



INTERNATIONAL EGG AND POULTRY REVIEW



U. S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

Testing for Avian Influenza and Export of Poultry to Mexico

An additional Mexican animal health requirement (NOM 44) will require farm testing for Avian Influenza for raw poultry intended for export to Mexico for retail sale and will require the sealing of trucks or containers for raw poultry, cooked poultry and for egg products for export to Mexico. Both requirements became effective January 16, 1999. The exporters must present the following to the FSIS inspector:

1. Documentation from the testing laboratory that indicates 35 individual samples from a particular farm were tested for Avian Influenza using the agar gel precipitin test with negative results. The documentation must include the date of sample collection which must be within 15 days of the date of slaughter. Private and public laboratories are eligible to perform the testing.

2. Information from the producing establishment that assures that the poultry in the export consignment originated only from farms for which there is the necessary testing documentation.

If the above requirements have been met, the following statement should be included in the Remarks section of FSIS 9060-5: "The meat originates from flocks on farms from which 35 blood samples were taken and tested for Avian Influenza using the agar gel precipitin test with negative results on (Date)."

This testing requirement becomes effective on raw poultry entering Mexico on January 16, 1999. It does not apply to cooked poultry or to raw poultry intended for further processing in Mexico. Currently, unpasteurized egg products are not being exported to Mexico.

Requirements for Official Seals

For all poultry and egg products destined for Mexico, trucks must be sealed with an official USDA seal and the seal numbers recorded on FSIS Form 9060-5 for poultry and FSIS Form PY-200 for egg products.

Source: USDA/FSIS, ECD Notice #99-1.

Dutch Export 9% More

Dutch poultry meat exports totaled 310,000 metric tons in the period January to June 1998. This was up 9% from the same period in 1997 when the volume was 285,000t. Shipments to Germany rose 8% from 112,000t to 121,000t, and to the UK up 48% from 25,000t to 37,000t. However, exports to Russia and the Ukraine declined from 53,000t to 43,000t, with Russia taking about 30,000t, according to the Dutch Product Boards.

Source: WATTNET

Bulgarian Minister of Agriculture Bans Meat/Poultry Products

The Minister of Agriculture signed an ordinance on December 23, 1998 prohibiting imports of certain meat and poultry products to Bulgaria. Most of the content of the ordinance has been publicized in the press, however, to date, it has not been published in the Official Gazette. Therefore, legally it should not be enforceable yet. According to unofficial sources, the ban was scheduled to begin January 15, 1999.

The ban will include imports of "chilled" chicken, "chilled" chicken parts and "chilled" chicken sub-products (edible offal) and poultry MDM. The use of poultry meat and offal (non-retail pack) for purposes other than terminal processing (under temperature) in processing enterprises is also banned.

The ban on imports of "chilled" chicken products aims to stop the smuggling of "frozen" chicken products which in the past allegedly have been falsely declared as "chilled" product. In 1998, the duty for "frozen" chicken products was 74% and for "chilled" chicken products, 25%. The duty for frozen chicken will very likely remain at 74%.

U.S. Export Opportunities

Since the Bulgarian processing industry will likely need to find a substitute for MDM, the market for U.S. turkey cuts and "minced" turkey should increase if cost competitive with other suppliers. Reportedly, annual poultry MDM imports were about 6,000 MT, with a small percentage originating from the United States. The local trade reported that imports from the U.S. were relatively low due to price competition from the EU. Frozen chicken imports from the United States probably will decline, mainly due to the continued higher duty (74%) for this product (unless smuggling continues).

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service

China's Chicken Exports to Japan

Japan's Health Ministry will send a study team to China next month to investigate whether the country has been using the sterilizer, chlorine dioxide (banned for use in Japan) on its exports of chicken. In December 1997 Japan investigated the use of chlorine dioxide after the local poultry industry discovered that Chinese refrigerated meat had a shelf life twice as long as domestic product. Use of the product was not detected at that time. The influx of cheaper and longer-lasting Chinese chicken meat is putting downward pressure on prices of domestic poultry meat.

Source: WATTNET

INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS

U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending		Year-To-Date	
	1998	1997/1	1998	1997
Liquid	0	97	14,771	17,360
Frozen	0	0	50	0
Dried	0	0	783	815
Total	0	97	15,604	18,175

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending		Year-To-Date	
	1998	1997/1	1998	1997
Liquid	0	57	3,981	5,060
Frozen	0	0	224	0
Dried	0	0	235	69
Total	0	57	4,440	5,129

Inspected Shell Eggs

U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)

	Week Ending		Year-To-Date	
	1998	1997/1	1998	1997
Jumbo	0	0	1,399	0
Extra Large	59	994	39,558	39,816
Large	0	4,039	140,009	149,250
Medium	0	2,209	68,505	58,772
Ungraded	0	3,150	371,303	207,719
Misc	0	790	9,117	12,567
Total	59	11,182	629,891	468,124

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. January 15,1999

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT	FROZEN		FRESH	
	FOB	DELIVERED	FOB	DELIVERED
CONTENT	DOCK		DOCK	
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVG	-			

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	14.00-15.00	-
WTD AVERAGE			14.40	

50,400 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	10.00-14.00	13.50-14.00	9.00-15.50	11.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	10.60	13.56	10.55	11.93

3,274,000 pounds, this includes 453,600 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

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

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 02-JAN-99 (PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY (000'S)

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	1,836	1,051	2,887
LAST WEEK	1,428	926	2,354
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,501	1,088	2,589
TO-DATE/1998	104,632	65,049	169,681
TO-DATE/1997	105,288	62,954	168,242

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	266	0	266
LAST WEEK	273	0	273
SAME WEEK YR AGO	165	3	168
TO-DATE/1998	24,114	352	24,466
TO-DATE/1997	24,564	414	24,978

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	2,102	1,051	3,153
LAST WEEK	1,701	926	2,627
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,666	1,091	2,757
TO-DATE/1998	128,746	65,401	194,147
TO-DATE/1997	129,852	63,368	193,220

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. January 15,1999

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT	FROZEN		FRESH	
	FOB	DELIVERED	FOB	DELIVERED
CONTENT	DOCK		DOCK	
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	15.00-16.00	-	17.00	16.50
WTD AVERAGE	15.48		17.00	16.50

912,500 pounds, this includes 260,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	14.00	14.00	-	-
WTD AVERAGE	14.00	14.00		

140,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	9.00-13.00	11.50-12.00	11.25-13.20	11.50-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	11.50	11.75	11.62	12.54

2,207,698 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

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

YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS

JANUARY 15, 1999

Undertone steady to barely steady on tom drums and full-cut wings with increased seller confidence noted due to the stronger buyer inquiry at the current market levels. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady on hen 2-joint wings and hen drums, steady on tom 2-joint wings, fully steady on destrapped tenderloins. Offerings of fresh tom breast meat light to fully adequate. Open priced February Grade A 4-8 lb. breast trading light. For export: open priced fresh thigh meat (3 loads), tom wings (5 loads) 21, tom necks (1 container) 22, hen 2-joint wings (3 containers) 34.50-39, defatted gizzards (3 containers) 58.50 (mixed)-68 mostly 67-68.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	20.00-24.00		21.74	184	20.28	732
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS		T	18.99	288	18.99	288
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	15.00-16.00		15.80	400	15.50	440
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	59.00	52	59.00	52

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	18.50		18.50	104
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	25.16	248
TAILS		T	18.99	288
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		T	12.50	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	59.00	52

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMs	19.75-21.00		20.09	444
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	25.16	248
TAILS		T	18.99	288
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		T	12.50	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	59.00		59.00	52

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		R	19.74	250
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	25.16	248
TAILS	18.50-20.25		18.99	288
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	12.50		12.50	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN				

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		R	19.74	250
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	25.16	248
TAILS		F	20.75	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN				

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY
 2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.