

LANCASTER COUNTY LIVESTOCK MARKET AUCTIONS

New Holland Livestock Auction

New Holland, Pa.
Report Supplied By USDA
Monday, October 20, 2003

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Goats
MONDAY	446	253	400	1484
WEEK AGO	1227			
LAST YEAR	573	287	735	1143
	1392			
	315	271	692	865
	1356			

Compared to Thursday, lean slaughter cows sold steady to 1.50 lower; while fleshier offerings sold mostly steady to firm. Bidding was moderately active with light to moderate bidding activity. The majority of the run consisted of lean slaughter cows with heavier weight fleshy cows harder to find. The cattle supply included 182 slaughter cows, 49 slaughter bulls, 55 slaughter steers, with 143 head of feeder cattle.

Slaughter Cows: Percent Lean Weight Bulk Low Dressing Premium White 65-70 Over 1600 lbs Breakers 70-75 Over 1400 lbs 51.50-54.25 46.50-50.75 Boners 75-80 Over 1200 lbs 44.75-49.50 40.75-44.50 Lean (Hi-Yield) 80-85 Over 1200 lbs few 43.00-46.00 Lean 85-90 Over 1000 lbs 38.00-42.25 34.50-38.00 Lean (Light-Wt) 85-90 750-1000 lbs few 28.00-29.00 Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1 1115-1985 lbs 56.50-61.50, high dressing Few Yield Grade 2 1150-1870 lbs 51.50-55.50.

Feeder bulls: 990-1200 lbs 57.00 63.00, fancier 70.50-79.00

Calves: Compared to Thursday, slaughter calves sold mostly steady. Holstein bull calves going into special-fed veal barns sold 10.00-15.00 higher. There were not enough heifers to fully test the market.

Slaughter Calves: Standard and Utility early 55-110 lbs 60.00-75.00, weaker 11.00-30.00. Calves Going Into Special-fed Veal Barns: Holstein Bulls 90-125 lbs 120.00-155.00. Plainertype Holstein Bulls 90-125 lbs 100.00-115.00. Weaker Holstein Bulls 90-125 lbs 82.00-95.00.

HOGS: Barrows and gilts were steady to firm on 49-54% lean with greatest advances seen on heavier weight offerings. BARROWS AND GILTS: 49-54% lean 220-270 lbs 38.00-41.00, few fancy 41.25-42.75, few 270-300 lbs 36.75-39.00, 45-50% lean 220-270 lbs 35.75-38.75, large groups 35.60-36.75, 270-300 lbs 35.60-37.60, 300-350 lbs 32.35-35.50.

Sheep and Lambs: Compared to last Monday, slaughter lambs under 50 lbs sold mostly steady with instances of 20.00 higher. Lambs weighting between 50 and 80 lbs sold mostly steady; while heavier weight lambs traded steady to weak. Lighter weight lambs continue to be in short supply with greatest demand seen for lambs under 50 lbs Slaughter sheep sold steady to firm on a high quality run. Buyer attendance and bidding activity was good through the course of the sale.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 2-3 20-30 lbs single individual 255.00; 30-40 lbs single individual 180.00; 40-50 lbs 120.00-140.00, with few individuals 160.00-190.00; 50-60 lbs

120.00-145.00, fancy 152.00-165.00; 60-80 lbs 118.00-126.00, fancy 130.00-140.00, 80-90 lbs 112.00-120.00; 90-100 lbs 108.00-118.00; 100-125 lbs 106.00-114.00, 125-150 lbs 100.00-107.00.

Slaughter Sheep: Utility and Good 1-3 Yearlings 100-150 lbs 72.00-88.00, few weaker 58.00; few 150-200 lbs 60.00-70.00. Sheep 100-150 lbs 54.00-62.00, 150-200 lbs 38.00-52.00. Bucks 150-200 lbs 60.00-66.00, fleshier 50.00-56.00, 200-225 lbs 40.00-50.00, fleshier 32.00-36.00.

Slaughter Goats: Compared to last Monday, Kid goats sold steady to firm, while Yearlings were not well tested. Nannies sold steady to firm, with Billies trading mostly steady on a large run. A good supply of Wethers sold steady to 5.00 higher on lighter weight groups. Good buyer attendance through the duration of the sale, with moderated demand. All goats are sold by the head, with estimated weights. Kids: Selection 1 20-40 lbs 56.00-63.00; 40-60 lbs 73.00-82.00; 60-80 lbs 82.00-88.00. Selection 2 20-40 lbs 42.00-50.00, lighter weights 33.00-38.00, few pigmies 26.00-42.00; 40-60 lbs 58.00-72.00; 60-80 lbs 65.00-74.00. Selection 3 20-40 lbs 34.00-44.00, few light and weaker 10.00-20.00; 40-60 lbs 40.00-52.00, few weaker 28.00-38.00. Yearlings: Selection 1 few 60-80 lbs 85.00-90.00. Selection 2 few 60-80 lbs 64.00-72.00. Selection 3 few 60-80 lbs 64.00-68.00. Nannies: Selection 1 few 50-70 lbs 62.00-64.00; few 70-100 lbs 64.00-70.00; few 100-150 lbs 80.00-90.00. Selection 2 50-70 lbs 46.00-57.00, pigmies 34.00-36.00; 70-100 lbs 54.00-66.00; 100-150 lbs 68.00-76.00. Selection 3 50-70 lbs 34.00-42.00; 70-100 lbs 48.00-60.00; 100-150 lbs 56.00-60.00. Billies: Selection 1 few 70-100 lbs 86.00-106.00; 100-150 lbs 114.00-122.00; 150-250 lbs 130.00-148.00, few 160.00-168.00. Selection 2 70-80 lb 70.00-78.00, few pigmies 36.00-58.00; 100-150 lbs 80.00-98.00; 150-250 lbs 114.00-128.00. Selection 3 70-100 lbs 62.00-68.00, few weaker 48.00-54.00; 100-150 lbs 70.00-86.00, few weaker 60.00-70.00; 150-250 lbs 90.00-108.00. Wethers: 50-70 lbs 70.00-78.00, fancier 80.00-82.00, few lighter and weaker 58.00-68.00, few pigmies 38.00-52.00; 70-100 lbs 80.00-88.00, few weaker 60.00-74.00; 100-150 lbs 82.00-98.00.

Vintage Livestock Auction

Vintage, Pa.
October 20, 21, 2003
Report Supplied By USDA

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Goats
THIS WEEK	1076	960	6	0
LAST WEEK	1074	924	12	2
LAST YEAR	703	880	8	5

Compared to Thursday, slaughter steers sold 10.00-15.00 lower on Monday, with Tuesday's run primarily steady with the Monday supply; the only exception was a hard-fed load of high Choice and Prime steers that sold with a firmer undertone. The quality of the two-day run was about average, with the exception of the above mentioned high Choice and Prime steers. After several weeks (or months) of sharply higher

Market At A Glance

Lancaster County Livestock Auction Averages
(Price Per Hundredweight)
Week Ending Friday, October 24, 2003
Supplied By Market Staff

	This Wk	Wk Ago	Yr Ago
Steers, Choice 2-3	103.75	116.75	66.50
Heifers, Choice 2-3, few Prime	97.50	106.25	64.60
Cows, Breakers, 75-80% lean	50.00	50.00	43.00
Cows, Boners, 80-85% lean	45.00	46.00	39.50
Bulls, YG 1,	56.50	58.50	49.00
Hogs, 49-54% lean, Monday	39.50	39.00	33.25
Lambs, Choice/Prime 80-110 lb.	112.00	116.00	90.00

Cattle Watch

How high did they go?

Slaughter Steer Prices at the Lancaster County Auctions
(Prices per hundredweight)

2003 Tuesday Oct. 14	High Choice and Prime 2-4	Choice 2-3	Avg. Price
	120.00-125.50, top 132.50	115.50-121.00	118.00

prices most producers forgot what the word steady or lower meant. However, they are going to need to get their dictionaries out as there is some noticeable bearishness back in the finished market. Choice boxed beef cutout values were from 3.00-5.00 lower on Tuesday, at 195.00. Spot live cattle contracts at the Merc have been closed with red ink for the past few days, with Tuesday coming as no exception as October was 2.00 lower at 97.65. The spot February contract close at 84.07 on Tuesday which may be a sign of where things are heading, at least from Chicago's viewpoint. However, it is important to note that prices remain extremely good. A couple of months ago when we hit 100.00 on a single head it made the papers across the U.S., now the bulk of the cattle are still bringing above 105.00. Slaughter Holstein steers and slaughter heifers sold from 10.00-15.00 lower over the two-day sale. Lean slaughter cows sold steady to .50 lower, with the fleshier supply trading steady to as much as 3.00 lower. Slaughter bulls sold 1.00-2.00 lower on a light test. The two-day run included 514 head of slaughter steers, 54 slaughter heifers, 25 slaughter bulls, 441 slaughter cows, and 42 head of feeders.

Slaughter Steers: High Choice and Prime 2-4 1115-1480 lbs 105.00-110.00, up to 113.00 on Tuesday, mostly 106.00-109.50, fancier 112.00-118.00. Choice 2-3 1140-1495 lbs 102.50-109.00, mostly 103.00-106.00, full 100.00-104.00, Charolais-crosses 104.00-107.00. Select and low Choice 2-3 1015-1460 lbs 97.25-102.00, mostly 99.50-102.00, Charolais-crosses 99.00-101.00. Select 1-2 1075-1420 lbs 91.50-96.50, up to 98.50 on Monday, heavier muscled up to 101.00, several black two-way

cattle that are returning to feed 1025-1145 lbs 86.50-89.00 which includes a couple packages.

Holstein Steers: High Choice and Prime 2-3 1365-1580 lbs 93.00-96.25. Choice 2-3 270-1550 lbs 90.00-93.50, couple packages 88.25-89.75. Select and low Choice 1-3 1185-1395 lbs 84.00-88.50, few up to 90.50. Select 1-2 1155-1515 lbs 78.00-83.50, few up to 85.75. Standard 1-2 1275-1480 lbs 72.50-76.75.

Slaughter Heifers: High Choice and Prime 2-4 1250-1395 lbs 100.00-104.50. Choice, few high Select 2-3 1080-1430 lbs 95.00-99.00, mostly 97.00-99.00. Slaughter Cows: Percent Lean Weight Bulk Low Dressing Premium White 65-70 over 1600 lbs few 57.00-59.75 53.75-55.25 Breakers 70-75 over 1400 lbs 48.75-53.00, 42.75-46.50 High Dressing few 55.00-57.00 Boners 75-80 over 1200 lbs 42.00-47.00, 38.00-42.00 Lean (Hi-Yield) 85-90 over 1200 lbs 42.75-45.00 Lean 85-90 over 1000 lbs 39.00-43.50 35.25-38.25 Lean (Light-wgt) 85-90 over 750 lbs 31.50-35.00 28.50-30.50.

Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2 1160-1995 lbs 54.75-61.50, couple low dressing 48.00-48.50, fancier 1085-1395 lbs 63.75-65.00. Calves: Compared to last Thursday, slaughter calves sold mostly steady, with a lighter percentage of the run moving to slaughter. Holstein bull calves going into special-fed veal barns sold mostly steady on Graded Number 1's with Number 2's selling steady to firm. Graded Number 3 bull calves sold steady with a smaller percentage moving directly to slaughter than in weeks past. Holstein heifers sold steady to firm on a lighter test. The PA Department of Agriculture graded 762 head of bulls for the graded sale, with an estimated 88 percent of the graded run going into veal barns.

Slaughter Calves: Number 3, and Utility 60-130 lbs 30.00-80.00 in the graded sale. Standard and Utility in the regular sale 55-125 lbs 50.00-77.00, weaker 20.00-45.00

Calves Going into Special-fed Veal Barns. Graded Number 1 Holstein bulls 121-122 lbs 125.00-128.00; 110-112 lbs 150.00-152.00; 101-103 lbs 162.00-165.00; 95 lbs 117.00-142.00; 90 lbs 125.00; 80-85 lbs 112.00-192.00. Graded Number 2 Holstein bulls 117 lbs 145.00; 102-113 lbs 150.00-160.00; 95 lbs 112.00-120.00; 83-90 lbs 72.00-85.00; 65-73 lbs 30.00-42.00. Graded Number 3 Holstein bulls 105-109 lbs 82.00-85.00; 81-95 lbs 65.00-77.00. Graded Number 1 Holstein heifers 117 lbs 435.00, 93-103 lbs 500.00; 84 lbs 395.00. Graded Number 2 Holstein heifers 93-101 lbs 450.00-485.00, 83-85 lbs 285.00-300.00; 72 lbs 150.00; 62 lbs 90.00.

New Holland Livestock Auction

New Holland, Pa.
Thursday, Oct. 23, 2003
Report Supplied By USDA

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Goats
MONDAY	1311	743	580	308
LAST WEEK	1746	901	236	280
LAST YEAR	1339	619	237	341

Compared to last Thursday, slaughter steers sold mostly 15.00 lower, with prices mostly steady with Tuesday. The quality of the run was below average as receipts were extremely light. Very few producers have ever seen prices fluctuate higher and lower like they have over the past couple of weeks. Prices have increased as much as 20.00 in one week, and now we are witnessing just the opposite as prices are 15.00 lower over the same period. Buyer participation was light on Thursday, due mainly to the lack of supplies, with kosher buyers having an extremely tough day as the high Choice and Prime cattle were hard to come by. There are many factors that are weighing on the finished market, although even with a sharply lower market this week, prices for Choice steers are still over 100.00. Also, just because the national markets are bearish does not mean a producer should pull them off feed and get them to town as soon as possible. There are a light number of cattle on feed in the area (especially cattle that have a hard finish on them) and everyone knows if demand stays good or even improves, and numbers are light, prices get higher or at least hold steady. However, if you do decide to send them to town early you can bet there are still some optimists in the sale barn as a package of 1040 lb black steers that might grade Select right now brought 89.00 to go back on feed. Only time, and another 90 days on feed, will tell you if these guys are right; but some feel it's a safer gamble than placing 6 weights on feed that cost 115.00 or more. Holstein steers and slaughter heifers sold a full 10.00 lower when compared to last Thursday. Lean slaughter cows sold 2.00 to 3.00 lower; while fleshier cows sold mostly 1.50 to 2.50 lower, with the exception of Premium White's (65-70 percent lean) trading 4.00 to as much as 6.00 lower. Slaughter bulls sold 1.00-2.00 lower when compared to last Thursday. The supply included 294 head of slaughter steers, 73 head of slaughter heifers, 553 head of slaughter cows, 128 head of slaughter bulls, with 263 head of feeder cattle.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: High Choice and Prime 2-4, 1190-1405 lbs 105.50-110.50, mostly 106.00-109.00, few 113.00, full package 103.00. Choice 2-3, 1110-1495 lbs 100.00-105.00, bulk 101.00-104.00, few 105.50-107.00, full

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