

Gordon Food Service Market Updates

Poultry | Chicken

The chicken market is still extremely tight and we continue to see demand outweigh the supply that is available. The outlook is that we could see this situation continue through May. While you might think that the high market prices would lead to expansion on production the limited labor force is keeping this expansion to a minimum as they do not want to face a supply of birds that are not able to be processed. We are also being faced with a shortage on imported products as the Global supply of shipping containers is also tight. The production numbers have remained flat from last week, but we are ahead of where we were when plants were being shut down in 2020 with Covid. The demand could clearly support higher production numbers, but the birds and labor are keeping the numbers low. The total production remained at 161 million head for the second week in a row with lighter weights as only 51% coming in the larger weight ranges versus running in the mid 50's. This reduction in production has pushed prices up on the breast market this week. The wing market remains in short supply as Foodservice demand continues to seek out any and all product that is available. When you look at every cut on the market everything is either at a 52 week high or an all time high. This goes for white meat as well as dark meat right now.

Breast and Tenders:

The Jumbo Breast Meat market has found its way up to \$.1.80/lb for the week. The select and medium markets were also able to climb some with the medium market at \$1.88/lb and the Select all the way up to \$2.49/lb. Line run Breast Tenders have climbed up to \$1.98/lb. Buyers are simply having to pay over the market on just about everything if you want to secure the product.

Wings:

The shortage of wings remains and it is hard to say when this is going to end. As the market goes up the product that is produced is easily cleared. The Jumbo whole

wings are at \$2.73/lb, medium whole wings remained at \$2.64/lb and small wings have gone up to \$2.75/lb. The price on wings has not discouraged restaurants from offering them on the menu and with many still doing a large volume of take out the product remains in demand.