



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were higher in the East and trending unchanged in the West and Midwest when compared to Monday's values. Trade sentiment was steady at prevailing prices entering the holiday weekend, but traders were closely watching further market developments. Demand into all channels was seasonally light with interest usually on holiday items. Supplies of whole product were sufficient for most trade needs. Processing schedules for this week are part time with plants down one or two days in observance of the holiday. In the parts structure, movement was light and selective, and usually limited to regular commitments. Best movement and clearance was on wings. Mixed interest and availability was noted on bone-in breast. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged 69.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 61.75 cents last year on December 24, 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	198.50
BREASTS - B/S	168.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	88.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	93.00
LEG QUARTERS	30.50
WINGS	104.00

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

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady in the West and Midwest, but slightly stronger in the East. Immediate demand was usually on holiday items, but the interest for the weekend and early next week is improving. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs. Trucks remain short of requirements for the holiday, but some shippers are anticipation that next week's availability will improve. In the parts structure, bone-in breast were available, b/s breast were fully sufficient. Wings were well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights. Processing schedules were noted as reduced for both current and next week.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was noted as seasonally fair entering the holiday. Offerings of 3 pound birds were tight and the balance of weights were closely cleared as scheduled down time had moved product into a much closer balance. Movement through retail and distributive channels was mostly fair to moderate at best. The market tone was firm. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were ample and boneless-skinless breasts were available. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were in very good balance.

MIDWEST Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged from Monday's final. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers remained generally steady. Offerings were very limited for a mostly inactive trade interest. Movement into retail and food service channels was light to moderate. Floor stocks were well cleared to long with delivery schedule adjustments due to holiday. Weights were mostly desirable. Parts trade was generally flat due to tight trucking availability and limited trade needs. Offerings were very light. The market tone was generally steady on all items.

WESTERN The preliminary majority prices for next week unchanged from last Friday. Limited early trading noted for next week's deliveries and at generally unchanged prices. Offerings were adequate to cover immediate needs. Due to the holiday processors worked limited slaughter schedules. Retailer demand was light to moderate, best for parts. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was about steady on parts with bone-in breast in the weakest position.

Ads noted are in affect through December 25 (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Arizona – cornish hen 169, boneless breast 349, boneless breast 2.5# bag IQF 699-799, boneless breast 3# bag IQF 699-999, (deli food service – fried 12 piece mixed 699);

Colorado – roasters 99, Cornish hens 169, boneless breast 199-399;

Northern California – whole legs 119;

Southern California – whole body 58-79, whole seasoned 99, Cornish hen 12 count case 1899, roaster 98-119, boneless breast 189-198, split breast 119-127, boneless leg meat 99-129, thighs 89-99, drumsticks 89-99, drumsticks 5# bag 295, leg quarters 8# bag 384, leg quarters 10# bag 350-490, ground chicken 269, gizzards 77-149, (deli food service – fried 8 piece mixed 399, whole rotisserie chicken each 398-478).

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 12/20/03	2003	2002
EGGS SET	206,340	200,056
CHICKS PLACED	170,156	164,898
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		+03
		+03

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 206 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 20, 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 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 170 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 20, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through December 20, 2003 were 8.48 billion, down slightly 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 30-Jan-04 is estimated at 155.1 million head. This compares to 154.0 million head the previous week and to 154.2 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 153.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 60.13 cents per pound.

DEC 23 **SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS** DEC 24
 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 AVG	POUNDS			WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY		(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	862	132.00-223.00	135-136	135.44	692	132.00-223.00	135-137	136.55	2,376	135.55
TENDERLOINS	213	140.00-216.00	140-147	151.00	108	140.00-216.00	-	154.89	544	151.70
BREAST - LINE RUN	86	80.00-93.00	82-84	84.30		TOO FEW TO REPORT			214	82.85
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT			170	79.50
LEGS	96	35.00-50.00	36-37	36.80	103	35.00-50.00	36-37	37.72	330	36.67
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	402	25.00-29.00	25-26	25.51	550	25.00-29.00	25-26	25.58	1,517	25.56
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,135	29.00-33.00	29-31	30.02	1,095	29.00-33.00	29-31	29.88	3,100	29.93
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	99.00-107.00	-	101.31	241	99.00-107.00	99-102	101.82	831	101.45
WINGS (CUT)	470	110.00-119.00	112-115	113.57	293	110.00-118.00	110-115	112.18	1,131	113.02
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT			42	53.86
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT			84	54.14
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT			315	89.19

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR DEC 23, 2003 -- FOB DOCK

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR DEC 24, 2003 -- FOB DOCK

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
50.50 - 55.50	52.16	50.50 - 56.00	52.98	52.61

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 to fair at best dealers attempted to enter the holiday with closely cleared floor stocks. Bone-in breasts remained ample and discounted in an attempt to clean up excess product. Boneless-skinless breasts were fully adequate. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were in very good balance. Retail and distributive interest was limited as traditional items remained the focal point of the market. The market tone was fully steady on wings, cautious on breast items and about steady on the balance.

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

DEC 23	CURRENT NEG	WTD	DEC 24
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145	146.38	615,670
TENDERLOINS	145	141.93	109,440
BREAST - WITH RIBS	74-75	83.17	172,400
BREAST - LINE RUN	74	71.87	130,920
LEGS	38-39	37.88	426,678
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30	29.45	503,907
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	39.73	148,040
THIGHS	35-36	40.43	90,800
B/S THIGHS	85-86	86.27	83,000
WINGS (WHOLE)	93-94	102.59	102,000
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	27,000
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	36.56	20,495
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	68.17	27,860

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	
	12/24	12/23	12/22	12/19	12/22	12/19	12/17	12/15
ALA	1,983	3,994	4,009	4,385	5.18	5.23	3,676	5.26
ARK	2,425	5,383	5,315	5,504	5.08	4.82	5,199	5.15
DELMARVA	1,172	2,300	2,317	2,059	5.54	5.43	1,679	5.61
KY-LA-TN	1,074	2,013	2,030	1,822	4.96	4.66	1,980	5.01
MISS	1,911	2,994	3,037	2,613	5.47	5.35	2,710	5.38
NC	1,221	2,443	2,431	2,775	6.29	6.25	2,236	6.37
TEXAS	2,423	2,461	2,481	2,466	5.00	4.82	1,943	4.87
TOTAL	12,209	21,588	21,620	21,624	5.32	5.20	19,423	5.34

MON-WED 55,401(A) 61,265(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12/24 is estimated to be 18,266,000 down 37.3 percent from a week ago and no data comparison due to holiday from a year ago. (Last week: 29,146,000; Last year: 0)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	91-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP	81-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY		
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	101-103
	ICE PACK	99-100
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	89-105
	ICE PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 27-Dec-03

CLASS	Current Week	Previous Week
	12/27/03(1)	12/20/03
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	116,078(2)	169,762
LT HENS	820	1,461
HVY HENS	698	1,510
TOTAL	117,596	172,733

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Dec-03 is 145.8 million head compared to 109.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 116.3 million head or 29.5 million less than estimated available. For week of 03-Jan-04 the estimated available is 147.1 million head.

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 DECEMBER 24, 2003

HENS		RANGE
	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	58-60
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	59-69

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

		TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM	12/22/03	114,020	43,979
AM	12/01/03	110,555	45,473
CHG		3465	-1494
PCT CHG		3%	-3%

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/22/03	12/15/03	12/23/02	12/22/03	08/19/03	08/27/02
PACIFIC COAST	10,866	10,959	77,045	3,501	5,344	4,852
LOS ANGELES	401	398	678	1,714	3,693	3,659

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

	LO			HI			AVG		
	LO	HI	AVG	LO	HI	AVG	LO	HI	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.50	.75	.66	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.70	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	.60	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	2.75	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	.40	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.00	3.75	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	9.00	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	1.00	1.30	1.14	ROOSTERS ea.	3.25	4.00	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	.40	.60	.48	GEESE ea.	-	-	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.60	.65	.62	TURKEYS ea.	-	8.00	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.50	1.55	1.28	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	1.10	1.60	1.29	RABBITS ea.	1.00	5.25	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.75	3.50	-	-	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	4.00	6.00	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	2.50	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-						
TOTAL COOPS	87								

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending August 23, 2003

	Whole		Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/	Hens
	Chickens	Breasts	W/Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	
RAYON						
Low	49.34	113.25	72.80	8.09	12.13	46.51
High	50.96	121.34	80.89	16.18	16.18	46.51
Mostly	50.15	113.25	80.89	12.13	12.13	46.51
SAN JUAN						
Low	48.54	105.16	72.80	8.09	12.13	44.49
High	50.56	113.25	80.89	12.13	16.18	44.49
Mostly	49.75	113.25	80.89	12.13	12.13	44.49
NEW SAN						
Low	48.94	113.25	72.80	8.09	12.13	44.49
High	50.96	121.34	80.89	16.18	16.18	44.49
Mostly	50.15	113.25	80.89	12.13	12.13	44.49
BECERRA						
Low	49.34	113.25	72.80	8.09	12.13	46.51
High	50.96	121.34	80.89	16.18	16.18	46.51
Mostly	50.15	113.25	80.89	12.13	12.13	46.51

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light, instances fair, and about as expected preceeding the upcoming holiday period. Offerings were adequate to well cleared and in the tighter balance on the larger sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were very light as most planned to close early. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher at 63 to 72 cents. Trade sentiment was at least steady. Bone-in breasts remained slow in clearing. Boneless/skinless breasts were fully adequate. Wings were in good balance. Other cuts were generally noted as 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		61-78
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		65.22
NO. OF BOXES		9,593
*7 of 7 plants reporting.		

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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 12/29/03-01/02/04 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
(Including branded product)				
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	56.00-59.00	56.00-68.00	58.92	24
Los Angeles	74.00			
New York	62.00-64.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	68.00-69.50	56.00-70.00	68.37	65

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.
767	64.31-72.50		68.92
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:			
	WTD. AVG.	VOLUME	
ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	(000 POUNDS)	
LINE RUN TENDERS	202.50	1,111	
BREASTS - B/S	170.50	4,499	
BREASTS - WHOLE	89.00	1,235	
THIGH MEAT - B/S	93.00	836	
LEG QUARTERS	30.50	6,262	
WINGS	103.50	2,433	

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

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 Values were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent fowl were no better than adequate for processing schedules that were less than normal due to holiday schedules. Demand was fair to moderate. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	10-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of light fowl. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were slow. Salvage costs were expected to remain constant.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Prices ranged unchanged to lower. Demand was light to moderate as processors adjusted schedules due to the upcoming holidays. Offerings were generally adequate. Opinions of value were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12.5	10-12.25

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants worked seasonally light slaughter schedules. Offerings in fair balance with needs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

Under Federal Inspection

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	12/27/03	12/20/03	% CHG	12/21/02	% CHG
Broilers	103,492	154,431*	-33	107,976*	-04
Cattle	448	637	-30	521*	-14
Hogs	1,563	2,225	-30	1,567*	0

*ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged on both light and heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate. Trading was light. Available offerings were clearing satisfactorily. Processing schedules for next week were less than normal due to holiday schedules. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-25.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24.5	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)
23-27 MAJORITY 26	31.5-38 MAJORITY 35.5-37.5

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 29 -DEC-03

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices.

Demand was moderate for the about adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were reduced due to holiday schedules. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. 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 supplies of spent hens. Finished sales were only fair. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS December 26, 2003.

	CURRENT NEG TRADING	WTD AVG**	WTD VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	WEEKLY VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145	146.76	341,680	147.15	1,897,990
TENDERLOINS	145	145.64	63,360	144.48	399,390
BREAST - W/ RIBS 74-75	74.84	234,440	79.51	654,400	
BREAST - LINE RUN 74	74.35	76,520	72.95	394,800	
LEGS 38-39	38.01	293,680	37.86	1,332,878	
LEG QRTRS (BULK)29-30	30.85	382,228	29.75	1,644,314	
DRUMSTICKS 36-37	41.69	120,720	39.73	489,400	
THIGHS 35-36	42.19	69,160	41.15	278,680	
B/S THIGHS 85-86	87.68	43,960	87.10	252,000	
WINGS (WHOLE) 94-95	105.88	73,880	101.49	466,760	
BACKS & NECKS 10-12	12.03	32,200	12.05	142,320	
LIVERS (5 LB TUBS)35-40	36.95	17,880	37.00	70,495	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)60-65	69.51	18,400	69.06	89,040	

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: DEC 23, 2003

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE	RANGE
Pekin Ducks	2.00 - 3.00ea.	Silkie 2.00ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.50 - .60	Pigeons 2.00 - 2.25ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.60 - .90	White Pigeons 3.50 - 3.85ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.60 - .80	Rabbits 4-6 LBS 1.30 - 1.40
Crossbred Roosters		Rabbits 6-9 LBS 1.20 - 1.30
4-6 LBS	.60 - .70	Bunnies 3.50 - 5.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters		Guinea Pigs 4.00 - 7.00ea.
7-11 LBS	.60 - .75	Goats 25.00 - 35.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.50 - 1.90	
Banty Roosters	3.50 - 4.00ea.	Total Coops Sold 220
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.25ea.	

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	<u>ESTIMATED</u>		<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>AVG WT</u>		<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>AVG WTS</u>
	12/26	12/25	12/24	12/23	12/24	12/23	12/19	12/17
ALA	4,571	Holiday	1,575	3,966	4.85	5.21	4,385	5.30
ARK	5,258	Holiday	2,258	5,155	4.77	4.93	5,504	5.07
DELMARVA	2,377	Holiday	1,035	2,304	5.29	5.51	2,059	5.59
KY-LA-TN	1,769	Holiday	991	2,037	4.56	4.85	1,822	4.94
MISS	2,783	Holiday	1,858	2,937	4.80	5.45	2,613	5.11
NC	2,929	Holiday	1,221	2,443	6.25	6.25	2,775	6.32
TEXAS	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	2,481	Holiday	5.00	2,466	4.68
TOTAL	19,687	Holiday	8,938	21,323	5.03	5.27	21,624	5.26
MON-FRI	75,088(A)						63,852(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 26-Dec 03 and 27-Dec-03 is estimated to be 29,454,000 down 9.23 percent from a week ago and down 25.3 percent from a year ago. (Last week 32,449,000; last year 39,455,000) Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 27-Dec-03 is estimated to be 103,492,000 head down 33 percent from a week ago, and down -4 from a year ago (Last week 154,431,000 Last year 107,976,000)

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was good with extra interest being generated by holiday sales. Schedules reduced this week. Weights were desirable. 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 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 22-DEC-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 22-DEC-2003

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH	ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	140	146	MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY			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)	72.00-75.50	74.00-75.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65.00-85.50	69.00-75.50

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

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 13-Dec-03 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
Head	25,306	29,485	42,058
Avg Weight	3.69	4.46	6.49
% of total /1	26%	30%	43%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	22,550	30,305	43,864
Avg Weight	3.78	4.77	6.21
% of total /1	23%	31%	45%
Same week, yr ago /2	18,360	17,535	36,372
Avg Weight	3.70	4.74	6.26
% of total /1	25%	24%	50%
To date/2003	1,166,115	1,209,634	2,216,919
To date/2002	1,269,843	1,117,090	2,052,611

/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 20-Dec-03 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	THOUSANDS				
HEAD	154,431	1,340	1,509	2,849	440
AVG WT	5.34	3.72	7.84	5.90	7.08
LAST WEEK	153,501	1,379	1,292	2,671	453
SAME WK YR AGO	152,854	1,782	1,442	3,224	434
AVG WT	5.07	3.37	7.60	5.26	6.6
TO-DATE/2003	7,819,202	71,977	71,311	143,288	21,092
TO-DATE/2002	7,878,649	88,473	72,137	160,610	21,251

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 147.8 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 156.3 million head or 8.5 million head more than or 106% of estimated fryers available.

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

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
NOVEMBER	15	159	105%	5.3
	22	153.1	103%	5.25
	29	119.8	80%	5.35
DECEMBER	6	156.8	104%	5.45
	13	155.4	103%	5.23
	20	156.3	106%	5.34
YEAR TO DATE	7914.3	7967.6	99%	
DECEMBER	27	145.8		
JANUARY	3	147.1		