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Farm Market Report

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Sheep/Wool Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Greeley, Colo.-San Angelo, Texas

Wool prices in cents per pound and foreign currency per kilogram, sheep prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals on per head basis as indicated.

NATIONAL WOOL REVIEW (USDA Market News)

Dec. 22
Note: This report will not be available for the next two weeks due to the holidays. The next available report will be Jan. 12.

Domestic wool trading on a clean basis was at a standstill this week. Domestic wool trading on a greasy basis was at a standstill this week. There were no confirmed trades reported.

NATIONAL SHEEP SUMMARY (USDA Market News)

San Angelo, Texas
Dec. 22

Note: Due to the holiday, this report will not be issued until Jan. 5.

Compared to Dec. 15: Slaughter lambs were firm to 15.00 higher, instances 20.00-30.00 higher on lambs under 80 lbs at New Holland, Pa. Slaughter ewes were steady to 5.00 higher. Feeder lambs were steady to 4.00 higher in a light test. At San Angelo, Texas, 3478 head sold. No sales in Equity Electronic Auction. In direct trading slaughter ewes and feeder lambs were not tested. 3100 head of negotiated sales of slaughter lambs were steady. 2,552 lamb carcasses sold with all weights no trend due to confidentiality. All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 2-3 90-160 lbs;
San Angelo: Shorn and woolled 100-155 lbs 130.00-144.00.

Ft. Collins, Colo.: woolled 100-105 lbs 143.00-157.50.

South Dakota: Shorn and woolled 115-130

lbs 129.00-132.00; 130-140 lbs 124.00-127.00; 150-160 lbs 118.00-120.50.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-2: **San Angelo:** 40-60 lbs 260.00-288.00; 60-70 lbs 230.00-258.00, few 262.00-266.00; 70-80 lbs 198.00-220.00, few 228.00; 80-90 lbs 182.00-202.00, few 208.00; 90-110 lbs 166.00-186.00.
Ft. Collins: 50-60 lbs 200.00-215.00; 75 lbs 200.00.

Billings, Mont.: 68 lbs 206.00.
Direct Trading: (lambs fob with 3-4 percent shrink or equivalent) 3100: Slaughter Lambs shorn and woolled 140-169 lbs 123.00-159.31 (wtd avg 132.56).
Slaughter Ewes:
San Angelo: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 80.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 80.00-96.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 70.00-82.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) 50.00-62.00; Cull 1 (extremely thin) 46.00.
Ft. Collins: Good 3-5 (very fleshy) 75.00-84.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 70.00-80.50; Utility 1-2 (thin) 48.00-50.00; Cull 1 (extremely thin) no test.
Billings: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) 56.00-57.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 61.00-70.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 57.00-68.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) 54.00-62.00; Cull 1 31.00-38.00.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1-2: **San Angelo:** no test.
Virginia: no test.
Ft. Collins: 73 lbs 167.50; 85 lbs 159.00; 90-100 lbs 131.00-149.00; 109 lbs 117.50; 133 lbs 105.00.
Billings: 53 lbs 200.00; 60-70 lbs 198.00-204.00; 70-80 lbs 177.00-192.00; 80-90 lbs 155.00-182.00; 90-100 lbs 145.00-157.00; 100-110 lbs 144.00-152.00, few 160.50; 110-120 lbs 140.00-148.00; 122 lbs 125.50.

Hay Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • St. Joseph, Mo.-Portland

Hay prices are dollars per ton or dollars per bale when sold to retail outlets. Basis is current delivery FOB barn or stack, or delivered customer as indicated. Grade guidelines used in this report have the following relationship to Relative Feed Value (RFV), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), TDN (Total Digestible Nutrients), or Crude Protein (CP) test numbers:

GRADE	RFV	ADF	TDN	CP
SUPREME	185+	<27	55.9+	22+
PREMIUM	170-185	27-29	54.5-55.9	20-22
GOOD	150-170	29-32	52.5-54.5	18-20
FAIR	130-150	32-35	50.5-52.5	16-18
UTILITY	<130	36+	<50.5	<16

WASHINGTON-OREGON HAY (Columbia Basin) (USDA Market News)

Dec. 22

This week FOB 1700 Tons
Last week 3550 Tons
Last year 4800 Tons

Compared to last week: Fair/Supreme Alfalfa firm in a light pre-holiday test. Trade slow this week in pre-holiday trading. Demand remains good for all grades of Alfalfa. Timothy for export remains slow. Retail/Feedstore not tested this week. The NW Hay Expo will be held on Jan. 17-18 at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick, Wash.

	Tons	Price
Alfalfa	Mid Square	
	Supreme Del	1000 175.00
	Fair Export	250 165.00
Wheat Straw	Mid Square	
	Good	450 58.00

OREGON AREA HAY (USDA Market News)

Dec. 22

Note: this report will not be issued Dec. 28 due to the holiday. Compared to Dec. 15: Prices trended generally steady in a limited test. Retail/Stable type hay remains the largest demanded hay. Many hay producers have sold out for the year. Buyers wanting to bump up their hay inventory prior to the upcoming holidays has increased sales somewhat this week.

	Tons	Price
This week FOB	2780 Tons	
Last week	2935 Tons	
Last year	1572 Tons	

CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON, WASCO COUNTIES

	Tons	Price
Alfalfa	Large Square	
	Good	300 150.00
	Small Square	
	Premium	1 225.00
	Retail/Stable	3 230.00
Orchard Grass	Small Square	

Bluegrass	Prem/Retail/Stable	6	230.00
	Small Square		
	Prem/Retail/Stable	10	250.00

EASTERN OREGON:

Alfalfa/Orchard/Fescue Mix	Large Square		
	Good/Premium	300	125.00

KLAMATH BASIN:

Alfalfa	Large Square		
	Supreme	200	225.00
	Good/Rain Damage	45	125.00
Orchard Grass	Small Square		
	Prem/Retail/Stable	75	220.00

LAKE COUNTY:

Alfalfa	Large Square		
	Supreme	100	215.00
	Premium	1000	180.00
	Export	500	170.00
	Small Square		
	Prem/Retail/Stable	80	185.00

Alfalfa/Oat Mix

	Small Square		
	Good/Premium	50	125.00

Orchard Grass

	Prem/Retail/Stable	10	185.00
	Large Square		
	Good	100	100.00

HARNEY COUNTY: NO NEW SALES CONFIRMED.

IDAHO HAY (USDA Market News)

Dec. 22

This week FOB 3600 Tons
Last week 3900 Tons
Last year 4400 Tons

Note: This will be the last report for 2017. The next report will be issued Jan. 12, 2018. Compared to Dec. 15: Alfalfa steady. Trade slow this week but some interest was noted by stock cow operators due to fires last summer there is less available winter feed. Retail/Feedstore not tested.

	Tons	Price
Alfalfa	Mid Square	
	Premium Tarped	2100 165.24
	Fair	1000 102.50
Wheat Straw	Mid Square	
	Good	500 55.00

CALIFORNIA HAY (USDA Market News)

Dec. 22

Note: Next report release will be Jan. 12 due to the holidays. Compared to Dec. 15: All classes traded steady with moderate demand. Retail hay is in high demand due to lack of hay in barns

this year. Still some last-minute cuttings going on in Region 6.

This week FOB	Last week	Last year
6480 Tons	5850 Tons	2350 Tons

REGION 1: NORTHERN INTERMOUNTAIN

Includes the counties of Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen and Plumas.

	Tons	Price
Alfalfa	Prem/Retail/Stable	100 227.50
	Good	50 230.00
	Fair	120 165.00

Forage Mix-Three Way

	Good/Organic	25	150.00
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REGION 2: SACRAMENTO VALLEY

Includes the counties of Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, Yolo, El Dorado, Solano and Sacramento.

Alfalfa

	Supreme Del	520	305.00
	Prem/Retail/Stable	75	280.00

REGION 3: NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Includes the counties of San Joaquin, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Mono, Merced and Mariposa.

Alfalfa

	Premium Del	200	247.50
	Fair Del	300	200.00
	Good	1000	90.00

Rye Grass

	Good	1000	90.00
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Forage Mix-Three Way

	Good Del	200	145.00
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REGION 4: CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Includes the counties of Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Inyo.

Alfalfa

	Prem/Supr/Del	300	300.00
	Premium Del	500	297.50
	Del Organic	520	325.00
	Good Del	300	257.50
	Fair Del	500	210.00
	Good/Retail/Stable	25	245.00

Oat

REGION 5: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Includes the counties of Kern, Northeast Los Angeles and Western San Bernardino.

Forage Mix-Four Way

	Good Retail/Stable	25	280.00
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REGION 6: SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA

Includes the counties of Eastern San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial.

Alfalfa

	Premium	125	200.00
	Retail/Stable	875	202.14
	Good/Premium	520	172.31
	Premium/Export	200	165.00

Bermuda Grass

California Egg Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Des Moines

Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade A and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

DAILY CALIFORNIA SHELL EGGS (USDA Market News)

Dec. 22

Benchmark prices are unchanged. Asking prices for next week are unchanged for Jumbo, 14 cents lower for Extra Large and Large and 1 cent higher for Medium. Trade sentiment is steady to mostly lower. Offerings for next week's deliveries are moderate for the larger sizes and light for Medium. Demand is moderate to good into all channels. Market activity is slow to moderate. Small benchmark price \$1.52.

Size	Range	Size	Range
Jumbo	196	Extra large	172
Large	220	Medium	172

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door.

Size	Range	Size	Range
Jumbo	183-195	Extra large	211-215
Large	205-213	Medium	153-164

Cattle Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Oklahoma City-Des Moines-St. Joseph, Mo.-Moses Lake, Wash.

NATIONAL FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE (Federal-State Market News)

St. Joseph, Mo.
Dec. 22

This week 157,000 HD
Last week 284,100 HD
Last year 117,000

Note: This report will not be released next week. It will resume Jan. 5. Compared to Dec. 15: Steer and heifer calves and yearlings sold 2.00 on each side of steady. There was a great deal of optimism in the cattle complex as the week started.

With the holidays upon us, this week represented the last marketing opportunity in 2017. Very few auctions will hold sales next week as buyers, feedyards and auction market personnel need a break after the last few weeks of hard running at auctions.

On Monday at Joplin Regional Stockyards, a string of 272 head of 901 lb yearling steers sold for 155.25. On Thursday, Valentine Livestock Auction in Valentine, Neb., sold a package of 511 lb thin fleshed steers at 205.50 as well as a load of 711 lb steers at 175.00.

Feeder cattle traded higher last week and boxed beef hung in there as we moved through the month of December. This week's Choice Boxed Beef closed at 199.56, 2.31 lower than last week. This week's cutout values also marked the first time Choice has closed below 200.00 since Oct. 23, 2017.

Feeder cattle futures are now trading at early September levels and around 20.00/cwt lower than their contract highs. The front five Feeder Cattle futures contracts were from 5.10 to 6.40 lower for the week and Live Cattle futures were

mostly 2.45 to 3.57 lower, with the outlier being the December contract, which is thinly traded now, 0.92 higher for the week.

The cash-futures relationship almost has to stay narrow as December only has four more trading days for traders to offset their position before contract expiration.

Dec. 1 Cattle on Feed was released at 11 this morning with about an hour worth of trading yet to happen before the CME closed for the holiday. Cattle on feed was reported at 108 percent of a year ago; Placements were 114 percent; Marketings 103 percent.

The Marketing total of 1.84 million head is the highest for November since the series began in 1996.

With less wheat pasture available to graze this year, many cattle have made their way or are going to make their way to feedyards in pretty short order.

On the Cold Storage report released this morning, total red meat supplies in freezers were down 10 percent from the previous month and down 4 percent from last year. Total pounds of beef in freezers were down 4 percent from the previous month and down 8 percent from last year.

Here's to having a Standing Rib Roast on the dinner table on Sunday or Monday.

Frozen pork supplies were down 16 percent from the previous month and down 3 percent from last year. On behalf of the Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News, we would like to wish a safe and happy holiday season. Auction volume this week included 43 percent weighing over 600 lbs and 41 percent heifers.

Grain Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Portland

Grains are stated in dollars per bushel or hundredweight (cwt.) except feed grains traded in dollars per ton. National grain report bids are for rail delivery unless truck indicated.

PORTLAND GRAIN (USDA Market News)

Portland
Dec. 21

Pacific Northwest Market Summary: Cash wheat bids for December delivery ended the reporting week on Thursday, Dec. 21, were mixed compared to week ago noon bids for December delivery.

March wheat futures ended the reporting week on Thursday, December 21, steady to higher as follows compared to week ago closes: Chicago wheat futures were 8.75 cents higher at 4.27, Kansas City wheat futures were six cents higher at 4.2425 and Minneapolis wheat futures trended steady at 6.17. Chicago December corn futures trended 2.75 cents higher at 3.5125 and January soybean futures closed 19 cents lower at 9.4875.

Bids for US 1 Soft White Wheat delivered to Portland in unit trains or barges during December for ordinary protein trended steady compared to week ago prices for the same delivery period from 5.11-5.30. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery.

White club wheat premiums were zero to five cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids this week and last week.

One year ago bids for US 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for December delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were 4.4450-4.55 and bids for White Club Wheat were 4.45-4.73.

Forward month bids for soft white wheat ordinary protein were as follows: January 5.15-5.30, February 5.17-5.30, March 5.20-5.32 and April 5.23-5.34. One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: January and February 4.4450-4.55, March 4.3450-4.55, and April 4.4025-4.5225.

Bids for US 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein during December trended steady to 21.75 cents per bushel higher than week ago prices for the same delivery period from 5.25-5.30. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery.

White club wheat premiums for guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat this week were zero to five cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids this week and last week.

One year ago bids for US 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein for December delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were 4.4450-4.50 and bids for White Club Wheat were 4.4450-4.7450.

Forward month bids for soft white wheat guaranteed 10.5 percent proteins were as follows: January 5.20-5.30, February 5.22-5.30, March 5.24-5.30 and April 5.27-5.34.

One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: January and February 4.4650-4.50, March 4.3450-4.50 and April 4.4025-4.5725.

Bids for 11.5 percent protein US 1 Hard Red Winter Wheat for December delivery trended six to 11 cents per bushel higher than week ago bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. This week, bids were as follows: December 5.7425-5.8425, January and February 5.6925-