

Gordon Food Service Market Updates

Poultry | Chicken

The current week has been much more stable compared to the previous week that was plagued by many weather related disruptions. When looking back at production numbers last week it is no surprise that we had so many challenges. The production numbers were at just under 96 million head processed, which is down from 164 million head the week before. We also saw just under 60% of the birds coming in the lighter weight ranges, so total weight available was even further reduced. As we started up this week there was discussion of plants running six days to catch up on the birds and keep the weights from further increasing. That will help get things back a little closer to normal. The jumbo breast meat market was in good shape with product available to those looking and only experience a small increase in cost. The medium market and the select breast remained flat once again this week. This we have not seen for many weeks now. The jumbo wing market continues to remain tight with not signs of any softening. Tenders have also remained flat this week. One ongoing issue that just does not seem to go away is plants continuing to struggle with labor. Many feel that as long as the government is going to extend unemployment benefits we will continue to deal with the labor challenge. The export market continues to keep the dark meat complex well supported.

Breast and Tenders:

The Jumbo Breast Meat market found a little strength this week, but as the week progressed there was no issue finding product available. Some even claimed to be able to buy in back of the market. The market took a slight increase of \$.03/lb this week to \$.1.45/lb. The select and medium markets remained unchanged as the select market remained at \$2.23/lb and medium market at \$1.68/lb. We continue to see this in balance even with the disruptions to production. Line run Breast Tenders also remained unchanged at \$1.83/lb.

Wings:

Wings finally had a week where they did not climb to new record highs, but remained flat for the week. The Jumbo whole wings and medium whole wings remained at \$2.56/lb. The small wings also remained flat at the record high of \$2.65/lb.