



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Agricultural  
Marketing  
Service

Room 3932-S, STOP 0256  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250-0256

May 7, 2007

All Poultry Processors

**NOTICE TO THE TRADE - MAY 2007**

The Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Poultry Programs, and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) are approving a Standard Yield pilot program for bulk chicken parts. Standard yields for bulk chicken (large or small whole birds) were established at the inception of the Standard Yield pilot program using data gathered from the poultry industry, the National Chicken Council, and through AMS Poultry Programs' Grading Branch staff. Initially, the yields were set high enough to require processors to add meat, assuring that no meat would be diverted from the commodity program to commercial product. Using the established yields for bone-in chicken and boneless chicken meat, the following standard yields for bulk chicken parts will be applicable during the pilot:

<b>Standard Yield for Bulk Whole Legs</b>		
<b>B/S Thigh</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>11,520</b>
<b>B/S Drum</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>7,920</b>
<b>Dark Trim</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>720</b>
<b>Skin</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>2,520</b>
<b>Total Yield</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>22,680</b>

<b>Standard Yield for Bulk Thighs</b>		
<b>B/S Thigh</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>18,000</b>
<b>Dark Trim</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>1,440</b>
<b>Skin</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>2,880</b>
<b>Total Yield</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>22,320</b>

<b>Standard Yield for Bulk Drums</b>		
<b>B/S Drum</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>20,520</b>
<b>Skin</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>2,520</b>
<b>Total Yield</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>23,040</b>

The pilot period will last one year. During that period, Poultry Programs will evaluate and assess the program to determine its appropriateness and whether any changes are warranted. Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Charles Johnson or Richard Lawson at (202) 720-3271.

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