



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 29, 2003  
VOL. 50 NO. 154

ISSN 1522-0567

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were higher in the East, unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady, instances firm in the East, steady in the remaining areas. Retail demand was light to fair, but optimism was noted due to upcoming first of the month activity. Food service covered the full range, but was mostly moderate. Supplies were usually sufficient to at times well cleared. Processing schedules for this week remained part time due to the New Years holiday. In the parts structure, movement was light to fair. Breast items were at least adequate with some discounting, dark meat was readily available, and wings were balanced to tight and clearing. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy weights.

**Final report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 12/29/03-01/02/04 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
	<b>Delivered to First Receivers</b>				
Bos/New Eng	62.00-65.00	63.73	15	62.65	32
Chicago	56.00-59.00	59.29	38	61.24	74
Ohio Cities	TFEWR	—	—	61.84	28
Denver	73.50	73.50	12	71.89	14
Detroit	58.00-60.00	60.50	12	63.76	38
Los Angeles	74.00	71.92	60	70.61	134
New York	62.00-64.00	62.57	23	63.21	53
Philadelphia	61.50-63.00	62.36	11	60.72	23
Pittsburgh	62.00-64.00	63.08	12	64.78	59
St. Louis	58.50	58.66	23	59.22	54
San Francisco	74.50	73.26	31	76.68	62

### Composite Weighted Average

Loads	12/29/03	Change/Last Wk	12/22/03	12/30/02
571	65.57	-0.16	65.73	58.22

**WOG BROILERS** (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delv'd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AV	LOADS
East	63.00-64.00	63.79	32
Central	58.00-66.50	63.88	70
West	60.00-66.00	64.46	36

### Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	68.00-69.50	68.37	65
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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 69.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
908	56.00-72.50	67.51

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POU)
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.

**NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to moderate entering the week. Offerings of all sizes were in good balance with normal premiums noted. Retail and distributive movement was about fair. The market tone was steady to fully steady, instances firm. In the parts complex, breast items were available at discounted levels. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were tightly balanced.

**SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Post holiday demand was light with pipelines being filled and markets being assessed; however, interest is expected to improve for first of the month. Supplies were in balance for trade needs, instances closer balanced with schedules maintaining a part time status due to the New Years holiday. In the parts structure, supplies were in good balance or available for the light to fair demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Final majority prices were unchanged from last Monday. Reported prices on trading for this week's deliveries unchanged on regular commitments and unchanged to higher on new negotiations. Buying activity increased to cover planned features. Retailer demand was moderate to fairly good. Dealers reported moderate weekend carryovers. Trading reported on parts for this week's delivery: leg quarters bulk 29.5-32.5 and 4/10s 32.5-39, drumsticks 8/5s 41-42, breast bone-in 79-88 and boneless 132-144, wings 101-105. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was 62.18 up .88 with the volume reported at 28 loads up 4 percent from last week.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER** Final majority prices were unchanged compared to previous week. Ohio cities TFEWR. Whole fryer trade sentiment was mostly steady. Offerings were sufficient for light trade interest. Retail demand light to fair but expected to improve for first of the month activity. Food service was moderate to good in Chicago, otherwise light to fair. Floor stocks were adequate to fully adequate. Weights were desirable to instances heavy. Supplies of parts were adequate for the limited demand. The market tone was steady on all parts.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was mostly fair. Seller offerings were adequate to well cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 63 to 72 cents. Trade sentiment was at least steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate to closely cleared mainly on leg items. Breast items were generally noted as at least 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	
	12/29/2003	12/26/2003 12/25/2003
RANGE	61-74	61-73
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	65.75	64.30
NO. OF BOXES	8,779	5,097
CUMULATIVE		
12/22/03-12/26/03		64.57
12/23/02-12/27/02		55.66
12/22/03-12/26/03		32,005
12/23/02-12/27/02		30,980

\*7 of 7 plants reporting.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** Trucklot buying activity was cautious and selective as dealers assessed the market entering the week. Offerings of breast items were available and discounted to clear. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were in tight balance and clearing well. Retail and distributive draw was noted as fair to moderate. Movement into fast food channels was moderate to good. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on wings, barely steady 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

ITEM	NEGOTIATED	CURRENT	WTD	VOLUME
	TRADING		AVG	/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145	145.13	145.13	549,080
TENDERLOINS	145	145.95	145.95	92,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	74-75	75.19	75.19	296,160
BREAST - LINE RUN	74	75.41	75.41	83,280
LEGS	38-39	38.71	38.71	214,200
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30	29.60	29.60	419,381
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	40.00	40.00	119,866
THIGHS	35-36	40.79	40.79	84,320
B/S THIGHS	85-86	86.52	86.52	43,960
WINGS (WHOLE)	94-95	100.09	100.09	136,660
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	11.98	39,240
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	37.78	37.78	10,040
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	68.97	68.97	26,320

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (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.

**ARKANSAS 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	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,225	125.00-192.00	135-140	137.28
TENDERLOINS	194	115.00-191.00	-	142.84
BREAST - WITH RIBS	117	70.00-91.00	-	76.60
FRONT HALVES	221	68.00-74.00	-	70.39
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	849	26.00-28.00	26	26.30
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,817	28.00-29.00	28	28.33
WINGS (WHOLE)	181	76.50-102.00	93-102	91.42
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	647	30.00-34.00	30-31	31.26

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	12/29	12/25	12/25	12/22	12/18
ALA	3,957	Holiday	Holiday	4,009	5.20
ARK	4,747	Holiday	Holiday	5,315	5.01
DELMARVA	2,320	Holiday	Holiday	2,317	5.38
KY-LA-TN	2,068	Holiday	Holiday	2,030	4.81
MISS	3,010	Holiday	Holiday	3,037	5.33
NC	2,489	Holiday	Holiday	2,431	6.21
TEXAS	2,453	Holiday	Holiday	2,481	4.98
TOTAL	21,044	Holiday	Holiday	21,620	5.24
MON	21,044(A)			21,620(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 29-Dec 2003 is estimated to be 31,484,000 down 2.96 percent from a week ago and up 2.92 percent from a year ago. (Last week 32,443,000 last year 30,592,000)

**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	872	132.00-223.00	133-135	135.63
TENDERLOINS	250	140.00-216.00	140-147	149.75
BREAST - LINE RUN	73	80.00-93.00	80-84	82.75
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	113	35.00-50.00	35-37	37.48
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	550	25.00-29.00	25-26	25.58
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,140	28.00-31.00	29-31	29.49
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	99.00-107.00	99-101	101.31
WINGS (CUT)	378	110.00-119.00	110-115	113.35
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	140	73.00-100.00	-	85.00

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WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR DECEMBER 29, 2003 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
50.50 - 55.50	52.70	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.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER** ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF DEC 29-JAN 02, 2003

CENTS PER POUND	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	137.00 - 159.00	137.00 - 147.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	75.00 - 100.00	76.00 - 81.00
LEGS	39.00 - 46.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21.00 - 32.00	28.00 - 30.00
DRUMSTICKS	33.00 - 46.00	-
THIGHS	36.00 - 44.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	94.00 - 105.00	97.00 - 99.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	30.00 - 39.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	39.00 - 45.00	-

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	86
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	89-93

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

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**

	RANGE
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

**EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN**

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

**CHICKEN** 24-DEC-2003  
 — PRICES ——— VOLUME ———  
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

**CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED** — PRICES ——— VOLUME ———  
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	15.50	15.00	332,000	320,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.50	15.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	15.50-19.00	11.50-14.00	1,020,000	364,000
WTD AVERAGE	18.00	13.12		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for the about adequate offerings. Processing schedules were reduced due to holiday schedules. Supplies of finished product were well cleared. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER

THE WEEK OF 29-DEC-03.	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD
	6-9	8-9	8.48
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

\*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN**

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

**CHICKEN** 24-DEC-2003  
 — PRICES ——— VOLUME ———  
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

**CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED** — PRICES ——— VOLUME ———  
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	15.00	81,600	-
WTD AVERAGE		15.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	14.00-17.00	10.00-15.00	870,000	483,200
WTD AVERAGE	15.17	12.92		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate supplies of spent heavy hens. Finished sales were slowing. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 29-DEC-03

THE WEEK OF 29-DEC-03.	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD
	6.25-11.5	8.5-9	8.94
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

\*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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