

## The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

Last week in San Angelo, 2,468 goats sold, down from 2,739 two weeks ago. Trading was reportedly active, with sufficient demand to hold kid and nanny prices (USDA, 4/30/08). In New Holland last week, 1,492 goats sold, down from 1,613 head the previous week and up from 820 head a year ago. Compared to the strong holiday market in recent weeks, kid goat sold mostly \$5 to \$10 per head weaker (4/28/08).

In the first fourteen weeks of the year until mid-April, goat slaughter in federally-inspected slaughter facilities was up 4% to 174,426 head. Many goats are likely also slaughtered in state-inspected facilities, but unfortunately we don't have those numbers. Between January and April, San Angelo Selection 1 kid prices were down 1% year-on-year to \$124.15/cwt. Perhaps the increased supply with stable demand caused prices to soften. It is also possible that the 4-week spread between the Christian and Greek Easters weakened demand over the period relative to 2007 when the holidays were only days apart.

San Angelo Selection 1 kid prices historically experience the greatest decline between May and June – up to 9%.

### Market Trends for Week Ending May 2, 2008

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
<b>Number of Head Slaughtered, 4/19/08</b>		12,746	11	22
<b>San Angelo, TX Prices<sup>1</sup> (\$/cwt.), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	132.50	4	na
	40-60 Lbs.	144.00	2	-1
	60-80 Lbs.	144.00	2	-1
	80-100 Lbs.	121.00	11	1
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	102.00	2	8
	100-150 Lbs.	91.25	1	18
	150-250 Lbs.	80.50	3	11
Does	50-80 Lbs.	32.00	2	-30
	80-130 Lbs.	48.25	7	-16
	130-180 Lbs.	48.50	10	-13
<b>New Holland (Lancaster), PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	52.00	-7	0
	40-60 Lbs.	73.00	-5	-15
	60-80 Lbs.	93.00	-11	-26
	80-100 Lbs.	107.00	-16	na
Bucks	70-100 Lbs. *Pygmies	49.00	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	111.00	-10	-19
	150-250 Lbs.	128.00	-4	-18
Does	50-80 Lbs. *Pygmies	na	na	na
	80-130 Lbs.	35.00	-24	na
	130-180 Lbs.	67.00	46	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.