

## The Week in the Meat Goat Markets

Last week in San Angelo, supply was down to about 3,500 head from over 6,000 head the previous week and kid prices held strong. Meat goat prices have held strong despite higher fuel costs. Order buyers and goat meat processors might be successfully passing on their costs to consumers. However, the picture for producers may be mixed. Benny Cox, Sheep and Goat Sale Manager at Producers Livestock Auction in San Angelo, mentioned that higher fuel costs, reduced goat crop, and lower weights might mean producers are seeing reduced returns (6/2/08).

In New Holland last week, kid prices mostly weakened. Lighter weight Selection 1 kid prices softened by almost 30% while the kids heavier than 80 lbs. gained 3%. Last week in New Holland, 1,025 goat sold, down from 1,672 the previous week and 860 a year ago.

Throughout the year, goat slaughter typically trends upwards. Increased slaughter over the summer helps to keep the weights down of the greater volume of kids available at auction. Goat slaughter in federally inspected plants --- which doesn't include state facilities -- totaled 223,344 head in the first 18 weeks of the year, up 5% from a year ago.

### Market Trends for Week Ending May 30, 2008

		Last Week	Percentage Change from Previous Week (%)	Percentage Change From the Same Week a Year Ago (%)
<b>Number of Head Slaughtered, 5/17/08</b>		11,981	-4	-1
<b>San Angelo, TX Prices<sup>1</sup> (\$/cwt.), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	115.00	na	na
	40-60 Lbs.	133.00	3	0
	60-80 Lbs.	133.00	3	0
	80-100 Lbs.	115.00	-1	-2
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	90.00	-2	-1
	100-150 Lbs.	85.00	4	1
	150-250 Lbs.	77.50	0	11
Does	50-80 Lbs.	26.50	-9	-44
	80-130 Lbs.	44.00	-3	-27
	130-180 Lbs.	45.50	-2	-27
<b>New Holland (Lancaster), PA Prices (\$/head), Selection 1</b>				
Kids	20-40 Lbs.	40.00	-28	na
	40-60 Lbs.	92.00	42	na
	60-80 Lbs.	86.00	-9	na
	80-100 Lbs.	124.00	3	na
Bucks	70-100 Lbs.	na	na	na
	100-150 Lbs.	178.00	22	na
	150-250 Lbs.	196.00	8	na
Does	50-80 Lbs.			
	*Selection 1 & 2	66.00	-1	na
	80-130 Lbs.	84.00	15	na
	130-180 Lbs.	na	na	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.