



USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trade sentiment steady to fully steady on whole turkeys. Offerings were satisfactory except toms were sometimes tight. Inquiries were fair. Trading was heavy on frozen for deferred shipments, fair on fresh for current shipment. Breast meat was irregularly available and ranged steady to barely steady. Thigh meat was offered at steady to barely steady prices.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

A limited volume of product moved to the border.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 11, 1999**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/			FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/			
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	60-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRESH WITH TIMER										
8-16 LB HENS										
CENTRAL REGION	69.25	69.25	69.25	60						

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 12, 1999**

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8-16 LB HENS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	60.50	80	APRIL	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	821.6	OCT
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	60.50	40	APRIL	-	2888	OCT
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRESH WITH TIMERS										
8-16 LB HENS										
WESTERN REGION	63.25	63.25	63.25	560						
16-24 LB TOMS										
WESTERN REGION	63.25	63.25	63.25	320						

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

WEEK OF MARCH 12, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	62.00**	61.40**	54.92
CENTRAL REGION	60.50**	59.83	55.00
WESTERN REGION	60.00	60.90**	54.60**
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	61.00**	60.30**	56.67
CENTRAL REGION	60.50**	60.06	55.86
WESTERN REGION	61.50**	60.90**	56.20**

**BASED ON OFFERS

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED TURKEY,
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	75-87
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	75-92
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	65-67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	70-75

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	82-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	79-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	79-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	82-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	88-115

FRESH TURKEYS WITH TIMERS OR EQUIVALENT U.S. GRADE A,
DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, EASTERN REGION, CENTS
PER POUND, WEEK OF 15-MAR-99

	<u>(8-16#)</u>		<u>(16-24#)</u>	
	<u>HENS</u>	<u>LBS</u>	<u>TOMS</u>	<u>LBS</u>
	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>
SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED)	64.00	160		
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	65.00	80		
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)	63.00	80		
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)		280	80	

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NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 27-Feb-99
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	---YOUNG TURKEYS---			FRYER RSTR	OLD BAND	TOTAL HEAD	TKY AVG WT
	THOUSAND	PW	AVG				
	HEAD	%	CHG				
N EAST	1,392	50	21.33	(A)	(A)	1,400	21.37
SATL	634	9	28.79	(A)	(A)	635	28.80
N CENT	1,971	-4	28.54	(A)	(A)	1,978	28.54
S CENT	538	9	18.71	NONE	NONE	538	18.71
WEST	309	59	25.39	(A)	(A)	330	25.45
U.S.TOTAL	4,844(B)	14	25.21	0	37	4,881	25.23
TO DATE							
1999	36,603(B)			0	244	36,847	
TO DATE							
1998	39,336(B)			8	311	39,655	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 23,000 for the year 134,000; last year to date 143,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 27-Feb-99

	FRYER-	YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	ROASTERS	TURKEYS	BANDED	
-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	0	4,844	37	4,881
AVGWT	0.00	25.21	27.38	25.23
LAST WEEK	0	4,259	37	4,296
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	3,832	22	3,854
AVGWT	0.00	26.51(A)	23.50	26.49
TO-DATE/1999	0	36,603(A)	244	36,847
TO-DATE/1998	8	39,336(A)	311	39,655

(A) Includes 134,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 143,000 in 1998.

CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP 27-Feb-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 309 HD, 7,844 LBS,
TO DATE 2,045 HD, 49,902 LBS; OLD 21 HD, TO DATE 40 HD;
TOTAL 330 HD, TO DATE 2,085 HD.

TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

JANUARY	372,828 *
FEBRUARY 1-27, 1999	401,140 *
To date 1999	773,968 *
To date 1998	801,554 *

* PRELIMINARY

YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 11 MARCH 1999.

Trade sentiment barely steady to steady on frozen thigh meat and drums, tom 2-joint wings steady at best, mechanically separated skin added turkey at least steady. Market continues strong on institutional breasts, however, tom breast meat continues to be available and instances of increased availability noted on wing meat. Demand light on bulk parts and thigh meat. Some export buyers not as aggressive due to Lent in Mexico and to other competitively priced dark meat poultry items in Asia.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		R	95.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	125.00		125.00	60
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	90.00		90.00	240
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	20.00		20.00	20
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		F	22.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		W	20.04	54
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	25.00		25.00	40
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		W	25.00	14
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	28.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN				
NECKS, TOM	22.00		22.00	36
NECKS, HEN		W	22.00	14
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/		W	205.80	300
THIGH MEAT		T	48.00	40
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	54.00	20
BREAST TRIM MEAT				
SCAPULA MEAT		F	112.00	20
TENDERLOINS		R	141.00	12
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		T	166.00	8
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		W	68.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		T	17.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/		W	20.00	40
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	20.00-21.00		20.44	71
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		W	21.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	15.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	51.00	60

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Without tenderloins. 4/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.

YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 12 MARCH 1999.

Trade sentiment steady to barely steady on tom breast meat, skin added 15-20% mechanically separated turkey (MST) barely steady to fully steady and thigh meat steady at best. Demand light to fair on tom breast meat with trading centered on close trimmed. Fresh 15-20% skin added MST demand uneven ranging light to good on tight to fully adequate offers. Offerings of regular trimmed tom breast meat available and instances of increased frozen destrapped tenderloin offers noted. Frozen mature breast meat (1 load) 155 cents shipping point. For export: fresh tom drums (3 loads) 20-20.50 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/						
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	125.00	60	125.00	60
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	91.00		91.00	40	90.14	280
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	20.00		20.00	80	20.00	140
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH	22.00		22.00	40	22.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	20.00		20.00	40	20.02	94
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	25.00		25.00	40	24.60	100
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN	22.00		22.00	3	24.47	17
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	28.00	40	28.93	75
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN	37.00		37.00	30	37.00	30
NECKS, TOM		R	22.00	36	21.40	100
NECKS, HEN	19.00		19.00	3	21.47	17
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	205.00-206.00		205.80	200	206.17	580
THIGH MEAT		T	48.00	40	48.00	40
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	48.00		48.00	40	48.00	40
BREAST TRIM MEAT	117.00		117.00	80	117.00	80
SCAPULA MEAT		F	112.00	20		
TENDERLOINS						
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		T	166.00	8	166.00	8
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		W	68.00	40	68.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		T	17.00	40	17.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	20.00-22.00		21.55	266	21.35	306
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		R	20.44	71	20.58	191
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS		W	21.00	40	21.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	20.50		20.50	40	20.50	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	49.00		49.00	40	49.86	140

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2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Without tenderloins. 4/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.