



# INTERNATIONAL EGG AND POULTRY REVIEW

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## USTR Releases 2003 Inventory of Trade Barriers

The annual report on foreign trade barriers was released on April 1. The National Trade Estimate (NTE) Report on Foreign Trade barriers to U.S. exports lists what USTR views as unfair non-tariff barriers on agriculture imposed by the European Union, Russia, China, Mexico, Australia, Japan, Taiwan and Venezuela.

The NTE includes a list of unfair trade practices and barriers to American exports of goods, services, and farm products. This year's report highlights the continuing use of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) — unscientific sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS), burdensome customs procedures, government monopolies, and opaque regulations — for protectionist purposes.

U.S. agricultural producers are among the most competitive in the world, and the United States has been a net exporter of agricultural products since the late 1950s. U.S. poultry exports to Russia have decreased by almost 45 percent since import restrictions on U.S. poultry have gone into effect. Russia is the top U.S. export market for poultry, and the import restrictions helped contribute to a \$500 million decline in U.S. poultry exports to the world last year. Though the enormously important economic relationship between the United States and Europe is generally solid, several EU policies continue to pose significant barriers to U.S. economic interests. Among the most notable barriers are unscientific bans on U.S. poultry treated to minimize bacteria risks. Japan has increasingly employed standards and other administrative requirements to limit agricultural imports and has shown a growing tendency to deviate from scientific principles in setting new import policies that deny or restrict the entry of a wide range of U.S. meat, poultry, vegetables, and fruit products.

Source: Office of the United States Trade Representative

## EU Fears for Eggmen

The whole infrastructure of European egg production will be undermined if rules to improve bird welfare are brought in without the introduction of protection against imports produced to lower standards, a report has revealed. This is the stark warning in an independent new report from research body, the Netherlands Agriculture Economics Research Institute, commissioned by EUWEP, the EU trade association for egg packers, traders and processors.

## Dutch Egg Market Contracts

Both Dutch egg production and exports contracted in 2002. Only egg product exports showed a gain. Egg production fell by 2.7% to 9.6 billion eggs, of which 7.69b were exported, 2% less than in 2001 and 10% down on 1999, according to an Agra Europe report. The fall was mainly in shell eggs, which at 5.6b were down by 7.4%. Of the 4.9b sold within the EU, 4 billion went to Germany. Dutch exports of egg products rose by 16% to the equivalent of 2.1b eggs.

Source: International Egg Commission

## U.S. and Russian Officials Reach Accord on Poultry Technical Trade Issues

USDA and the Russian Ministry of Agriculture have resolved the remaining technical issues which centered around new veterinary standards agreed to last year but never fully implemented. This new agreement will enable inspections of U.S. poultry processing facilities by the Russian Veterinary Service to resume immediately. The agreement was concluded in Moscow on Thursday, April 3 by Minister of Agriculture Alexei Gordeyev and USDA Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Dr. J. B. Penn.

The technical issues related largely to differences between the Russian veterinary practices and those of the U.S. industry. Resolution of the issues involved utilizing the concept of "equivalency," achieving the same objectives but with different science-based approaches.

The Russians had earlier established a June 1, deadline for completing inspection of all U.S. plants under the new veterinary standards. Expedited visits of teams of Russian inspectors will begin this month. U.S. officials expect some flexibility in the June 1 deadline from Russia. The results of the technical discussions by the specialists will be reviewed and approved by Minister Gordeyev and Secretary Veneman when the Russian minister visits the U.S. in early May.

Source: USDA News Release

## Avian Influenza in the Netherlands

In early April Dutch Agriculture Minister Veerman ordered the depopulation of almost all poultry farms within the Gelders Valley. All poultry farms within a 3 km radius of infected will be depopulated, up from the previous 1 km radius. This will bring the total to 11 million chickens killed.

Avian influenza in the Netherlands may have spread south into two new provinces, Limburg and Nord Brabant. In response, on April 4 Minister Veerman announced a complete standstill in the entire country, banning all movement of animals susceptible to avian influenza as well as various related products. The ban even includes hooved animals from infected premises. The import and export of poultry and hatching eggs are forbidden. The standstill is valid for an unlimited period.

According to Minister Veerman, the leap of fowl plague virus into the very center of the poultry area in Brabant and Limburg was caused by movement of people or their transport vehicles. A 10-km radius zone around Opsel, Limburg, has been sealed off. Opsel is situated in the heart of the North-Limburg and East-Brabant concentration of the poultry industry, with about 31 million chickens and turkeys. The government has called on army troops to help contain the outbreak. The troops will help enforce a quarantine around the farm in Limburg. Check points will be set up to ensure no fowl enter or leave the area. The province has borders with both Germany and Belgium.

Source: [www.promedmail.org](http://www.promedmail.org), ProMED-mail is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases

**Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**

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

Week Ending March 29, 2003	Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002
Liquid	202	352
Frozen	0	0
Dried	0	0
Total	202	352

**U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending March 29, 2003	Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002
Liquid	124	114
Frozen	113	90
Dried	40	147
Total	277	351

**Inspected Shell Eggs**

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

Week Ending March 29, 2003	Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002
Jumbo	76	0
Extra Large	750	0
Large	60	1,700
Medium	2,594	1,350
Ungraded	0	4,950
Misc	630	0
Total	4,110	8,000

/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 29-Mar-03  
(PRELIMINARY)

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TTL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,980	1,391	3,371
LAST WEEK	1,597	1,280	2,877
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,978	1,250	3,228
TO-DATE/2003	21,383	17,442	38,825
TO-DATE/2002	23,320	16,758	40,078

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TTL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	239	0	239
LAST WEEK	139	3	142
SAME WEEK YR AGO	154	0	154
TO-DATE/2003	3,891	53	3,944
TO-DATE/2002	4,504	20	4,524

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TTL HENS
HEAD	2,219	1,391	3,610
LAST WEEK	1,736	1,283	3,019
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,132	1,250	3,382
TO-DATE/2003	25,274	17,495	42,769
TO-DATE/2002	27,824	16,778	44,602

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.  
SOURCE: USDA/AMS PLTRY PROGRAMS, MRKT NEWS BR.

**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.

04-APRI-2003

**CHICKEN** — 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	-	15.00-17.00	244,800	-
WTD AVERAGE		16.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	12.00-19.00	11.00-14.00	1,403,200	326,400
WTD AVERAGE	14.26	12.25		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	11.00	22,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		11.00		

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

**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.

04-APR-2003

**CHICKEN** — 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	15.50-18.00	16.00	1,076,000	634,000
WTD AVERAGE	16.57	16.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	13.50	11.50-15.00	1,712,000	-
WTD AVERAGE	13.50	12.99		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	12.50	80,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		12.50		

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of 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 AS OF 4 APRIL 2003.**

The trade sentiment was at least steady on scapula, mostly steady on destrapped tenderloins and regular breast trim, steady to instances weak on fresh tom breast meat and wing meat with skin, and barely steady at best on ground breast trim. White meat demand was slow to instances moderate with the best interest noted on scapula and fresh destrapped tenderloins. Some isolated interest on fresh destrapped tenderloins for next week went unfilled. White meat offerings ranged from light at best on fresh destrapped tenderloins for prompt shipments to fully adequate on fresh tom breast meat and wing meat with skin. The trade sentiment on thigh meat and mechanically separated turkey was steady to barely steady. Domestic trading was light. Breeder hen wings 13, fresh scapula 63-64, plant grade non basted breasts: 10-12 lb. 89, 12-16 lb. 89-90 cents delivered. Export trading centered on a fair volume of tom drums, balance slow.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 04, 2003****EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	20.00-22.00		20.82	304	21.52	488
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		T	23.00	624	23.00	624
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		R	19.00	40	19.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	50.50		50.50	80	59.95	532

**THURSDAY, APRIL 03, 2003****EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	21.00		21.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	14.93	182
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		T	23.00	624
TAILS		R	20.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	19.00		19.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	61.62	452

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 02, 2003****EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		T	21.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	14.93	182
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		T	23.00	624
TAILS		R	20.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		F	22.00	52
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	51.00-63.00		61.62	452

**TUESDAY, APRIL 01, 2003****EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	21.00		21.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	14.93	182
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	23.00		23.00	624
TAILS		R	20.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		F	22.00	52
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	51.00	80

**MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2003****EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	24.00		24.00	104
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	14.93	182
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		R	20.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		F	22.00	52
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	51.00	80

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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