

Brazilian Perspectives for Chicken Meat Production and Export

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I. INTRODUCTION

Chicken meat is a product of animal origin with high nutritional value and affordable cost, which is why it is widely consumed throughout the world. In 2023, more than 100 million tons were produced worldwide, despite the bird flu that affected several countries. The United States leads production with 21 million tons, although it is experiencing health problems involving millions of commercial birds. Brazil remains disease-free, according to the criteria of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH). However, migratory birds in transit may pose a health risk to domestic production. While affected countries try to control the spread of the disease, Brazil remains the second largest producer and leader in world exports. Based on statistical information were briefly analyzed the behavior of Brazilian production and exports of chicken meat in recent years, its main challenges and opportunities to maintain its position in the international market.

II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

The results were presented in the form of charts and tables from the survey of official statistics, class associations or other research sources.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chicken meat production in the United States had a growth of 3.0% in 2022, when compared to the year 2021. In the same period, Brazilian production grew by 1.4% and the country became the second largest producer in the world, since China showed a 2.7% reduction in production, corresponding to the third position. The European Union has remained virtually stable in its production, occupying the fourth place in the world. By the year 2023 growth in the United States was expected to be reduced to 1.3% due to health problems (SILVA et al., 2023). Indeed, growth did not reach 0.5%. Nevertheless, they continue to lead the world market. For Brazilian production, the prospect was of an increase of 2.1%, but growth was 2.5% (Figure 1). These numbers were disclosed by annual reports prepared by the Brazilian Association of Animal Protein (ABPA, 2024). The Brazilian projection for 2024 is to produce around 16 million tons, expecting that with two thirds of this volume will remain in the domestic market (BRASIL, 2023).

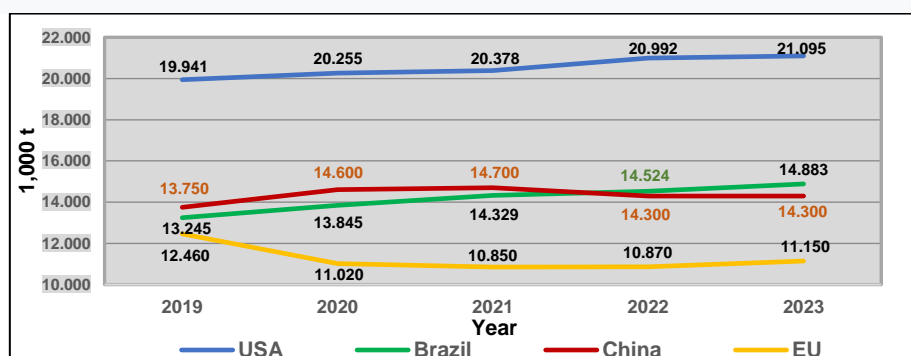


Figure 1. Top world producers of chicken meat in the period 2019-2023 (in million t/year).

Source: Elaborated by the authors with ABPA data (2024).

Table 1 shows the main countries that import chicken meat from Brazil. China is the largest destination for shipping. The volume of imports has decreased in recent years with the restrictions imposed by anti-dumping measures. With the cancellation of this measure by the Chinese government, shipments were resumed. The second largest importer is the United Arab Emirates, which has surpassed Japan in the

last two years. Brazil's ability to supply halal products has aroused the interest of Arab communities. Other important markets are Saudi Arabia and South Africa. These five countries together were responsible for shipping of more than 2 million tons in 2023 (ABPA, 2024).

Table 1. Main importing countries of Brazilian chicken (in tons/year).

Source: Elaborated by the authors with ABPA data (2024).

Country/Year	Volume (t)			
	2020	2021	2022	2023
China	673,215	640,470	540,555	682,665
Japan	410,463	448,936	420,295	433,583
Un Arab Emirates	303,022	389,500	444,983	440,748
Saudi Arabia	467,546	353,584	340,127	376,953
South Africa	261,951	297,038	284,015	340,435

Figure 2 illustrates the evolution of Brazilian exports in the period 2019-2023. There is a continuous growth in the volume of exports during this period. In particular, in 2022 the growth was 5.9% in the volumes exported and 27.4% in revenue obtained. Then, the unit value went from US\$1,662 to US\$2,000 per ton of the product, representing an expressive increase of 20.3% compared to 2021, possibly influenced by the drop in production in China and the European Union. With a very favorable scenario for Brazil exports exceeded the volume of 5 million tons in the year of 2023 (ABPA, 2024).

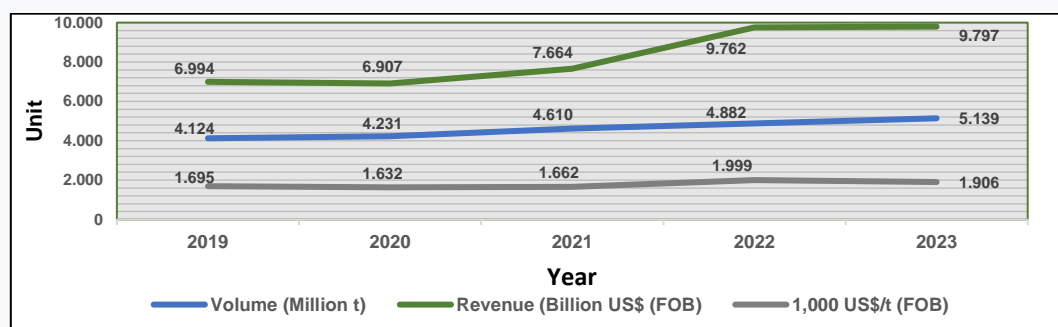


Figure 2. Evolution of Brazilian chicken meat exports in the period 2019-2023.

Source: Elaborated by the authors with ABPA data (2024).

III. CONCLUSION

The poultry production chain continues to depend on the outbreaks of avian influenza in several countries. The global scenario favors Brazil, whose authorities have been maintaining preventive measures against the disease. There is a consistent demand for chicken meat due to its nutritional value, but the reduction in global production tends to increase consumer prices. Concerning Brazil, some factors may influence its position in the market, such as the balance between production and intern consumption, variations in exchange rates, implementation of new technologies, production costs, taxes, regulations, among other variables.

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