Lamb Market Outlook

ASI
San Antonio, TX
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Overview

- Overriding Themes
- Usual Suspects
- Other
Overriding Themes

• Growing Threat of Drought
  – Looks ominous, but its early

• Record Meat Production

• Growing Consumer Confidence
  – Growing economy, good for demand
COMMERCIAL MEAT & POULTRY PRODUCTION
By Type of Meat, Annual

Bil. Pounds

Data Source: USDA-NASS, Compiled & Forecasts by LMIC
Livestock Marketing Information Center
The Usual Suspects

- Stocks
- Imports
- Weights
US LAMB IMPORTS
Carcass Weight, Monthly

Mil. Pounds

Data Source: USDA-ERS & USDA-FAS
LAMB AND YEARLING DRESSED WEIGHT
Federally Inspected, Weekly

Data Source: USDA-AMS & USDA-NASS
Livestock Marketing Information Center
Other
BREEDING EWES 1 YEAR & OLDER
January 1, U.S., Annual

Mil. Head

Data Source: USDA-NASS
Livestock Marketing Information Center
LIVE TO CUTOUT PRICE SPREAD

Monthly

$ Per Head

Data Source: USDA-AMS, Compiled & Analysis by LMIC
LAMB AND MUTTON PRODUCTION
Federally Inspected, Weekly

Data Source: USDA-AMS & USDA-NASS
Livestock Marketing Information Center
SLAUGHTER LAMB PRICES
National Direct, Hot Carcass, Weekly

$ Per Cwt.

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Avg. 2012-16

Data Source: USDA-AMS, Compiled by LMIC
Livestock Marketing Information Center
BOXED LAMB RACK PRICES
Medium, 5 Day Rolling Average

Data Source: USDA-AMS
Livestock Marketing Information Center
FI As A Percent of Commercial Lamb Slaughter
Summary

• Little Reason to Expect Sharply Different Prices
  – Production near 2017
  – Stage set for stable demand

• Stocks Not Burden, Imports Remain Large, Weights ok, So Far

• Likely Volatile Prices Remain