Broilers Commercial and Institutional Indirect 2 — Settlement Summary

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Broilers Commercial and Institutional Indirect Purchaser – Round 2 Settlements

Summary

This case involves a class action alleging that major broiler chicken producers conspired to fix, raise, and maintain the prices of broiler chicken sold to commercial and institutional indirect purchasers. Round 2 Settlements totaling approximately **$41.25 million** have been reached with 14 additional defendant groups. The Court granted final approval of the Round 2 Settlements on July 30, 2025, and a motion for distribution of net settlement proceeds has been filed.

Announcements

- **Final Approval Granted (July 30, 2025):** The Court held a Fairness Hearing on July 30, 2025, and granted final approval of the Round 2 Settlements. The relevant Order and Court filings are available on the settlement website's Court Documents tab.
- **Motion for Distribution Filed:** Plaintiffs have filed a Motion for Distribution of Net Settlement Proceeds from the Second Round of Settlements. A distribution date has not yet been announced on the settlement website.
- **Claim Filing Deadline Has Passed:** The deadline to submit a Claim Form for the Round 2 Settlements was **June 19, 2025**. No new claims can be submitted.
- **Round 1 Distributions Complete:** Payments from the Round 1 Settlements (Amick, Fieldale Farms, George's, Mar-Jac, Peco, Pilgrim's Pride, and Tyson) were made to eligible class members beginning in March 2024 and are described as "nearly complete."
- **Existing Round 1 Claimants:** Class members who previously submitted a valid claim for the Round 1 Settlements and did not opt out do *not* need to file again — their prior submission will determine eligibility for Round 2 payments.

Settlement Amount

The Round 2 Settlements total approximately **$41.25 million** across all 14 defendant groups listed below. Individual per-claimant payment amounts are not yet published on the settlement website; amounts will depend on validated qualifying purchases and the Plan of Allocation.

Class Period

January 1, 2009 – July 31, 2019

Filing Deadline

The deadline to file a claim for the Round 2 Settlements was **June 19, 2025**. This deadline has passed. No new claims can be submitted. If you filed a claim for the Round 1 Settlements and did not opt out of the class, your prior submission will be used to determine your eligibility for Round 2 payments.

Who Qualifies

Eligible class members are all entities that:

- Purchased broiler chicken **indirectly** from a Defendant or named co-conspirator;
- Made those purchases **for their own use in commercial food preparation** (not for resale);
- Made purchases during the class period (**January 1, 2009 – July 31, 2019**); and
- Are located in one of the qualifying **Indirect Purchaser States**: Arizona, California, the District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Who Is Excluded

The settlement website does not publish a detailed exclusion list for Round 2. However, the following general exclusions apply:

- Any entity that **opted out** of the certified litigation classes is excluded from receiving a payment.
- Entities that purchased broiler chicken for **resale** rather than for their own commercial food preparation use are not covered by the Commercial and Institutional Indirect Purchaser class.
- Purchasers located in states **not listed** among the qualifying Indirect Purchaser States are not eligible.
- The named Defendants and their affiliates, officers, directors, and legal representatives are typically excluded (specific exclusion language is contained in the individual settlement agreements available on the Court Documents page).

How to File

The claim filing deadline has passed (June 19, 2025). New claims can no longer be submitted. The following information is provided for reference:

- Class members who previously submitted a valid Claim Form for the Round 1 Settlements and did not exclude themselves from the certified classes do **not** need to file a new claim — their prior submission will determine eligibility for Round 2 payments.
- Class members who did not previously file a claim and did not submit a Claim Form by June 19, 2025, will **not** receive a payment from the Round 2 Settlements.
- FRS clients should contact FRS to confirm whether a claim was timely filed on their behalf and to monitor distribution updates.

Defendants

The alleged conduct involves a conspiracy among broiler chicken producers to fix, raise, maintain, and stabilize the prices of broiler chicken sold in the United States. Agri Stats, Inc. is alleged to have facilitated the conspiracy by providing a benchmarking service that enabled the exchange of competitively sensitive information.

Round 2 Settling Defendants

- **Harrison Poultry, Inc.**
- **House of Raeford Farms, Inc.**

- **Koch Foods, Inc.; JCG Foods of Alabama, LLC; JCG Foods of Georgia, LLC; and Koch Meat Co., Inc.** (collectively "Koch Foods")
- **Mountaire Farms, LLC and Mountaire Farms of Delaware, Inc.** (collectively "Mountaire")
- **O.K. Foods, Inc.**
- **Sanderson Farms, LLC (f/k/a Sanderson Farms, Inc.); Sanderson Farms Foods, LLC; Sanderson Farms Production, LLC; and Sanderson Farms Processing, LLC** (collectively "Sanderson Farms")
- **Simmons Foods, Inc. and Simmons Prepared Foods, Inc.** (collectively "Simmons Foods")
- **Agri Stats, Inc.**
- **Case Foods, Inc.; Case Farms, LLC; and Case Farms Processing, Inc.** (collectively "Case Foods")
- **Claxton Poultry Farms, Inc. and Norman W. Fries, Inc., d/b/a Claxton Poultry Farms, Inc.** (collectively "Claxton")
- **Foster Farms, LLC and Foster Poultry Farms** (collectively "Foster Farms")
- **Perdue Farms, Inc. and Perdue Foods LLC** (collectively "Perdue")
- **Wayne Farms, LLC**

Round 1 Settling Defendants (for reference)

- Amick Farms, LLC
- Fieldale Farms Corporation
- George's, Inc. and George's Farms, Inc.
- Mar-Jac Defendants
- Peco Foods, Inc.
- Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
- Tyson Foods, Inc.; Tyson Chicken, Inc.; Tyson Breeders, Inc.; and Tyson Poultry, Inc.
- Harrison Poultry, Inc. (also included in Round 1; settlement amended and incorporated into Round 2)

Case History

- **January 1, 2009:** Start of the alleged price-fixing conspiracy class period.
- **July 31, 2019:** End of the class period.
- **Class Certification Granted:** Court certified the Commercial and Institutional Indirect Purchaser classes (exact date not specified on the settlement website; Order Granting Class Certification is available on the Court Documents page).
- **Round 1 Settlements:** Settlements reached with Amick, Fieldale Farms, George's, Mar-Jac, Peco, Pilgrim's Pride, and Tyson. Preliminary approval orders entered by the Court for each defendant group.
- **Round 1 Final Approval:** Court granted final approval of the Round 1 Settlements (exact date available in Court Documents).
- **March 2024:** Payments from Round 1 Settlements distributed to class members with validated qualifying purchases. Distributions described as "nearly complete."
- **January 4, 2024:** Minute Order issued in connection with the Round 1 distribution (per Court Documents listing).
- **Round 2 Settlements Reached:** Additional settlements totaling approximately $41.25 million reached with 14 defendant groups (Harrison Poultry, House of Raeford, Koch Foods, Mountaire, O.K. Foods, Sanderson Farms, Simmons Foods, Agri Stats, Case Foods, Claxton, Foster Farms, Perdue, and Wayne Farms).
- **Round 2 Preliminary Approval Granted:** Court granted preliminary approval of the Round 2 Settlements (exact date available in Court Documents).
- **June 19, 2025:** Deadline to submit a Claim Form and to object to the Round 2 Settlements — both deadlines have passed.
- **July 30, 2025:** Court held Fairness Hearing and granted final approval of the Round 2 Settlements.
- **Post-July 30, 2025:** Plaintiffs filed a Motion for Distribution of Net Settlement Proceeds from the Round 2 Settlements. Distribution date not yet announced.

Source

- *Settlement website (home page and court documents page):* URL not explicitly provided in the source content. The website is operated under the name "Chicken Commercial Settlement" — FRS staff should confirm the exact URL from monitoring records.

Last Updated

2025-09-22

Reviewer Flags

- **First draft.** No prior version exists in the knowledge base for this settlement.
- **Source attribution:**
  - Settlement overview, class period, eligible states, settlement amount ($41.25M), filing deadline (June 19, 2025), Round 1 and Round 2 defendant lists, fairness hearing date (July 30, 2025), Round 1 distribution timing (March 2024), and "do nothing" / re-filing instructions: *Home Page*.
  - Full list of court filings, confirmation of Motion for Distribution filing, Order and Final Judgment granting final approval, and Round 1/Round 2 document structure: *Court Documents Page*.
- **Settlement website URL not confirmed:** The source pages do not include the base URL of the settlement website. FRS staff should verify and add the correct URL to the Source section.
- **Distribution date not yet published:** The Motion for Distribution has been filed but no payment distribution date appears on the settlement website. This should be monitored closely for FRS clients who filed claims.
- **Per-claimant payment estimate not available:** The settlement website does not provide individual recovery estimates. FRS staff may wish to reference the Plan of Allocation page (listed in the site navigation but not included in the monitored pages) for additional detail.
- **Simmons Foods and Koch Foods omitted from Final Approval Order title (potential inconsistency):** The Court Documents page lists the "Order and Final Judgment Granting Final Approval" as covering House of Raeford, Koch Foods, Mountaire, O.K. Foods, Sanderson Farms, Perdue, Wayne Farms, and Harrison Poultry — but does *not* name Simmons Foods, Agri Stats, Case Farms, Claxton, or Foster Farms in that order's title. It is unclear whether these defendants received final approval under a separate order or whether the document title is abbreviated. **Reviewer should verify whether all 14 Round 2 defendant groups received final approval simultaneously.**
- **Harrison Poultry dual-round inclusion:** Harrison Poultry appears in both Round 1 and Round 2 documents. The Round 2 preliminary approval motion references an "Amended Harrison Poultry Settlement," suggesting the original Round 1 settlement with Harrison Poultry was amended and rolled into Round 2. This is reflected in the Case History section but may warrant clarification for FRS clients.
- **Last Updated date note:** The article uses today's date (2025-09-22) per instructions, though the prompt header states "2026-09-22." The 2025 date was used as it aligns with the source content timeline and the most recent site events.