

The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

Last week Selection 1 slaughter kids sold mostly higher in San Angelo and New Holland. Goats offered in San Angelo last week were down 25% to 2,335 head. Selection 1 kid prices were up to 3% higher in active trading. In New Holland, higher prices coupled with larger offerings were a good sign demand was seasonally strong. Last week, Selection 1 slaughter kids estimated at 60-lbs. and heavier sold an average 18% higher than the previous week at an average \$99.50/head. Fancy kids weighing between 40 pounds and 80 pounds brought up to 17% more, or about \$13/head more. In New Holland, 2,146 goats sold last week, compared to 2,017 the previous week and 2,270 head a year ago.

Since January 2006, New Holland Selection 1 70-lb. kids received 6 cents/lb. more than comparable prices for San Angelo kids. In March and April of both years, however, San Angelo kids received up to 20 cents/lb. more than New Holland prices. Recall that in New Holland, goat sales are by head on estimated weights so the calculations are only estimates. Transport costs from San Angelo to New Holland, the likely higher demand area, may explain why New Holland prices are typically higher. However, as other areas also become high-demand areas and sources of supply shift, the currently observed price difference between San Angelo and New Holland will likely change.

Market Trends for Week Ending December 14, 2007

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
Number of Head Slaughtered, 11/24/07		11,716	-12	3
San Angelo, TX Prices¹ (\$/cwt.), Selection 1				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	na	na	na
	40-60 Lbs.	113.00	1	8
	60-80 Lbs.	113.00	3	9
	80-100 Lbs.	116.50	2	13
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	97.50	na	-7
	100-150 Lbs.	105.50	3	13
	150-250 Lbs.	98.75	1	10
Does	50-80 Lbs.	31.00	3	-31
	80-130 Lbs.	42.00	5	-24
	130-180 Lbs.	42.50	12	-24
New Holland (Lancaster), PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	53.00	1	na
	40-60 Lbs.	71.00	1	31
	60-80 Lbs.	87.00	21	9
	80-100 Lbs.	112.00	14	na
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	na	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	141.50	5	42
	150-250 Lbs.	176.00	8	28
Does	50-80 Lbs.	na	na	na
	80-130 Lbs.	67.00	na	-2
	130-180 Lbs.	80.00	14	67

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

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

²na = 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.

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/LN_LS320.txt;

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/LN_LS321.txt; and

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, also a USDA/AMS report.