

The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

Goat numbers were down 36% last week in San Angelo to 2,758 head, putting upward pressure on prices. Active trading resulted in kids bringing up to \$10/cwt. higher and nannies receiving up to \$2/cwt. higher (USDA/AMS, 1/22/08).

Last week demonstrated a good example of how heavier goats could receive less per pound than lighter goats, but be worth more. For example, goats weighing an average 50 lbs. received \$1.25/lb. and thus were worth \$62.50/head. Heavier, 70-lb. goats, received less, \$119.50/cwt., and were worth \$83.65/head. The heavier 90-lb. goats received an average \$92/cwt. and were worth \$82.80/head. In this case, and on many auction days, the 60-lb. to 80-lb. goats received the most revenue per head.

A premium for higher-quality kids was evident last week in New Holland. Selection 1 kids weighing between 60-80 pounds received an average \$89/head. Fancy Selection 1 kids, weighing the same, received an average \$109/head. Last week, 1,298 goats sold at New Holland, down 25% from last week and up 21% from a year ago.

Market Trends for Week Ending January 25, 2007

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
Number of Head Slaughtered, 1/12/08		11,431	6	2
San Angelo, TX Prices¹ (\$/cwt.), Selection 1				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	121.00	6	0
	40-60 Lbs.	125.00	10	0
	60-80 Lbs.	119.50	7	-1
	80-100 Lbs.	92.00	na	-6
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	96.50	2	na
	100-150 Lbs.	87.50	13	4
	150-250 Lbs.	80.00	5	1
Does	50-80 Lbs.	30.00	9	-37
	80-130 Lbs.	41.50	5	-28
	130-180 Lbs.	34.50	-5	-41
New Holland (Lancaster), PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	54.00	na	-4
	40-60 Lbs.	80.00	7	18
	60-80 Lbs.	89.00	0	11
	80-100 Lbs.	107.00	6	na
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	100.00	na	9
	100-150 Lbs.	na	na	na
	150-250 Lbs.	150.00	-7	-3
Does	50-80 Lbs.	na	na	na
	80-130 Lbs.	68.00	-8	-3
	130-180 Lbs.	62.00	na	-26

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.