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Poultry Programs

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Australian Meat Australian Meat Safety Enhancement Program (MSEP) Approved

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service has made a determination that the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service's (AQIS) new inspection system for slaughter establishments that export meat to the United States, known as the the Meat Safety Enhancement Program (MSEP), is equivalent to the U.S. inspection system.

Under MSEP, AQIS government inspectors will provide oversight of company employee functions, carcass-by-carcass verification, and oversight and verification that plant hazard control systems are resulting in safe and wholesome product. Company employed staff could potentially be allowed to carry out inspection duties currently performed by Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS) staff at as many as 31 export meatworks across Australia.

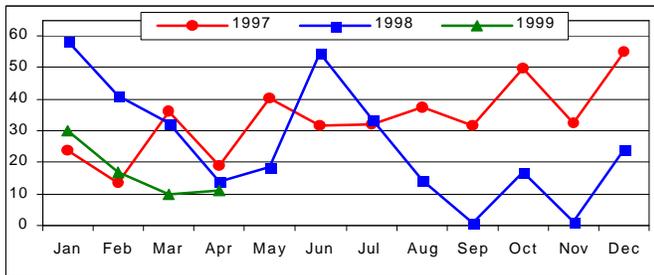
"The process by which FSIS and AQIS worked together so that FSIS could find MSEP equivalent is an excellent example of how two countries can work together to carry out their obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements," said Tom Billy, administrator of the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Australia has been refining its MSEP model since 1996, and AQIS has been working with FSIS to develop integrated, equivalent Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point-based Quality Assurance systems that use qualified company meat inspectors with full-time supervision, verification and certification by AQIS officers.

Since 1997 USDA has blocked imports of meats from Australian packers using the new inspection service. Last year the U.S. imported around 285,000 metric tons of Australian beef, and 1999 projections are for 290,000 metric tons. The annual quota is 370,000 tons allowed by the U.S.

Source: USDA/FSIS, Australian Federal Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry, and various new sources.

Frozen Leg Quarters Exported From the U.S. to Russia 1997, 1998, 1999



Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

Dioxin Scare Leads to EU Egg Recall

The Hong Kong Department of Health (DH) ordered sales suspended of eggs originating from Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands on June 4, 1999. To ensure that no suspected eggs were leaked out to the market and to avoid confusion to consumers, importers agreed to recall the affected eggs from retailers. The recall exercise started on June 12 and was completed on June 14 with one million eggs recalled. In response to this European egg recall exercise, wholesale prices of American and Chinese eggs surged. The average wholesale egg price jumped from HK\$130/box (360 pieces) before the recall to HK\$150 - 170/box after the recall (US\$1.00 = HK\$7.78). Retail volume dropped about 30 percent because consumers were worried that that the affected eggs were leaked to the market by unscrupulous retailers.

In the beginning, some people in the trade ignored the sales suspension advice and continued to sell European eggs by falsifying the country of origin and lowering the prices. Realizing this situation, the DH had meetings with major egg importers and obtained assurance of co-operation from the trade to suspend the sale of eggs from the four affected countries. The recalled eggs are stored at the importer level until investigation of the Belgium dioxin food crisis has been completed. To ensure that the eggs are in safe custody, the DH marked - and sealed - all recalled eggs and will conduct stock checking.

Source: USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service

Thailand Exporters to Benefit from Ban on Belgian Products

Thai poultry exporters are expected to have new opportunities to expand their markets to countries in the European Union (EU), according to a Thai Commerce Ministry official. The EU recently recognized manufacturing standards of 22 meat processing plants in Thailand after a group of experts inspected the plants. The Thai government joined many other countries in banning imports of selected agricultural products from Belgium following the reports of dioxin found in samples of the products.

"Speaking on behalf of the 20 chicken processors in Thailand, I am confident that our production standards meet the requirements of all major export markets," said Anan Sirimongkolkasem, president of the Thai Broiler Processing Exporters Association. The Netherlands is currently the second largest importer of Thai poultry meat. The European Union (EU) consumes about 30 percent of Thai chicken exports a year. Thailand's chicken meat export amounted to \$713 million last year, \$468 million of which was from frozen products. The rest, \$245 million, came from processed products. Anan said all chicken meat producers in Thailand are large corporations because cost of investment in the industry is high.

Source: various Thai news sources

INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS

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

Type	Week Ending June 19, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	486	152	6,977	6,388
Frozen	0	0	6	50
Dried	0	4	276	314
Total	486	156	7,259	6,752

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

Type	Week Ending June 19, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	127	127	2,172	2,069
Frozen	25	0	128	126
Dried	68	0	128	225
Total	220	127	2,428	2,420

Inspected Shell Eggs

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

	Week Ending June 19, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Jumbo	52	54	534	661
Extra Large	600	1,368	14,443	19,138
Large	6,644	3,285	56,385	51,093
Medium	1,985	1,463	24,784	28,256
Ungraded	6,090	0	196,169	103,935
Misc	0	750	3,348	2,560
Total	15,371	6,920	295,663	205,643

/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.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 19-Jun-99

PRELIMINARY

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

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	2,095	1,564	3,659
LAST WEEK	2,142	1,423	3,565
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,075	1,472	3,547
TO-DATE/1999	52,453	32,441	84,894
TO-DATE/1998	50,809	30,493	81,302

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	549	0	549
LAST WEEK	657	0	657
SAME WEEK YR AGO	560	0	560
TO-DATE/1999	12,003	150	12,153
TO-DATE/1998	13,756	204	13,960

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

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

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	2,644	1,564	4,208
LAST WEEK	2,799	1,423	4,222
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,635	1,472	4,107
TO-DATE/1999	64,456	32,591	97,047
TO-DATE/1998	64,565	30,697	95,262

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. June 25, 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	13.00-15.00	-	15.00	16.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.00		15.00	16.00

327,000 pounds, this includes 163,200 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	12.00-14.25	15.00-17.50	10.00-13.00	13.00-14.50
WTD AVERAGE	13.08	15.83	11.49	13.75

2,053,000 pounds, this includes 245,000 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

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. June 25, 1999

CHICKEN PRICES

FAT CONTENT	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIV- DOCK
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	15.00-19.00	-	17.00	18.00
WTD AVERAGE	15.79		17.00	18.00

916,000 pounds, this includes 320,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	12.00-16.75	-	16.00	17.00
WTD AVERAGE	13.52		16.00	17.00

1,046,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	12.25-17.00	14.00	12.00-16.00	13.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	15.50	14.00	13.03	13.68

2,614,000 pounds, this includes 104,000 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 25, 1999

The market was mostly steady on tom breast with some improved undertones noted on fresh while others still note product is available. Dark meat undertones mixed with frozen thigh meat having a generally steady at best trade sentiment and tom drums improving with less weakness noted. Fresh demand fair on tom breast meat, destrapped tenderloins active. Fresh destrapped tenderloins (12.50 loads) 164-168 mostly 168 cents for July-September shipments. For export: frozen mature thigh meat (1 load) 55, defatted gizzards (5 containers) 70-72, frozen destrapped tenderloins (part load) 170 cents delivered.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	18.00		18.00	360	18.23	1,492
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	17.50-18.00		17.75	208	17.75	208
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	20.50-21.00		20.88	416	20.92	624
TAILS		W	17.00	80	17.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	22.58	264	22.58	264
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	66.00		66.00	780	65.15	1,378

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	17.50-19.00		18.43	736
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	21.00	208
TAILS		W	17.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	21.00-25.00		22.58	264
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	64.00		64.00	52

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	17.00-18.00		17.44	236
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	21.00		21.00	208
TAILS	17.00		17.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	25.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	64.00-65.00		64.07	386

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		M	19.00	160
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	19.50	104
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	25.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		M	64.00	160

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 1999

EXPORT TRADING

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	16.00-22.00		19.00	160
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	19.50	104
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	25.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	63.00-65.00		64.00	160

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.