

The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

“Trading fairly active, demand good,” was the report out of San Angelo in the countdown toward the Christmas holidays. Prices mostly gained in San Angelo with 3,550 goats offered, almost equal to the 3,577 head two weeks ago. Higher prices and increased supplies is an indicator demand is strengthening. In New Holland, lighter offerings led to stronger prices. Last week, 1,318 goats were sold, down 32% from a week ago, but about equal to the 1,312 head offered this time a year ago.

Slaughter goat prices were generally higher this November than a year ago. Last year was relatively drier, explained Mr. Cox, Sheep and Goat Sales Manager at Producer’ Livestock Auction Co. in San Angelo, which meant a large supply at auction. “The market is better this year, he commented, and continued, “goats are in better shape than the last two years.”

Prices in San Angelo for Selection 1 kids this November were an average \$3.30/cwt. higher than a year ago, with 80-lb. to 100-lb. up to \$9/cwt. higher. Selection 1 bucks were \$3/cwt. higher in November year-to-year, with 100-lb. to 150-lb. bucks bringing up to \$8/cwt. higher this year. Slaughter nannies in San Angelo brought \$9/cwt. lower this November compared to a year ago, with large nannies up to \$12/cwt. lower.

An inaugural sale was held last week, the Smoker Goat Auction in Parkesburg, Pennsylvania. Prices on a per hundredweight basis were higher than prices offered in San Angelo. For example, the majority of Selection 1 kids weighed an average 55 pounds and received \$127/cwt. Comparable kids in San Angelo received about \$116/cwt. The price difference may be partially explained by transport costs and sign that many goats sold in San Angelo are transported to the East Coast.

Market Trends for Week Ending November 23, 2007

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
Number of Head Slaughtered, 11/10/07		13,212	0.06	5
San Angelo, TX Prices¹ (\$/cwt.), Selection 1				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	116.50	0 (From 2 wks ago.)	4
	40-60 Lbs.	115.50	2	6
	60-80 Lbs.	114.50	4	4
	80-100 Lbs.	111.50	5	12
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	na	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	99.00	13	18
	150-250 Lbs.	93.50	5	5
Does	50-80 Lbs.	33.00	5	-18
	80-130 Lbs.	44.50	1	-15
	130-180 Lbs.	40.00	-11	-30
New Holland (Lancaster), PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	48.00	-6	na
	40-60 Lbs.	75.00	10	na
	60-80 Lbs.	88.00	16	na
	80-100 Lbs.	102.00	12	na
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	na	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	123.00	-14	-10
	150-250 Lbs.	180.00	58	12
Does	50-80 Lbs.	na	na	na
	80-130 Lbs.	61.00	-19	-35
	130-180 Lbs.	64.00	-20	na

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.