	-01
Cattle	640	653	-02	706*	-08
Hogs	2,081	2,049	0	2,020*	0
*ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majortiy prices were unchanged on both heavy and light canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair but generally unaggressive. Trading was light. Offerings were sufficient for trade needs. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-25 MAJORITY 23-23.75	29-36 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
22-27 MAJORITY 25.5-26	31.5-38 MAJORITY 35-37

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 LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent fowl were at least adequate to fully adequate for current trade needs. Demand was mostly moderate. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	9-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate availability of light hens. Finished sales were fair. Opinions of salvage costs were expected to remain unchanged.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING		TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values ranged unchanged to higher when compared to last week. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with many spent hens going into sources other than traditional slaughter operations. Demand was moderate to good. Opinions of value were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	8-12	10-12

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked moderate schedules. Offerings adequate.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR
SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 10-OCT-03

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was fair for the at least adequate offerings. Supplies of finished product was clearing satisfactorily and was generally sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were reduced in some instances. 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. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Finished sales were moderate. Schedules were normal. 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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