



# INTERNATIONAL EGG AND POULTRY REVIEW

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

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## **BELGIUM**

The USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced on June 3, 1999 "Effective today, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service is holding all imports from the European Union of chicken and pork and products that contain chicken or pork. We are also reviewing product imported since January to determine what, if any, additional action may be necessary. We are acting today in response to information we received yesterday from the Belgian government." Any questions should be referred to Linda Swacina at (202) 720-9113.

Bahrain, Hong Kong, Israel, Malaysia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan and the United Arab Emirates have banned imports of Belgian meat and dairy products. Singapore widened its ban to include European meat, eggs and dairy imports. South Korea recently also banned Belgium meat products. Russia has threatened to expand its existing ban on poultry meat imports to France, Germany and the Netherlands.

The import bans are a result of the Ministry of Agriculture of Belgium's recent confirmation of animal foodstuffs (animal fat) contaminated with high concentrations of dioxin. The contamination is understood to have happened when industrial oil and mineral oil were mixed at a animal feed supplier. Dioxin is also produced from a reaction between older types of herbicides and pesticides. Belgium exports half of its chicken and egg production. The Belgian media estimates it could cost the country up to 30 billion Belgian francs (\$767 million dollars).

A problem was identified on March 19, 1999 and confirmed on April 26, 1999 by a Dutch laboratory. The animal fat was produced by Verkest during the second half of January, 1999. The two managers of Verkest, Lucien Verkest and his son Jan, have been arrested and charged with fraud in Belgium.

Initially, production from 10 poultry companies was frozen. It was determined that Verkest had supplied animal fats to 8 other Belgian foodstuff manufacturers, one French and one Dutch company. Later it was determined the fats had been passed on to a total of 12 feed manufacturers, affecting up to 175,000 pounds of animal feed. France, Germany and Holland are the three countries most at risk for importing Belgium feed or products.

Belgium on May 27, 1999, removed egg and poultry production from 417 companies from public consumption and the companies were placed under surveillance. It was later determined product from 416 beef, pork, chicken and egg Belgian farms would have to be destroyed. On May 28, 1999 advice was issued to the public that as a temporary precaution, no poultry or eggs of Belgium origin should be eaten.

The European Union's veterinary committee approved an official recommendation on June 2, 1999 to destroy all poultry products produced from Belgian farms suspected of using dioxin contaminated feed. The items would have to contain more than 2% egg or poultry product. The order would apply to products produced from January 15 to June 1, 1999. The contamination was also found to have spread into pork and beef items.

The dioxin problem has resulted in the resignations of the Dutch Agriculture Minister and the Belgium Health and Agriculture Ministers. The dioxin contamination problem is of particular importance in Belgium due to the upcoming June 13, 1999 elections.

In Belgium, in an effort to quell consumer fears, the new health minister placed a temporary ban on the slaughter of all poultry, cattle and pigs until it is determined which farms used the contaminated feed.

It is now thought up to 1,000 farms could be affected by dioxin contamination. This includes several hundred farms in the Netherlands, France and Germany currently under surveillance. France has quarantined at least 70 poultry farms and has moved to take poultry and eggs from the affected farms off supermarket shelves.

Sources: Various News Source, The Ministry of Agriculture, Belgium, USDA/Food Safety Inspection Service.

## **JAPANESE FROZEN BROILER IMPORTS (IN TONS)**

| Month        | United States | China         | Brazil        | Thailand      | Total          |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>1998</b>  |               |               |               |               |                |
| January      | 8,398         | 14,330        | 6,066         | 8,744         | 37,538         |
| February     | 9,086         | 9,286         | 6,911         | 9,491         | 34,774         |
| March        | 5,811         | 13,846        | 5,615         | 10,243        | 35,515         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>32,286</b> | <b>53,114</b> | <b>24,682</b> | <b>38,847</b> | <b>149,469</b> |
| <b>1999</b>  |               |               |               |               |                |
| January      | 6,554         | 15,060        | 8,078         | 11,662        | 41,354         |
| February     | 10,128        | 16,275        | 6,595         | 10,159        | 43,157         |
| March        | 8,333         | 13,517        | 3,741         | 9,434         | 35,025         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>25,015</b> | <b>44,852</b> | <b>18,414</b> | <b>31,255</b> | <b>119,536</b> |

Source: ALIC Monthly statistics

**INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS**

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

| Type   | Week Ending May 29, 1999 |         | Year-To-Date |       |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|--------------|-------|
|        | 1999                     | 1998 /1 | 1999         | 1998  |
| Liquid | 440                      | 447     | 6,085        | 5,467 |
| Frozen | 0                        | 0       | 6            | 50    |
| Dried  | 22                       | 50      | 196          | 267   |
| Total  | 462                      | 497     | 6,287        | 5,784 |

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

| Type   | Week Ending May 29, 1999 |         | Year-To-Date |       |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|--------------|-------|
|        | 1999                     | 1998 /1 | 1999         | 1998  |
| Liquid | 76                       | 91      | 1,917        | 1,673 |
| Frozen | 6                        | 0       | 103          | 123   |
| Dried  | 0                        | 50      | 60           | 225   |
| Total  | 82                       | 141     | 2,080        | 2,021 |

**Inspected Shell Eggs**

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

|             | Week Ending May 29, 1999 |         | Year-To-Date |         |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------|---------|
|             | 1999                     | 1998 /1 | 1999         | 1998    |
| Jumbo       | 50                       | 44      | 360          | 480     |
| Extra Large | 570                      | 360     | 12,295       | 15,160  |
| Large       | 2,098                    | 1,822   | 45,442       | 41,463  |
| Medium      | 1,133                    | 1,012   | 20,449       | 24,328  |
| Ungraded    | 13,680                   | 8,810   | 178,169      | 90,382  |
| Misc        | 0                        | 0       | 3,228        | 1,810   |
| Total       | 17,531                   | 12,048  | 259,943      | 173,623 |

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

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

**CENTRAL REGION** PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. June 04, 1999

**CHICKEN PRICES**

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

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

**CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN**

|   |       |             |            |             |
|---|-------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 15% OR LESS   |       |             |            |             |
| RANGE   | 17.00 | 15.00-19.00 | 14.00      | 15.00-15.50 |
| WTD AVERAGE   | 17.00 | 17.40       | 14.00      | 15.17       |
| 306,000 pounds, this includes 40,800 pounds for export shipment.    |       |             |            |             |
| 15-20%  |       |             |            |             |
| RANGE   | 11.00 | 13.00-16.50 | 8.50-13.00 | 11.50-20.00 |
| WTD AVERAGE   | 11.00 | 14.26       | 10.52      | 12.98       |
| 1,717,600 pounds, this includes 448,800 pounds for export shipment. |       |             |            |             |
| 20% OR MORE   |       |             |            |             |
| RANGE   | -     | -           | 12.00      | -           |
| WTD AVERAGE   |       |             | 12.00      |             |

81,600 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

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION** W/E 29-May-99 PRELIMINARY

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

|                  | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                  | HEAD       | 2,274      | 1,405      |
| LAST WEEK        | 2,329      | 1,356      | 3,685      |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 1,999      | 1,338      | 3,337      |
| TO-DATE/1999     | 46,426     | 28,258     | 74,684     |
| TO-DATE/1998     | 44,416     | 26,234     | 70,650     |

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA**

|                  | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                  | HEAD       | 549        | 13         |
| LAST WEEK        | 442        | 0          | 442        |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 618        | 13         | 631        |
| TO-DATE/1999     | 10,289     | 150        | 10,439     |
| TO-DATE/1998     | 12,006     | 204        | 12,210     |

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

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

|                  | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                  | HEAD       | 2,823      | 1,418      |
| LAST WEEK        | 2,771      | 1,356      | 4,127      |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 2,617      | 1,351      | 3,968      |
| TO-DATE/1999     | 56,715     | 28,408     | 85,123     |
| TO-DATE/1998     | 56,422     | 26,438     | 82,860     |

**EASTERN REGION** PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. June 04, 1999

**CHICKEN PRICES**

| FAT CONTENT | -----FROZEN----- |           | -----FRESH----- |           |
|-------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
|             | FOB DOCK         | DELIVERED | FOB DOCK        | DELIVERED |
| 15% OR LESS |                  |           |                 |           |
| RANGE       | 14.00-15.50      | 15.00     | 13.40-17.00     | 17.00     |
| WTD AVERAGE | 15.37            | 15.00     | 15.36           | 17.00     |

884,000 pounds, this includes 320,000 pounds for export shipment.

**CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN**

|   |             |       |            |       |
|---|-------------|-------|------------|-------|
| 15% OR LESS   |             |       |            |       |
| RANGE   | 13.00-14.00 | -     | 13.50      | 16.00 |
| WTD AVERAGE   | 13.43       |       | 13.50      | 16.00 |
| 740,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.   |             |       |            |       |
| 15-20%  |             |       |            |       |
| RANGE   | 11.50       | 14.00 | 9.50-13.00 | 14.00 |
| WTD AVERAGE   | 11.50       | 14.00 | 11.36      | 14.00 |
| 2,190,400 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: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

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

JUNE 04, 1999

Undertone improved on 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey (MST) due to increased domestic sausage demand and export interest. Fresh tom breast meat trade sentiment steady to firm for the short to instances adequate offerings. The drum undertone continues to improve with exports the main driver. Some export activity noted on MST and drums for Russia. Frozen ground drum (part load) 40, destrapped tenderloins (4 loads) 162-166 cents delivered. For export: tom necks (1 rail-car) 14.50, (1 load) 156 cents delivered.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 04, 1999****EXPORT TRADING**

|                           | PRICE RANGE | L.S.T. CODE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) | WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE | WEEKLY VOLUME (000) |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS          | 16.00-17.00 |                | 16.70         | 264          | 15.67                | 776                 |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS     | 22.00       |                | 22.00         | 80           | 22.00                | 80                  |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM        |             | F              | 18.75         | 416          |                      |                     |
| TAILS                     |             | F              | 17.00         | 104          |                      |                     |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | 16.00-18.00 |                | 16.83         | 480          | 15.82                | 972                 |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN       | 57.00-65.00 |                | 61.19         | 320          | 59.80                | 1,062               |

**THURSDAY, JUNE 03, 1999****EXPORT TRADING**

|                           | PRICE RANGE | L.S.T. CODE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS          | 14.00-17.00 |                | 15.07         | 432          |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS     |             | F              | 22.50         | 40           |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM        |             | F              | 18.75         | 416          |
| TAILS                     |             | F              | 17.00         | 104          |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | 13.00-15.50 |                | 15.38         | 252          |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN       | 55.00-63.00 |                | 57.83         | 254          |

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 02, 1999****EXPORT TRADING**

|                           | PRICE RANGE | L.S.T. CODE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS          | 15.50       |                | 15.50         | 80           |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS     |             | F              | 22.50         | 40           |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM        |             | F              | 18.75         | 416          |
| TAILS                     |             | F              | 17.00         | 104          |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | 15.50       |                | 15.50         | 40           |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN       | 59.00-61.00 |                | 59.92         | 488          |

**TUESDAY, JUNE 01, 1999****EXPORT TRADING**

|                           | PRICE RANGE | L.S.T. CODE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS          |             | F              | 14.98         | 224          |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS     |             | F              | 22.50         | 40           |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM        |             | F              | 18.75         | 416          |
| TAILS                     |             | F              | 17.00         | 104          |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | 14.00       |                | 14.00         | 200          |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN       |             | F              | 58.25         | 455          |

**MONDAY, MAY 31, 1999 - HOLIDAY**

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.

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