

## The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

Seasonally softer demand most likely explained weaker prices for Selection 1 kids in San Angelo, Texas and Lancaster, Pennsylvania last week. Offer prices for kids in San Angelo, the largest market, typically dip lower in August and September before trending upward toward the end-of-the year holidays.

It is also possible that price offers were lower because, on average, more goats were available at auctions compared to this time last year. In the first three weeks of September, 10% more goats were slaughtered than the same period in 2006 and 11% more goats than during the average for this period over 2001 to 2005. Increased production is expected with a year-to-year 4% increase in inventory this year (USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service, 7/2007). By contrast, buyers may offer higher prices if there is a perception that the goats are in short supply.

### Market Trends for Week Ending Sept. 21, 2007

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
<b>Number of Head Slaughtered</b>		12,890	-4.4	-8.7
<b>San Angelo, TX Prices<sup>1</sup> (\$/cwt.), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	104	-7	-4
	40-60 Lbs.	109	-5	4
	60-80 Lbs.	109	-5	1
	80-100 Lbs.	104	-7	-1
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	90	-6	6
	100-150 Lbs.	82	-4	12
	150-250 Lbs.	74.5	-6	3
Does	50-70 Lbs.	na <sup>2</sup>	na	na
	70-100 Lbs.	41.50	na	na
	100-140 Lbs.	37.50	na	na
<b>Lancaster, PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	38.5	na	na
	40-60 Lbs.	54	-23	-16
	60-80 Lbs.	74	-17	-16
	80-100 Lbs.	94	-11	na
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	na	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	139	-4	-19
	150-250 Lbs.	130	3	6
Does	50-70 Lbs.	63	-22	na
	70-100 Lbs.	74	-19	12
	100-140 Lbs.	na	na	na

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service (USDA/AMS); Julie Shiflett.

<sup>1</sup>San Angelo, TX and Lancaster, PA are the two auction markets with goat sales exceeding 50,000 head in a year.

<sup>2</sup>na = Price not available.

## **Meat Goat Market Report Source**

The goat prices published in this report are gathered from prices published by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Agricultural Marketing Service Market New Reporters across the country visit select sheep and goat auctions weekly and monthly to record goat prices and goat volumes. Current and historical prices are available on AMS' website: [www.ams.usda.gov](http://www.ams.usda.gov).

Current market news reports for San Angelo, TX and Lancaster, PA, the two largest auctions, are available at the following links:

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SA\\_LS320.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SA_LS320.txt);

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN\\_LS320.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN_LS320.txt);

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN\\_LS321.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN_LS321.txt); and

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN\\_LS322.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN_LS322.txt).

Historical prices are available through AMS' Livestock & Grain Market News Portal at <http://marketnews.usda.gov/portal/lg>.

The number of goats slaughtered each week can be found at [http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ\\_LS711.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS711.txt), also a USDA/AMS report.