

## FAS Tracks...

### **Chart Reflecting the Importation and Exportation of Chilled and Frozen Goat Meat**

Click on the link below to view a chart credited to the E Kika de la Garza Institute for Goat Research and the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to which tracks the importation and exportation of agricultural commodities.

[FAS tracks...](#)

## This Week in the Meat Goat Markets...

### **Market Trends**

The American Boer Goat Association has embarked on providing its members a weekly service consisting of meat goat market trends from two of the largest markets in the United States.

Last week's goat auction in San Angelo saw 5,285 head sell-likely in preparation for the Greek Orthodox Easter on April 27. San Angelo Selection 1 kid prices didn't see a lot of movement, but that's okay because with nearly 4,000 more head selling than the previous week, you cross your fingers and hope demand can support the heavy supply. Last week's sale is only slightly below the 5,584 head that sold in mid-March in preparation for the Christian Easter. Reportedly, the Greek Easter is a bigger holiday than the Western Easter in San Angelo and goat offerings may yet increase this week as well.

[Marketing Trends...](#)

## VOLUNTEERS Needed for Research Project...

### **Genetic Selection for Parasite Resistance**

The following request for breeders to get involved in a research project is being sent again in hopes of getting additional participants, especially from geographic areas that routinely have parasite problems. In 2005, the ABGA submitted a proposal to National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (now renamed as American Sheep and Goat Center) to initiate development of procedures to conduct a genetic evaluation for resistance to internal parasites. The proposed project was a joint effort among ABGA, Katahdin Hair Sheep International, Virginia Tech University, and Texas A&M University. The project was partially funded in 2006. This project was awarded funding because of its potential to impact the US sheep and goat industries. The ABGA will benefit from the work that the Katahdin breeders have already done, the Katahdin breeders will benefit from the ABGA's involvement in the program. Katahdin breeders now have an EPD for parasite resistance. They had started research on developing the building blocks a few years earlier. The initial efforts on the goat portion of the project are

aimed at estimating the amount of genetic variation for parasite resistance (Fecal egg count after being exposed) within goat herds. Analyses conducted in 2006 and 2007 on fecal samples from a research herd of goats at Texas A&M showed less phenotypic variation than expected. Requirements to obtain meaningful data for this purpose are: pedigree records, substantial variation in fecal egg count, and sufficient genetic diversity or number of sire groups. Because of the low variation in FEC in the Texas A&M research herd, volunteer breeders are now being sought to help develop the building blocks necessary to develop an EPD for parasite resistance in goats. The ideal participant would have:

- Complete Information: Birth date, sire, dan, weaning weight, age at weaning
- Several sires (4 or more) represented in the group to be sampled
- The willingness and ability to collect fecal samples and send them to a lab for analysis

Costs of fecal analysis would be paid for by the grant. We may not find participants with the ideal data set. If your goats meet most of the requirements, consider getting involved. If you are interested in participating in this project, send the details about your goats to:

- Dr. Dan Waldron
- Texas A&M University - San Angelo
- 7887 US Highway 87 N
- San Angelo, TX 76901
- Phone: 325.653.4576
- E-mail: d-waldron@tamu.edu

## NASS Numbers...

### **Total Kid Inventory Up 3 Percent**

According to a National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Report regarding Sheep and Goat Inventory, all goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 3.02 million head, up 3 percent from 2007. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.50 million head up 2 percent from 2007. All market goats and kids totaled 520,000 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2008 meat and all other goats totaled 2.50 million head, up 4 percent from 2007. Milk goat inventory increased 4 percent to 305,000 head while angora goats were down 12 percent totaling 210,000 head. The 2007 kid crop totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, up 1 percent from 2006.

To read more, please click on the link below.

[NASS Numbers...](#)

## 2008 JABGA Board Candidates...

### **Credentials of each Candidate**

Please click on the following link to read more about the candidates running for the JABGA Board in your area!

[2008 JABGA Board Candidates...](#)

## Jump on the JABGA Scholarship Bandwagon...

### **2008 ABGA Scholarship Application**

To benefit young people with big dreams and create a positive influence on their future, the American Boer Goat Association offers scholarship opportunities to ABGA and JABGA members that are high school seniors or a college student in the fall of the year in which the application is made.

The postmark deadline for the scholarship application is May 2, 2008. To view the scholarship application, please click on the link below.

[2008 JABGA Scholarship Application](#)