



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0575

FRIDAY  
MARCH 19, 1999  
VOL. 46 NO. 33

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 tight to sufficient. Demand was light to moderate. A fair volume of frozen turkeys traded in the Central region for May-June shipments. Breast and thigh meat were available, with breast meat slightly stronger than thigh meat. Mechanically separated turkey was tight and at least steady.

### EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading noted on thigh meat to Mexico and hen v-type wings to Asia.

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 18, 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/	61-62.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 19, 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/	61-62.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1600	MAY-JUN
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600	MAY-JUN
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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 19, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	61.80**	62.00**	55.75
CENTRAL REGION	59.22	60.50**	56.00
WESTERN REGION	61.40**	60.00	55.00**
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	61.00**	61.00**	56.00
CENTRAL REGION	60.50**	60.50**	55.00
WESTERN REGION	61.50**	61.50**	56.00**

\*\*BASED ON OFFERS

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	75-81
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	75
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	63-64
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	63-64
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	69-75

**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 22-MAR-99

	<u>(8-16#)</u>		<u>(16-24#)</u>	
	<u>HENS</u>	<u>LBS</u>	<u>TOMS</u>	<u>LBS</u>
	<u>PRICE (000)</u>	<u>PRICE (000)</u>	<u>PRICE (000)</u>	<u>PRICE (000)</u>
SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED)	70.00	2496	70.00	480
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	70.00	2496	70.00	480
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)				
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)		288		74

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Officer-In-Charge)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	

**NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS**

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 06-Mar-99 (PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	<u>---YOUNG TURKEYS---</u>			<u>FRYER</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TKY</u>
	<u>THOUSAND</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>AVG</u>	<u>RSTR</u>	<u>BAND</u>	<u>AVG</u>	
	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>CHG</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>---THOUSAND</u>	<u>HEAD---</u>	<u>WT</u>
NEAST	515	-63	21.38	NONE	NONE	515	21.38
SATL	373	-41	28.10	(A)	(A)	382	28.14
N CENT	1,816	-8	28.14	(A)	(A)	1,837	28.09
S CENT	966	80	21.86	(A)	(A)	967	21.87
WEST	205	-34	22.37	(A)	(A)	207	22.54
U.S.TOTAL	3,875(B)	-20	25.36	0	33	3,908	25.38
TO DATE							
1999	40,478(B)			0	277	40,755	
TO DATE							
1998	45,029(B)			8	339	45,376	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.  
 (B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 9,000 for the year 143 ,000; last year to date 150,000.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING** 06-Mar-99

	<u>FRYER-</u>	<u>YOUNG</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>ROASTERS</u>	<u>TURKEYS</u>	<u>BANDED</u>	
	<u>THOUSANDS</u>			
HEAD	0	3,875	33	3,908
AVGWT	0.00	25.36	27.00	25.38
LAST WEEK	0	4,844	37	4,881
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	5,693	28	5,721
AVGWT	0.00	26.65(A)	28.46	26.66
TO-DATE/1999	0	40,478(A)	277	40,755
TO-DATE/1998	8	45,029(A)	339	45,376

(A) Includes 143,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 150,000 in 1998.

**CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP** 06-Mar-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 205 HD, 4,585 LBS, TO DATE 2,250 HD, 54,487 LBS; OLD 2 HD, TO DATE 42 HD; TOTAL 207 HD, TO DATE 2,292 HD.

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND**

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

FEBRUARY	401,140 *
MARCH 1-6, 1999	79,342 *
To date 1999	853,310 *
To date 1998	923,578 *

\* PRELIMINARY

**YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT**, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 18 MARCH 1999.

Undertone steady to barely steady on tom breast meat with a cautious trade sentiment noted. Demand and trading light to fair on fresh tom breast meat centering on open priced for March-April shipments. Demand on institutional breasts fair to good for the limited offerings and a strong undertone, 4-8 lb. breasts steady. Offerings of drums available with some inquiries for smaller sized hen drums going unfilled, frozen thigh meat light to ample. Fresh destrapped tenderloins (part load) 160 and fresh yearling hens (2 loads) 32 cents delivered. Open priced export trading light on thigh meat and mechanically separated turkey for April.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	95.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	125.00	60
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		W	90.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	21.00-21.50		21.29	34
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		W	19.15	520
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	19.00		19.00	40
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	25.00		25.00	14
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		F	22.00	3
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		F	37.00	30
NECKS, TOM		T	21.00	14
NECKS, HEN		F	19.00	3
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/		W	178.28	640
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	193.00-196.00		195.67	90
THIGH MEAT		T	50.00	20
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	48.00	40
BREAST TRIM MEAT		F	117.00	80
SCAPULA MEAT				
TENDERLOINS		W	135.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		W	149.00	320
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		T	68.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/		W	22.00	40
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		W	18.50	104
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		M	28.50	104
TAILS	20.50		20.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	22.00		22.00	20
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	49.00-50.00		49.33	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 19 MARCH 1999.

Undertone steady to barely steady on tom breast meat, hen drums steady to barely steady, tom drums and thigh meat barely steady to weak. Market steady on full-cut and hen 2-joint wings, mixed on tom 2-joint wings with most buyers resisting the lower buyer bids. Export and domestic demand light to sometimes fair. Trading centered on open priced thigh meat for export and fresh tom breast meat for domestic. For export: hen 2-joint wings (3 loads) 37 cents delivered.

<b>DOMESTIC TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE RANGE</b>	<b>L.S.T. CODE 1/</b>	<b>WTD AVG PRICE</b>	<b>VOLUME (000)</b>	<b>WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE</b>	<b>WEEKLY VOLUME (000)</b>
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	95.00	40	95.00	80
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/						
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		W	90.00	40	90.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	20.00		20.00	40	20.74	88
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		W	19.15	520	19.15	520
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	19.00		19.00	40	19.40	200
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM		R	25.00	14	24.25	28
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		F	22.00	3		
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		F	37.00	30		
NECKS, TOM		T	21.00	14	21.00	14
NECKS, HEN		F	19.00	3		
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/		W	178.28	640	178.28	640
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	180.00-195.0		191.25	160	191.34	530
THIGH MEAT		T	50.00	20	50.00	20
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	48.00	40		
BREAST TRIM MEAT		F	117.00	80		
SCAPULA MEAT						
TENDERLOINS		W	135.00	40	135.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		W	149.00	320	149.00	320
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	68.00		68.00	80	68.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	20.00		20.00	40	20.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	22.00		22.00	84	22.00	204
<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		W	18.50	104	20.17	232
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		M	28.50	104	28.50	104
TAILS		R	20.50	80	21.41	108
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	22.00	20	22.00	20
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		R	49.33	60	49.60	100