

## The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

Goat offerings at San Angelo were down 44% in a week to 3,130 head. Producers auction reported: “Heavy rain and thin stock played a part in lower quotes on all classes of sheep and goats,” (<http://www.producersandcargile.com/marketreports.htm>). It may also be that buyers had already fulfilled order buys for Easter.

Alternatively, some buyers may have taken goats up to New Holland to sell last week. Goat receipts at New Holland were up 72% in a week to 3,372 head in preparation for the Easter holiday. Prices weakened as a consequence. Kid goat prices for goats under 60 pounds weakened by up to \$20/head. Last week in New Holland, it was reported that demand was moderate at the start, but fell sharply mid-way through as buyers filled their orders, (USDA/AMS, 3/17/08).

At Producers Livestock auction, goats enter the ring at a first-come first-serve basis. Goats may be placed on feed a week in advance of sale in order to ensure a producer’s goats enter the ring early. There is an option of taking goats to an auction the day of sale and have them sold first thing in the morning, during the “jackpot”. This tactic will avoid paying feed charges, but reportedly, the serious buyers don’t show up for this period of the sale because it is often small, not uniform lots. The producers with larger lots attract the big buyers and they typically take their goats to auction early. Auction managers can advise producers of the recommended marketing strategy. Auction managers can even call prominent buyers in order to announce that a special lot of goats are coming in at a certain date.

### Market Trends for Week Ending March 21, 2008

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
<b>Number of Head Slaughtered, 3/8/08</b>		12,253	17	4
<b>San Angelo, TX Prices<sup>1</sup> (\$/cwt.), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	na	na	na
	40-60 Lbs.	127.50	-11	-10
	60-80 Lbs.	127.50	-6	-8
	80-100 Lbs.	92.50	-6	9
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	85.00	-9	-11
	100-150 Lbs.	90.50	-9	17
	150-250 Lbs.	82.00	-8	17
Does	50-80 Lbs.	28.00	-10	-35
	80-130 Lbs.	41.00	-14	-33
	130-180 Lbs.	45.50	na	-22
<b>New Holland (Lancaster), PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	45.00	-18	10
	40-60 Lbs.	66.00	3	3
	60-80 Lbs.	81.00	-4	1
	80-100 Lbs.	99.00	-7	3
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	na	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	116.00	-10	na
	150-250 Lbs.	145.00	-3	13
Does	50-80 Lbs.	na	na	na
	80-130 Lbs.	68.00	-14	-1
	130-180 Lbs.	75.00	-14	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.