



INTERNATIONAL EGG AND POULTRY REVIEW



U. S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

Hong Kong Re-Exports to China, Quarterly Trade Data Report, 3rd Quarter, 1998

U.S. indirect exports of consumer oriented poultry meat to China, as indicated by Hong Kong re-export statistics, rose during the first three quarters of 1998 to \$309.9 million, a 7 percent increase. Compared with the same period a year ago, indirect export value decreased 13 percent. Indirect exports of eggs and egg products increased both 144 percent in value and 247 percent in quantity.

Hong Kong re-exports to China are products destined for China, but that transit the territory before reaching their final destination, and often are not counted by China's customs bureau. These products fail to be included in China's official import statistics, because importers tend to use unofficial methods to bring in the products, such as under invoicing and mis-declaring, in order to avoid paying high tariff charges or abiding by cumbersome inspection/quarantine procedures. Poultry is the largest U.S. indirect consumer oriented agricultural export to China.

Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Speeding up the Accession Process

EU Trade Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan called for a "World Trade Organization Accession Initiative" with the goal of bringing more than 30 countries into the WTO before the Third WTO Ministerial in November. Sir Leon noted the accession process, "will consist of requiring less from developing countries as a condition for membership than until now, and speeding up the process for them by having a uniform approach to their accession, which would reduce the time needed to examine each application."

Source: BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest, International Trade Reporter

Canada Announces Credit Insurance Package for Food Exports to Russia 1999

Canada's International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced on February 10, 1999 the establishment of a revolving short-term insurance facility to support up to C\$60 million in exports of Canadian agri-food products to Russia over three years.

The facility, established under the Export Development Corporation (EDC) Canada Account, provides coverage to Canadian financial institutions to support the export of Canadian agri-food products to Russia. "Russia is an important market for Canadian agri-food exports, and this insurance facility is designed to ensure Canadian exporters maintain a presence in the market," added Mr. Marchi. Canadian agri-food export sales to Russia in 1997 were over C\$125 million.

Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Thailand

Thailand will produce around 840 million chicks in 1999, up nearly 9% from a year ago. The Thai Broiler Processing Association estimated that 270,000 tons of chicken would be exported in 1999, little changed from the previous year. However, earnings from poultry exports are likely to drop 15 percent. It is unlikely that exports will show further increase since the baht has strengthened, the Brazilian currency has depreciated and chicken prices have declined worldwide. The Thai government has scrapped import quotas and tariffs on many ingredients for the animal-feed industry in order to bring down domestic prices of meat and improve export competitiveness.

The Thai Broiler Processing Exporters Association says shipments of frozen chicken are now averaging US \$2,000 a ton and cooked chicken \$3,400. Exports of total broiler meat in 1998 increased by 47 percent over 1997 to 281,719 tons. Japan accounted for 62 percent of uncooked meat exported from Thailand, and 60 percent of further processed meat. Meanwhile, the EU accounted for 25 percent of uncooked meat, and 37 percent of further processed meat exports.

Recently exporters of Thai frozen chicken have faced delays as their customers look to purchase Brazilian poultry, now the cheapest in the world since the devaluation of the real.

USDA's 1997 figures listed the U.S. as the world's leading chicken exporter, followed by Brazil, China, France, Thailand, the Netherlands and Denmark. The leading chicken importers in 1997 were Russia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Saudi Arabia, EU, and Mexico.

Trade Matrix for Thailand's broiler meat exports in 1998 (Jan-Dec):

COUNTRY	UNCOOKED BROILER MEAT	COOKED&SEMI-COOKED MEAT	TOTAL EXPORTS
ASIA:	161,964	38,336	200,300
EUROPE:	56,881	22,595	79,476
MIDDLE EAST	1,735	0	1,735
AFRICA & OTHERS	196	12	208
TOTAL	220,776	60,943	281,719

Due to its self-sufficiency and exporting ability, Thailand has not imported broiler meat thus far (excluding turkey meat).

Sources: USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service, WATTNETT and The Bangkok Post

INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS

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

Type	Week Ending		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	145	433	1,995	1,732
Frozen	0	0	6	50
Dried	0	43	18	83
Total	145	476	2,019	1,865

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

Type	Week Ending		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	0	53	436	713
Frozen	0	0	57	92
Dried	0	0	0	11
Total	0	53	493	816

Inspected Shell Eggs

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

	Week Ending		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Jumbo	0	0	0	0
Extra Large	900	0	2,100	1,925
Large	300	1,100	8,284	6,850
Medium	1,050	1,925	2,676	5,219
Ungraded	4,650	7,135	42,899	13,015
Misc	0	0	0	0
Total	6,900	10,160	55,959	27,009

/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. February 26,1999

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT CONTENT RANGE	FROZEN		FRESH	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
	-	20.00	17.00	-
WTD AVERAGE		20.00	17.00	

80,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

RANGE	FROZEN		FRESH	
	15.50-16.50	14.00-15.00		
WTD AVERAGE	16.00	14.30		

217,400 pounds, this includes 40,000 pounds for export shipment.

RANGE	15-20%		11.00-12.75	
	11.00	13.50	9.00-12.00	11.00-12.75
WTD AVERAGE	11.00	13.50	10.52	11.96

1,984,800 pounds, this includes 640,000 pounds for export shipment.

RANGE	20% OR MORE			
	-	-	12.00	-
WTD AVERAGE			12.00	

40,800 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 20-Feb-99 (PRELIMINARY)

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	HEAD	2,055	1,299
LAST WEEK	2,258	1,236	3,494
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,140	1,393	3,533
TO-DATE/1999	15,555	9,229	24,784
TO-DATE/1998	14,560	8,980	23,540

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	HEAD	434	0
LAST WEEK	502	17	519
SAME WEEK YR AGO	522	11	533
TO-DATE/1999	3,481	51	3,532
TO-DATE/1998	3,683	64	3,747

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	HEAD	2,489	1,299
LAST WEEK	2,760	1,253	4,013
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,662	1,404	4,066
TO-DATE/1999	19,036	9,280	28,316
TO-DATE/1998	18,243	9,044	27,287

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. February 26,1999

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT CONTENT RANGE	FROZEN		FRESH	
	15.00-16.00	18.00	17.00	17.00
WTD AVERAGE	15.44	18.00	17.00	17.00

1,373,000 pounds, this includes 478,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

RANGE	15% OR LESS			
	14.00	15.00	-	16.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.00	15.00		16.00

355,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

RANGE	15-20%		12.00-14.00	
	11.50-12.00	14.00	9.50-13.20	12.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	11.88	14.00	12.30	12.36

1,900,043 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

RANGE	20% OR MORE			
	-	13.00	-	-
WTD AVERAGE		13.00		

122,000 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

FEBRUARY 26, 1999

Undertone at least steady on fresh tom breast meat with spot premiums noted on close trimmed. Export thigh meat undertone steady to firm with the 48 cents to a trader delivered by rail and the 55 cents for Mid-March. Tom 2-joint wing market mixed with strength noted for domestic and some weaknesses for exports. Demand fair to good on fresh 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey, frozen light with both fully steady. Grade A breasts: 10-12 lb. 120, 12-14 lb. 125-130, 14-16 lb. 130-140, 16-18 lb. 138 cents delivered. For export: hen drums 20, fresh thigh meat 53 for Mid-March shipment.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	21.00-22.00		21.33	120	21.29	840
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	25.00		25.00	12	24.23	52
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	26.50-26.75		26.70	520	26.70	520
TAILS	19.75-22.00		21.41	370	20.74	570
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	17.00		17.00	40	15.89	360
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	48.00-55.00		49.67	384	49.36	716

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	21.00-22.00		21.60	200
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		W	24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		W	19.50	200
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	15.75	320
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	49.00	280

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	20.00-21.50		21.15	520
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	24.00		24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS	19.00-20.00		19.50	200
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	15.75		15.75	320
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	48.00-50.00		49.00	280

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	20.00	27
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	24.00	160
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		W	19.00	104
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	49.00		49.00	52

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	20.00	27
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	24.00	160
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		W	19.00	104
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	46.33	240

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.