



USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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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 birds. Offerings were spotty to sufficient. Demand was limited to moderate with some increased inquiry noted for deferred shipments. Trading was extremely light. The undertone was mostly steady on fresh tom breast meat with a fairly good demand for next week's holiday needs. Thigh meat attempted to settle at current lower prices and tom drums were closer to steady.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading was heavy on thigh meat and tom drums. Export demand was best into Asia, light to fair for other destinations.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 25, 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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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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	61	61.00	40	-	-	-	-	-	-

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	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
MARCH 26, 1999			
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	61.75**	61.80**	56.73
CENTRAL REGION	60.50**	59.22	54.93
WESTERN REGION	61.50**	61.40**	56.30**
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	61.00**	61.00**	57.00
CENTRAL REGION	60.50**	60.50**	55.60
WESTERN REGION	61.00**	61.50**	56.50**

**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#	66-67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	71-75

**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 29-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)	66.00	400	66.00	250
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	66.00	400	66.00	250
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)				
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)		400		100

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NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTSBY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 13-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>HEAD</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>CHG</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>RSTR</u>	<u>BAND</u>	<u>AVG</u>
					<u>---THOUSAND</u>	<u>HEAD---</u>	<u>WT</u>
N EAST	1,001	94	23.34		(A)	(A)	1,003 23.38
S ATL	1,501	302	18.61		(A)	(A)	1,510 18.67
N CENT	1,808	0	26.82		(A)	(A)	1,813 26.81
S CENT	600	-38	19.84		(A)	(A)	601 19.91
WEST	384	87	22.90		(A)	(A)	387 22.97
U.S.TOTAL	5,294(B)	37	22.76		0	20	5,314 22.79
TO DATE							
1999	45,772(B)				0	297	46,069
TO DATE							
1998	51,064(B)				8	418	51,490

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 24,000 for the year 167,000; last year to date 194,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 13-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	5,294	20	5,314
AVGWT	0.00	22.76	31.10	22.79
LAST WEEK	0	3,875	33	3,908
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	6,035	79	6,114
AVGWT	0.00	26.69(A)	32.33	26.76
TO-DATE/1999	0	45,772(A)	297	46,069
TO-DATE/1998	8	51,064(A)	418	51,490

(A) Includes 167,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 194,000 in 1998.

CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP 13-Mar-99FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 339 HD, 7,961 LBS,
TO DATE 2,589 HD, 62,448 LBS; OLD 3 HD, TO DATE 45 HD;
TOTAL 342 HD, TO DATE 2,634 HD.**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND**

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

FEBRUARY	401,140 *
MARCH 1-13, 1999	176,225 *
To date 1999	950,193 *
To date 1998	1,054,468 *

* PRELIMINARY

YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 25 MARCH 1999.

Increased fresh tom breast meat interest noted for prompt shipments to fill next week's holiday schedules. Trade sentiment mixed on fresh 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey with strength noted in the East and spot weakness in the Midwest with offers noted at 20 cents delivered. Canner pack tom market unsettled with some availability noted at lower prices while others indicate firmness. Plant grade 4-8 lb. breasts (30 loads) 90 August, Grade A 10-12 lb. breasts (part load) 137, plant grade breasts (part loads): 10-12 lb. 125, 12-14 lb. 130-135, 14-16 lb. 140, tails 24. For export: ground drum (4 loads) 42 delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/				
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	129.00		129.00	600
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	90.00		90.00	120
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	19.00-20.00		19.33	60
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH				
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		W	20.00	160
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	24.00		24.00	10
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		W	24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	27.00		27.00	7
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN				
NECKS, TOM				
NECKS, HEN				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/		W	185.00	20
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	192.00-194.00		192.67	120
THIGH MEAT	40.00-45.00		42.04	204
THIGH MEAT—FRESH				
BREAST TRIM MEAT				
SCAPULA MEAT				
TENDERLOINS				
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	159.00-160.00		159.50	80
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		F	68.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	20.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/		W	21.93	280
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	20.00		20.00	60
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	24.00-25.00		24.57	70
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		R	20.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	21.25	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	40.00-46.00		45.06	332

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 26 MARCH 1999.

Undertone mostly steady on fresh tom breast meat, improved on frozen thigh meat and instances of increased confidence noted on tom drums. Domestic demand fair to good on fresh tom breast meat for next week's holiday needs. Export demand on tom drums and thigh meat fair to good in the West with best interest for Asia, light to fair at best for other destinations. Frozen thigh meat (3 loads) transferred-in-storage 40, Grade A 8-10 lb. breast (4.50 loads) 97-100 mostly 99, fresh destrapped tenderloins (2.50 loads) 159-162 cents delivered. For export: hen 2-joint wings (3 loads) 37 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/	95.50-97.00		95.72	47	95.72	47
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	129.00	600	129.00	600
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		R	90.00	120	90.06	171
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	18.00-20.00		18.80	200	18.92	260
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH	19.00		19.00	40	19.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	19.00		19.00	320	19.33	480
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	24.00		24.00	40	24.00	50
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		W	24.00	40	24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	27.00	7	27.00	7
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN						
NECKS, TOM	19.00		19.00	40	19.00	40
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	180.00		180.00	120	180.71	140
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	194.00-197.0		195.00	650	193.45	1,210
THIGH MEAT	41.00		41.00	240	41.48	444
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	42.00-44.00		42.40	100	42.40	100
BREAST TRIM MEAT						
SCAPULA MEAT	112.00		112.00	25	112.00	25
TENDERLOINS	139.00		139.00	40	139.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	159.00-160.0		159.50	160	159.50	240
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	66.00-68.00		67.67	48	67.67	48
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	18.00		18.00	20	18.00	20
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	21.00-23.00		22.33	216	21.95	576
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	18.00		18.00	120	19.50	484
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	24.57	70	24.57	70
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	21.25	160	21.25	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	43.00-44.00		43.71	364	44.49	828

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