



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was overall mostly steady. Demand covered the full range, mostly slow to moderate, best for retail ads and fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair. Breast items were fully adequate to ample and frequently discounted to move. Wings were balanced to tight and steadily clearing, and dark meat was better balanced to 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 declined .25 to 68.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.00 cents last year on October 16, 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	202.50
BREASTS - B/S	181.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	89.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.00
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	90.50

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

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was light to fair, best for active retail ads and fast food promotions. Supplies were usually sufficient to handle current trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was fair to moderate. Breast items were at least adequate with discounting reported to help move product. Wings were close to tight and continued to clear well, and dark meat was in good balance and also moving well. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was noted as fair to moderate during midweek trading. Offerings were generally sufficient for current needs with normal premiums noted. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items remained readily available. Dark meat cuts were better balanced and wings were clearing well.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer market tone was about steady. Offerings of whole birds were light to moderate for a cautious trade interest. Retail and food service demand was light to fair for the most part; instances fairly good for retail features in the Chicago area and fast food promotions. Retail features noted on whole fryers at 99 and 69 cents, boneless/skinless breasts at \$2.99 and \$1.89, and drums and thighs at 99 cents. Floor stocks were closely balanced to at times long. Weights were mostly desirable. Trading on parts was moderate to fairly good on wings, and limited on all other items as buyers remain cautious and price sensitive. Supplies of wings were closely balanced with all other items available. The market tone was fully steady to firm on wings, barely steady with a weak undertone on breast cuts, and steady on dark meat items.

WESTERN The market tone was about steady. Offerings were ample to cover the fair buyers' interest. Buying activity was cautious. Retailer demand was fair where picketers and labor disputes continued to disrupt regular activities, elsewhere fairly good. Floor stocks fully adequate overall. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak on breasts fully steady to firm on wings, and balance of parts generally steady.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 10/11/03		PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
	2003	2002	
EGGS SET	197,141	192,080	+03
CHICKS PLACED	157,502	154,082	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 197 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 11, 2003. This was up 3 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 UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 158 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 11, 2003. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 11, 2003 were 6.87 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 22-Nov-03 is estimated at 145.8 million head. This compares to 148.4 million head the previous week and to 146.2 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 151.5 million head and the composite weighted average price was 53.31 cents per pound.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

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 (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	850	143.00-224.00	143-147	146.86
TENDERLOINS	222	150.00-215.00	150-155	160.23
BREAST - LINE RUN	115	82.00-94.00	83-85	84.43
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	128	32.00-52.00	33-35	35.52
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	619	26.00-30.00	26-27	26.62
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,050	27.00-33.00	29-30	29.35
WINGS (WHOLE)	131	80.00-86.00	-	82.67
WINGS (CUT)	538	88.00-108.00	-	96.62
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS	85	80.00-98.00	-	87.76

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR MAY 28, 2003 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
48.00 - 52.50	49.90	49.44

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 was generally fair during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were available at discounted levels. Legs and leg quarters were clearing well. Wings were balanced. Retail movement was moderate to fairly good as chicken remains competitively priced and is the preferred promotional item. Distributive draw was fair. The market tone was cautiously steady on breast items; steady to fully steady on dark meat cuts and wings.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	CURRENT NEGOTIATED TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOLUME /LBS
BREAST - B/S	160	159.16	561,240
TENDERLOINS	150	152.48	133,680
BREAST - WITH RIBS	77-78	82.16	296,840
BREAST - LINE RUN	77	77.27	189,160
LEGS	38-39	38.60	272,480
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.87	322,777
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	38.34	136,900
THIGHS	28-29	37.60	82,050
B/S THIGHS	84-85	87.03	75,920
WINGS (WHOLE)	79-80	83.57	149,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.94	41,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	38.04	10,245
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	64.28	38,200

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	
	10/15	10/14	10/13	10/10	10/13	10/10	10/08	10/06
ALA	4,137	4,066	3,999	4,600	5.29	5.06	4,004	5.36
ARK	5,358	5,417	5,291	5,365	5.17	4.99	5,334	5.18
DELMARVA	2,341	2,295	2,287	2,639	5.60	5.65	2,277	5.55
KY-LA-TN	1,999	2,013	1,986	1,942	4.98	4.86	2,013	4.95
MISS	2,966	3,141	3,056	2,667	5.51	5.42	2,880	5.51
NC	2,357	2,442	2,252	2,449	6.34	6.26	2,323	6.17
TEXAS	2,514	2,508	2,464	2,554	5.08	4.76	2,494	5.18
TOTAL	21,672	21,882	21,335	22,216	5.38	5.24	21,325	5.38
MON-WED	65,164(A)				64,261(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 10/15 is estimated to be 32,424,000 up 1.3 percent from a week ago and up 6.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,000,000; last year 30,527,000)

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

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 18-OCT-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	10/18/03 (1)	THOUSAND HEAD	10/11/03	
BRO-FRY	164,678 (2)		165,389	
LT HENS	1,268		1,376	
HVY HENS	1,425		1,493	
CHECK TOTAL	167,371		168,258	

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 18-Oct-03 is 158.1 million head compared to 156.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 165.0 million head or 6.9 million more than estimated available. For week of 25-Oct-03 the estimated available is 158.3 million head.

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

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 10/13/03	200,892		47,795	
AM 10/01/03	205,956		49,344	
CHG	-5,064		-1,549	
PCT CHG	-2		-3	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	10/13/03	10/06/03	10/14/02	10/13/03	10/06/03	10/14/02
PACIFIC COAST	15,633	15,636	23,146	4,605	4,734	4,511
LOS ANGELES	441	451	1,457	2,227	2,358	4,006

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 OCTOBER 13, 2003

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE	
		59-65	64-76
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

	FOR 10/14/03			FOR 10/14/03		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	.80	.46	HEAVY FOWL ea.	1.50	3.50
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	3.00
BANTAMS lb.	-	.60	.60	BANTAMS ea.	.50	6.75
BROILERS lb.	.50	.60	.53	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.05	.20
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	5.00	7.00
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	2.25
ROOSTERS lb.	.50	1.70	1.06	ROOSTERS ea.	1.00	7.00
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	10.00
DUCKS lb.	.30	1.00	.63	DUCKS ea.	3.25	8.00
RABBITS lb.	.30	1.30	1.06	RABBITS ea.	-	.50
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.00	4.25
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	2.25	5.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	5.00
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	134					

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending October 10, 2003

	Whole Chickens		Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Back Livers/ & Wings	Gizzards	Livers/ Hens
		Breasts				
RAYON						
Low	38.64	105.75	61.01	12.20	12.20	40.67
High	44.74	113.89	69.14	16.27	16.27	40.67
Mostly	40.67	113.89	69.14	16.27	16.27	40.67
SAN JUAN						
Low	38.64	105.75	61.01	12.20	12.20	38.64
High	42.71	113.89	69.14	16.27	16.27	38.64
Mostly	40.67	105.75	61.01	12.20	12.20	38.64
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	38.64	105.75	61.01	12.20	12.20	40.67
High	42.71	113.89	69.14	16.27	16.27	40.67
Mostly	40.67	105.75	65.08	12.20	16.27	40.67
BECERRA						
Low	38.64	105.75	61.01	12.20	12.20	40.67
High	42.71	113.89	69.14	16.27	16.27	40.67
Mostly	40.67	113.89	69.14	16.27	16.27	40.67

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to moderate at best. Seller offerings were adequate and in fairly good balance. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 60 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, breasts items were readily available and competitively priced in many instances in an effort to stimulate additional buyer interest. Supplies of wings varied from adequate to well cleared. Leg cuts were adequate at some plants, short at others.

*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	63.38
NO. OF BOXES	8,803

*8 of 8 plants reporting.



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