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France

Poultry

Poultry Annual Report

1999

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Report Highlights:
After several years of increases, France's poultry production is expected to decrease in 1999. Both chicken and turkey production are down. This sectoral recession is due to sluggish domestic demand and to increased competition abroad, pushing poultry prices down. France has a well-developed export-oriented industry with very competitive prices on exports. French poultry exports to the EU are up, and may have benefitted from the dioxin scandal by replacing Belgian exports. Exports to the Middle East region are stagnant. Because of the financial crisis, exports to Russia plummeted with the exception of mechanically deboned turkey meat.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
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Executive Summary

In 1998, about 2.32 million MT of poultry meat was produced in France. Both turkey (0.72 MMT) and chicken meat (1.19 MMT) production was up along with production of other poultry meat. The trend is expected to reverse in 1999 and 2000 due to sluggish demand at home and abroad. A growing share of French poultry production is made up of expensive free-range birds under a program called Red Label.

French poultry companies, especially DOUX, BOURGOIN and LDC, are European leaders. DOUX exports mostly frozen broilers to the Middle East while BOURGOIN exports turkey meat to Eastern Europe and Russia and quality broilers to EU countries.

Although poultry prices for export are not officially published, they were estimated in 1998 at 0.65 USD/lb for frozen broilers. French poultry consumption was 24 kg per person in 1998 and is expected to decrease slightly in 1999, mainly due to the dioxin scandal in Belgium that frightened poultry meat consumers throughout Europe. Poultry parts and value-added products are taking a growing share of total poultry meat consumption.

More than 40 percent of French poultry production was exported in 1998. EU countries, especially Germany and UK, Middle East countries and, although declining since the financial crisis of August 1998, Russia, are the main export markets for France. Due to stiffer competition in its traditional market in the Middle-East, declining exports to Russia, and because exports to other EU countries are stagnant, French poultry exports are expected to decrease in 1999 and 2000.

Sources

Data and other information in this report are gathered from both governmental and industry sources. Governmental sources include the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MinAg) and the French Meat and Poultry Board (OFIVAL).

Industry sources include: the French Technical Institute for Poultry (ITAVI) and various poultry companies.

Production

General

French poultry meat production exceeded 2.3 million MT in CY 1997, maintaining France's position as the largest poultry producer in the European Union (EU) and the fourth largest in the world, after the United States, China and Brazil. French poultry meat production has doubled in the last twenty years.

French poultry production (in CY 1998) (thousand MT)

	1998
Chicken	1190
Turkey	725
Duck	224
Guinea fowl	57
Others (hen, goose, quail, pigeon, ...)	124
Total	**2320**

(Source OFIVAL, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries)

The chicken production figure in the PS&D has been revised from previous calculations. For this report, it does not include production of live birds for export (about 50,000 MT). It includes only chicken produced for slaughtering in France. Using the same calculation, CY 1997 chicken production figure amounted to 1,189,000 MT. All others figures in the PS&Ds are comparable to CY 1997 figures.

Early data for CY 1999 show that bird slaughter in France declined by 2.8 percent in the January to May period compared to the same period of CY 1998. This decrease is more important for chicken meat (minus 4 percent) than for turkey (minus 2.5 percent). Only duck meat production seems to be on the increase. French chicken and turkey meat have suffered from competition of pork meat, which is currently very cheap, and from slow exports, both to the EU and to third countries. To reduce production, French poultry companies have asked their farmers to reduce production density (from 25 to 24 chicken per square meter and from 8 to 7 turkeys per square meter) as well as to expanding the time lapse between flocks (23 to 28 days between flocks instead of 15 days in CY 1997). To keep turkey prices up, the French Turkey Association (CIDEF) decided in April to slaughter and stock several thousand MT of whole turkeys which will be sold before Christmas as "baby" turkeys at reduced price. The CIDEF call in CY 1998 for reduced turkey production had limited impact, for while fewer birds were produced, they were much heavier.

Free range and Red Label poultry production

Beginning in the early 1970's, France developed free-range poultry production under the Red Label program. This program set a wide range of production criteria such as genetics (or breed), feed, and duration of grow out. The French Ministry of Agriculture grants the Red Label to farmers' groups or cooperatives whose production matches the program's standards. Red Label poultry production is subject to thorough controls at each stage of the process to ensure quality. In the aftermath of the "mad cow" crisis that made consumers wary of industrially-produced meat, Red Label poultry consumption has increased sharply despite its higher price. In 1998, more than 13 percent of French chicken meat production was Red Label.

French Red Label poultry production (millions of head)

	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997
All Red Label poultry	44.0	70.9	88.0	94.0	95.4
inc. chicken	39.4	62.7	75.9	81.3	81.0
inc. guinea fowl	3.3	5.4	7.6	8.4	8.7

(Source CFA/SYNALAF)

For more detailed information about the Red Label program, contact:
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Overview of the poultry industry

General

The rapid development of the French poultry sector is linked to increased regional specialization. Close to 80 percent of French poultry meat is produced in the western quarter of the country, Brittany alone accounting for 47 percent of total French production. However, increased environmental constraints are likely to limit further production increases in these regions, to the benefit of other parts of France. Such constraints may eventually hamper French poultry's competitiveness by raising prices.

The French Ministry of Agriculture counted in 1994 (last data available) 14,400 poultry farms. Of the 774 slaughterhouses surveyed, only 96 had a slaughter capacity of over 2.5 million heads per year (or about 3,500 MT). Seventeen slaughterhouses -- 11 for chicken, 4 for turkey and 2 for mixed meat -- produce more than a third of total French poultry meat each year.

Close to 95 percent of poultry farmers have contracts with poultry companies. The company provides chicks and feed and sometimes the building; it pays the farmer according to weight and quality of the birds.

Poultry Companies

In France, seven poultry companies have sales in excess of 1 billion FF (USD 170 million). Of those, 3 major groups, DOUX, BSA-BOURGOIN and LDC account for more than 67 percent of total French poultry sales.
With sales over FF 7.7 billion (USD 1.3 billion), of which FF 4.5 billion (USD 750 million) is exported, DOUX S.A. is the largest EU poultry producer. The company employs 8,000 workers in France and has facilities in Germany, Spain, Portugal, the United States and Switzerland. DOUX is a highly integrated poultry company, owning its breeding facilities, feed compounder, slaughterhouses and shipping company. DOUX is specialized in chicken meat (70 percent of its sales) and turkey meat (25 percent). DOUX is the leading French exporter of frozen whole chicken to the Middle East region. However, the decrease in EU export subsidies mandated by the Marrakesh agreement as well as increased Brazilian competition led DOUX to focus more on the domestic market for fresh value-added poultry products. On July 27, 1998, DOUX also announced the purchase of the Brazilian poultry company FRANGOSUL S.A. AGRO AVICOLA INDUSTRIAL, the fourth largest Brazilian poultry company with USD 300 million sales, of which USD 123 million in exports. DOUX has also been rumored to be searching for possible investment in China.

BSA-BOURGOIN Group is the second largest EU poultry group. It employs 6,500 workers in 40 industrial plants and is highly integrated. Its sales exceeded FF 6.4 billion (USD 1.1 billion) in 1996, of which 47 percent are exports. BOURGOIN has subsidiaries in Spain. The company started with turkey meat production but has now diversified into quality chicken for the domestic and EU markets (17 percent of its production), standard broilers (30 percent of production) and export broilers (20 percent) . Turkey meat still accounts for 30 percent of production. BOURGOIN is one of the major French exporters of turkey parts and mechanically deboned turkey meat (MDM) to Russia and Cuba. BOURGOIN also recently developed a value-added range of products. A subsidiary which specializes in export broilers has joined with the export arm of UNICOPA (the fourth- largest French poultry producer) in a joint venture, TILLY-SABCO, whose goal is to become more competitive in Middle-East markets.

LDC Group is the third French poultry company with sales in excess of FF 4.5 billion (USD 750 million). Not as integrated as BOURGOIN or DOUX, LDC has a very strong position on the domestic market, with a specialization in Red Label poultry. LDC has also subsidiaries in Spain, Poland and China.

Other poultry companies:

	Sales (billion FF):	Products
UNICOPA	1.6	Standard broiler, export broiler
SYNAVI	1.4	Leader in duck meat, turkey and chicken meat
ARRIVE	1.4	Red Label chicken, value added product
SOPARVOL	1.3	Red Label poultry, value added product

A list and more information on French poultry companies can also be found on this website:
http://www.mhr-viandes.com/en/docu/docu/d0000384.htm

Production costs and prices

General

Due to the contractual relationships between farmers and poultry companies, assessment of production costs is difficult. However, some studies help to estimate the price competitiveness of French poultry.

Export Prices

The average wholesale price, as published by the French Ministry of Agriculture, does not represent export prices. It shows prices for broilers for domestic consumption. Birds for domestic production are heavier, take longer to grow and the farmer usually produces 5.9 flocks per year (versus the 6.7 to 7.2 flocks/year for export chickens). The wholesale price is therefore 2 to 4 FF per kilo (USD 0.15 to 0.30/lb), live weight higher than export birds.

Moreover, export companies such as DOUX have built facilities specifically targeted for the export market, from production to slaughtering and packaging, hence reducing their costs. DOUX, which accounts for 70 to 80 percent of French frozen poultry exports to the Middle East, uses 4 chartered ships built specifically for shipping frozen poultry. Each ship carries 5,000 MT of frozen chicken in the hull and 1,200 MT in 52 containers on the deck. Each journey to Jeddah takes 15-20 days. Southern Hemisphere fruits, such as apples, kiwis, pineapples, avocados and oranges are back loaded from South Africa.

1998 Cost estimates for frozen whole broilers (70 percent with offal) exported to the Middle East

	FF per Kg	USD per pound (1 USD = 5.90 FF)
Chick costs (1.40 FF per chick)	0.75	0.058
Feed cost	+2.15	+0.166
Farmer's revenue	+1.25	+0.097
Total: Price of Live Chicken	**4.15**	**0.320**
Price after slaughtering (78 percent slaughtering yield) and losses (2 percent)	5.40	0.416
Industrial costs (trucking, slaughtering, freezing, etc...)	+2.10	+0.162
Price before shipping	**7.30**	**0.563**
Shipping costs (Brest to Jeddah)	+1.20	+0.093
Price Chicken CIF Jeddah	**8.50**	**0.655**

(*Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, ITAVI*)

Shipping costs: Frozen poultry from Brest (France) to Jeddah (data from 1996)

Total:	**180 USD** per metric ton
inc. loading of the ship:	35 USD per metric ton
inc. freight and insurance:	15 USD per metric ton
Supplement for loading at Dammam (Eastern coast of Saudi Arabia)	50 USD per metric ton

(Sources: Centre d'Economie Rurale du Finistère, ITAVI)

According to several poultry specialists, several factors could increase French poultry production costs in the forthcoming years:
- **Animal Welfare**: with a mandatory decrease in production density (number of birds per square meter) could increase costs by 0.1 to 0.3 FF per KG of live bird (0.8 to 2.4 cents/lb)
- **Environmental constraints**: disposal of manure and other wastes could increase production costs by as much as 0.28 FF/KG of live bird (2.2 cents/lb)
- **Prohibition on additives, including antibiotics, in feed** would increase mortality and feed consumption. This extra cost could be charged to the farmer's income, but it is very likely that he would ask the poultry company to bear part of the burden.
- **Feed cost**: grain prices are expected to decrease by as much as 15 percent, due to the new EU farm policy, reducing production costs by 0.1 to 0.2 FF per KG live weight (0.8 to 1.6 cents/lb). On the other hand, the ban on animal meals in feed proposed by several EU countries could increase production cost by 0.1 to 0.15 FF per KG of live bird (0.8 to 1.2 cents/lb)

Although these constraints are not implemented yet, discussions of their imposition have started at the EU level. One can expect poultry companies and some EU member states, possibly including France to oppose those proposals.

The table below shows export prices calculated by dividing the export value by the export volume. It gives an idea of the FOB price and does include restitutions. The difference between the EU-15 price and the third country price is also explained by different classes of products. Frozen whole chickens exported from France to the EU-15 are generally Class A broilers (minimum 41 days before slaughtering, average live weight 1.89 kilo) versus a standard export chicken (usually 35 to 38 days before slaughtering, average live weight 1.40 to 1.43 kilo).

Whole frozen chicken export prices for selected destinations, calculated with customs data

USD/lb	Frozen Chicken	
	1997	1998
Angola	0.572	0.439
Iran	0.505	0.472
Jordan	0.552	0.574
Saudi Arabia	0.545	0.49
Kuwait	0.553	0.481
Bahrein	0.568	0.484
Qatar	0.573	0.489
U.A.E.	0.553	0.478

Oman	0.549	0.474
Yemen	0.554	0.477
Avg. Middle East	**0.55**	**0.483**
Russia	0.608	0.602
EU-15	0.692	0.652
Third Countries	0.559	0.496
World	**0.578**	**0.511**

(Source OFIVAL, French customs)

Other frozen poultry products export prices in 1997 (USD/lb)

	Chicken parts (with bones)		**Turkey parts (with bones)**		**frozen chicken MDM**		**frozen turkey MDM**	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Germany	1.340	0.613	0.383	0.429	1.222	1.558	1.116	1.162
United Kingdom	2.083	0.960	0.928	0.987	0.989	*2.027	1.219	1.094
Hong Kong	0.441	0.386	0.302	0.252	NE	0.587	NE	0.744
Benin	0.442	0.420	0.437	0.457	NE	NE	0.385	0.412
Russia	0.510	0.443	0.435	0.450	0.369	0.289	0.397	0.294

(Custom data may include chicken filet as well)* *(Source French Customs)*

Consumption

General

French poultry meat production was 23.6 kg per person in 1998. In the last 25 years, poultry meat consumption has almost doubled. However, poultry meat still ranks third, after pork (35.2 kg/person/year) and beef (26.7 kg/person/year).

Poultry meat consumption in France (kg/person/year)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998
Total Poultry	**21.3**	**22.9**	**23.7**	**23.4**	**23.6**
Chicken	11.3	11.2	12.3	12.1	12.5
Turkey	5.5	6.4	6.1	5.8	5.8
Duck	1.8	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.8

Guinea Fowl	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9

(Source OFIVAL, Ministry of Agriculture)

On average, it is estimated that every year, each French person eats 9 chickens (including 1.5 free range Red Label), 1 turkey, 1 duck, 1 guinea fowl and 2 kg of other poultry such as hen, goose, quail and pigeon. An increasing part of poultry meat is consumed either as parts or as value-added products.

Household poultry purchases in 1997

	market share 1997 (%)	annual growth (1996-97)
Chicken	**50**	**+2.2**
Whole	20	-5.7
free range	12	-0.4
standard broiler	8	-15.1
parts and value added products	18	+6.0
Turkey	**27**	**=**
parts	22	+0.9
breast	10	-0.7
legs	6	-5.6
Duck	**6**	**+1.2**
Guinea fowl	**4**	**-6.9**

(Source SECODIP)

About 55 percent of poultry meat is sold in super- or hypermarkets. Traditional butchers account for 23 percent and catering and restaurants for 22 percent. Catering purchases of poultry meat grew by 5 percent in 1998.

It is still too early to fully assess the impact of the dioxin scandal on the French consumption of poultry meat. Preliminary data show that purchases dropped by 30 percent in the immediate aftermath of the scandal (early June 1999) but rose shortly after to stabilize close to pre-scandal levels. The consumption decrease was larger for chicken meat than for turkey meat. Poultry organizations estimate that, overall, domestic poultry meat consumption will probably decrease by 1.6 percent in CY 1999, with chicken meat consumption decreasing by 1.4 percent and turkey meat consumption decreasing by 3.7 percent. Note that consumption figures in the PS&Ds include stock variations, which are not known precisely.

Consumption trends

According to various research institutes, poultry meat consumption in France is likely to increase further, with larger sales of poultry parts and value added products. Although the proposed CAP reform should lower beef prices, the high rate of unemployment and stagnant incomes in France are likely to sustain cheap poultry meat consumption. On the other hand, consumers will also be looking for luxury poultry products (such as capon, free range whole turkey and goose) for holidays seasons. Finally, analysts expect consumers to pay more attention to environmental and ethical criteria such as animal welfare. Growing sales of Red Label products reflect such concerns.

Trade

General

More than 40 percent of French poultry production was exported in 1998 (2 birds out of 5). Net exports reached FF 8.15 billion (USD 1.4 billion). The EU remained the largest customer for French poultry. More than half of French exports (of which 60 percent were parts) to UK and Germany, the second and third French export markets, were fresh or chilled, while almost all exports to Saudi Arabia, the leading French export market, were frozen.

French poultry exports in CY 1999 are expected to decrease due to increased competition in third-country markets, while exports to the EU should still be on the increase. Exports of fresh (especially "Red Label" and free range) chicken are expected to grow significantly while exports of frozen chicken will remain stagnant and exports of turkey meat are expected to decrease by 1 to 3 percent. However, French poultry exporters are likely to face a difficult situation in Britain and Germany, as retailers are favoring domestic producers with labels such as "buy British". On the other hand, France may benefit from the ban on Belgian poultry exports to EU countries. Recent rumors of contamination of poultry feed in France by sewage could seriously harm French poultry meat exports within the EU (and in third countries too). French media already reported that some retailers in Germany withdrew all French poultry from their shelves in the second week of August 1999 because of the alleged contamination. As of mid-August 1999, the full impact of this story has yet to be determined.

French exports of frozen chicken to the Middle East are also likely to decrease in CY 1999. In CY 1998, France exported large quantities of chicken to Iran. However, these contracts have not been renewed for 1999, allegedly because the prices offered by the Iranians were too low. Due to acute competition with Brazil, French export chicken prices have dropped by 8 percent. However, despite the reduction in the total volume authorized by the GATT agreement to be exported with subsidies (315,600 MT CWE for the EU), the volume eligible for subsidized exports to the Middle East (254,000 MT CWE) remains large, ensuring French exporters another comfortable year .

The Russian market is expected to remain difficult for French poultry exports. For the first 4 months of CY 1999, exports dropped by 25 percent compared to the same period of CY 1998. Exports of frozen whole chicken fell by two-thirds, despite a very low price (FF 3.20 per KG or USD 0.235/lb at 1 USD = 6.20 FF). On the other hand, exports of mechanically deboned turkey meat continued to rise (plus 25 percent) but at a very low price (FF 1.93/KG or USD 0.142/lb). Because of these very low prices, exporters have asked for restitutions to cover their losses. However, because of massive fraud found in the pork export sales to Russia, it seems unlikely that the EU Commission will resume its subsidies for poultry meat exports to Russia before the system proves it can operate fairly.

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French exports of various poultry meat in CY 1997 and CY 1998 (MT, product weight basis)

	fresh whole chicken		frozen whole chicken		chicken parts (fresh)		chicken parts (frozen)		Turkey parts (fresh)		turkey parts (frozen)	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Belgium/Lux	9,681	9,870	310	277	4,518	4,829	1,185	1,172	25,978	22,473	10,545	7,594
Netherlands	1,376	2,092	1,517	804	848	952	4,326	3,304	7,151	7,692	5,999	6,268
Germany	4,246	3,813	12,330	2,948	6,247	5,815	8,556	6,506	27,385	22,822	18,457	15,805
United Kingdom	31,367	28,332	16,766	16,307	8,375	6,159	11,669	14,108	4,937	5,423	10,514	6,763
Spain	3,162	4,705	4,317	5,228	2,309	2,465	4,837	3,648	6,127	6,763	14,824	12,473
EU-15	51,904	50,543	44,837	32,362	23,064	20,765	34,483	32,611	79,209	74,774	71,330	59,991
Russia	NE	NE	27,481	21,999	45	24	6,598	3,300	242	660	41,206	43,453
Saudi Arabia	NE	NE	101,478	105,827	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
Iran	NE	NE	6,556	43,124	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
Yemen	NE	NE	30,980	38,243	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
United Arab Emirates	NE	NE	35,189	32,091	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
Middle East	NE	NE	210,584	255,262	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	189	875
Total	**54,914**	**53,189**	**302,547**	**330,682**	**25,359**	**24,202**	**67,492**	**69,937**	**82,540**	**68,967**	**144,776**	**140,979**

NE: NO EXPORT (Source French customs)

French poultry imports rose significantly in CY 1998, driven by booming imports from third countries. France imports deboned meat (chicken and duck) from Hungary, Thailand, Israel and several others Eastern European countries. However, this trend is expected to reverse in CY 1999, due to a large domestic supply. Imports from EU countries may also suffer in CY 1999 from the dioxin affair, as Belgium is a major supplier of poultry meat to France. Analysts expects poultry meat imports from Belgium to decrease by 7,000 to 10,000 MT in CY 1999.

French Customs indicate that France imported 154 MT of poultry meat from the U.S. in CY 1999. Since U.S. poultry is not authorized for human consumption in France (see below), Post suspects that French Customs mis-designated poultry meat for pet-food processing, which is imported from the U.S. on a regular basis.

Note that export matrices for "Poultry Meat, Total" are in MT, product weight basis, while trade matrices for chicken and turkey meat are on MT, RTC basis.

Export strategy

France has a very competitive and export-oriented poultry industry and has built strong commercial ties with buyers in the Middle East region. For example, DOUX employs several Arabic staff, both in France and in the region. Such commercial ties can offset higher prices, as DOUX is often considered a trusted partner. French products meet the market`s demand for a small chicken (less than 1 kilo per bird); in fact, even if the price per kilo of French poultry is higher than Brazil's, the price per chicken is lower.

French exporters also choose to diversify their product lines: instead of focusing solely on frozen whole broilers, they now export more and more MDM as well as processed products such as poultry sausages or offal. In fact, French poultry companies are now imitating the U.S. trend toward selling value-added products at a premium price in the home market while discounting legs, wings and offals destined for export markets. Such a policy reduces the need for export restitutions.

Marketing

Non-Tariff Barriers

Following a decree of 1961, France currently prohibits imports of US poultry for human consumption due to veterinary regulations banning imports from countries which include arsenic in poultry feed.

Eggs

Production

France is the largest EU egg producer with close to 19 percent of total EU egg production. French egg production is expected to grow by 3 percent in CY 1999, with a 6 percent hike in production in the first half of the year, followed by a slow-down in the second half. This production increase, which is higher than the market can absorb, is likely to impact negatively on egg prices, and may lead to a production decrease in CY 2000.

Consumption

It is difficult to precisely assess French egg consumption. Using the PS&Ds, egg consumption is expected to grow by 3 percent in CY 1999. However, consumer panel studies show a 2.5 percent decrease for the first half of CY 1999. Average French egg consumption is still about 250 eggs per person per year, putting France first in egg consumption in the EU.

The production of egg products uses about 3,100 million shell eggs (20 percent of total domestic egg consumption). This figure has doubled in the last 10 years. About 70 to 75 percent of egg products are sold to the catering sector and 25 percent to the food industry. Only a negligible share of egg products are sold to households.

Household shell egg consumption is estimated at 7,500 million eggs annually, 70 percent through supermarkets sales. The food industry accounts for approximately 1,000 million shell eggs yearly.

Free range and organic eggs account for 6 to 7 percent of total household purchases of shell eggs. Sales of organic and free range eggs have jumped by 40 percent and 9 percent respectively in June 1999, following the dioxin scandal.

(Note: The difference between this figure and the above PS&D domestic consumption figures is due to losses, unaccounted uses and unavailable stock estimates. Also note that new data for losses and non-food uses have allowed Post to update "Shell Eggs, OT Use, Loss" and "Other Dom. Consumption" in the PS&Ds)

Egg producing companies

In 1999, three large companies produced and sold eggs on the domestic market: MATINES SA, GIE APPRO LUSTUCRU and L'OEUF DE NOS VILLAGES. Each of these companies had 3 to 5 million laying hens in production facilities nationwide.

There are three main French companies that specialize in egg products: GLON SA, EPI BRETAGNE and IGRECA. These companies have subsidiaries in other EU countries.

Egg Trade

Exports and imports represent only a minor part of total French egg production and distribution.

As in the previous year, the largest share of the trade is within the EU. Germany is the primary customer for French shell eggs, while the Netherlands and Belgium are France's primary shell egg suppliers. France imports mostly small-size eggs for breaking. One can expect French imports of shell eggs and egg products from Belgium to be reduced significantly in CY 1999, due to the dioxin affair. They will probably be replaced by imports from Netherlands and Germany.

French egg products trade was in net surplus in 1999. France purchases low cost products, such as liquid or frozen eggs, and exports high value products, such as dried yolk and albumin to EU countries as well as to other industrialized countries, such as Japan.

Despite GATT import quotas, France does not import from the U.S., due to high prices for U.S. eggs. There have been rumors of imports of U.S. eggs for breaking and processing through the inward processing and re-export regime. However, the existence of this has not been confirmed.

Statistical Tables

Poultry meat, tables

PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Poultry, Meat, Total				(1000 MT)(MIL HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Inventory (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	2322	2320	2310	2310	0	2273
Whole, Imports	25	25	24	26	0	26
Parts, Imports	119	125	142	117	0	111
Intra EC Imports	126	126	156	123	0	117
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	144	150	166	143	0	137
TOTAL SUPPLY	2466	2470	2476	2453	0	2410
Whole, Exports	432	444	432	427	0	413
Parts, Exports	507	552	471	550	0	553
Intra EC Exports	476	491	485	508	0	505
Other Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Exports	939	996	903	977	0	966
Human Consumption	1497	1474	1543	1476	0	1444
Other Use, Losses	30	0	30	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	1527	1474	1573	1476	0	1444
TOTAL Use	2466	2470	2476	2453	0	2410
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	2466	2470	2476	2453	0	2410
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Poultry, Meat, Total		

Time period	CY	Units:	MT, product weight basis
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	154
Others		Others	
Belgium/Lux	43122	Belgium/Lux	49446
Spain	22922	Spain	20289
Netherlands	20128	Netherlands	20281
United Kingdom	12202	United Kingdom	17479
Germany	8906	Hungary	8713
Italy	5404	Germany	6910
Hungary	3596	Italy	3528
Thailand	3381	Ireland	3069
Ireland	1869	Denmark	2036
Sweden	1239	Sweden	2031
Total for Others	122769		133782
Others not Listed	3587		10491
Grand Total	126356		144427

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Poultry, Meat, Total		
Time period	CY	Units:	MT, product weight basis
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	22	U.S.	25
Others		Others	
Germany	132844	Saudi Arabia	105983
United Kingdom	123954	United Kingdom	104986
Saudi Arabia	108660	Germany	98774
Russia	100541	Russia	73203
Belgium/Lux	92503	Belgium/Lux	58697
Spain	68012	Spain	57336
Netherlands	37570	Iran	43130
United Arab Emirates	37556	Yemen	38248

Yemen	33121	United Arab Emirates	32511
Cuba	16563	Netherlands	29172
Total for Others	751324		642040
Others not Listed	199309		207206
Grand Total	950655		849271

Chicken meat, tables

PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Plty, Meat, Chicken -16 wks				(1000 MT)(MIL HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Inventory (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	1235	1190	1225	1180	0	1150
Whole, Imports	19	19	22	20	0	20
Parts, Imports	99	107	108	100	0	95
Intra EC Imports	114	114	125	115	0	110
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	118	126	130	120	0	115
TOTAL SUPPLY	1353	1316	1355	1300	0	1265
Whole, Exports	374	383	372	365	0	355
Parts, Exports	172	186	170	175	0	175
Intra EC Exports	200	196	200	205	0	205
Other Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Exports	546	569	542	540	0	530
Human Consumption	777	747	783	760	0	735
Other Use, Losses	30	0	30	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	807	747	813	760	0	735
TOTAL Use	1353	1316	1355	1300	0	1265
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1353	1316	1355	1300	0	1265
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	166	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Plty, Meat, Chicken -16 wks		
Time period	CY	Units:	MT, RTC basis
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	166
Others		Others	
Belgium/Lux	39773	Belgium/Lux	46428
Netherlands	17257	Netherlands	19604
Spain	16969	Spain	14678
United Kingdom	9523	United Kingdom	17439
Germany	7447	Germany	7614
Hungary	3590	Hungary	5676
Thailand	3381	Thailand	2844
Italy	2285	Italy	2369
Ireland	1676	Ireland	2342
		Denmark	2083
Total for Others	101901		121077
Others not Listed	1915		4717
Grand Total	103816		125960

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Plty, Meat, Chicken -16 wks		
Time period	CY	Units:	MT, RTC basis
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	21	U.S.	20
Others		Others	
Saudi Arabia	122864	Saudi Arabia	113659
United Kingdom	86309	United Kingdom	87287

Germany	47344	Iran	46445
Russia	38229	Yemen	41069
United Arab Emirates	37442	United Arab Emirates	34393
Yemen	33116	Germany	32345
Spain	20828	Russia	28199
Belgium/Lux	20627	Spain	23274
Oman	19732	Belgium/Lux	21566
Netherlands	13175	Oman	20995
Total for Others	439666		449232
Others not Listed	105789		119381
Grand Total	545476		568633

Turkey meat, tables

PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Poultry, Meat, Turkey				(1000 MT)(MIL HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Inventory (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	732	725	700	715	0	700
Whole, Imports	1	1	2	1	0	1
Parts, Imports	10	8	11	7	0	6
Intra EC Imports	11	8	12	7	0	6
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	11	9	13	8	0	7
TOTAL SUPPLY	743	734	713	723	0	707
Whole, Exports	40	42	40	43	0	39
Parts, Exports	315	332	285	340	0	342
Intra EC Exports	242	250	250	249	0	245
Other Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Exports	355	374	325	383	0	381
Human Consumption	388	360	388	340	0	326

Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	388	360	388	340	0	326
TOTAL Use	743	734	713	723	0	707
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	743	734	713	723	0	707
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Poultry, Meat, Turkey		
Time period	CY	Units:	MT, RTC
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Spain	3312	Belgium/Lux	2133
Italy	1826	Spain	1607
Belgium/Lux	1772	United Kingdom	1094
United Kingdom	1253	Italy	994
Israel	701	Israel	717
Netherlands	682	Ireland	620
Germany	629	Germany	554
		Netherlands	289
Total for Others	10175		8008
Others not Listed	942		1021
Grand Total	11117		9029

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Poultry, Meat, Turkey		
Time period	CY	Units:	MT, RTC
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	

Others		Others	
Germany	83563	Germany	70938
Russia	62210	Russia	63279
Belgium/Lux	53084	Belgium/Lux	46305
Spain	43743	Spain	43471
United Kingdom	36678	United Kingdom	31227
Netherlands	19597	Netherlands	21309
Cuba	11546	Cuba	13576
Austria	10722	Austria	13417
Benin	9200	Benin	11833
Greece	7581	Denmark	9731
Total for Others	337924		325086
Others not Listed	49284		48713
Grand Total	387208		373799

Eggs, tables

PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Poultry, Eggs				(MIL HEAD)	(MIL PCS)
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Layers	50	50	50	50	0	50
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	16250	16900	16400	17400	0	16550
Hatch Eggs, Imports	7	20	7	20	0	20
Shell Eggs, Imports	780	700	790	720	0	670
Other Imports	690	900	700	930	0	870
Intra EC Imports	1265	1530	1285	1580	0	1470
TOTAL Imports	1477	1620	1497	1670	0	1560
TOTAL SUPPLY	17727	18520	17897	19070	0	18110
Hatch Eggs, Exports	100	130	100	120	0	110
Shell Eggs, Exports	430	460	440	490	0	460
Other Exports	1020	1190	1040	1260	0	1240
Intra EC Exports	1210	1460	1230	1540	0	1480
TOTAL Exports	1550	1780	1580	1870	0	1810

Hatch Eggs,Consumption	1410	1490	1450	1500	0	1420
Shell Eggs, Human	14610	13780	14710	14220	0	13400
Shell Eggs,OT.Use/Loss	7	130	7	130	0	130
Other Dom. Consumption	150	1340	150	1350	0	1350
Total Dom. Consumption	16177	16740	16317	17200	0	16300
TOTAL Use	17727	18520	17897	19070	0	18110
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	17727	18520	17897	19070	0	18110
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Poultry, Eggs		
Time period		Units:	MT, shell equivalent
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	63
Others		Others	
		Belgium/Lux	32227
		Germany	19656
		Netherlands	12801
		Spain	11943
		Italy	7367
		United Kingdom	4677
		Portugal	1845
Total for Others	0		90516
Others not Listed			431
Grand Total	0		91010

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Poultry, Eggs		

Time period	CY	Units:	MT, Shell Egg Equivalent
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	8
Others		Others	
		Germany	24640
		Belgium/Lux	15918
		Italy	15053
		Netherlands	10143
		United Kingdom	9873
		Spain	6706
		Switzerland	6452
		Japan	1300
		Austria	1250
		Denmark	1038
Total for Others	0		92373
Others not Listed			6822
Grand Total	0		99203