

Gordon Food Service Market Updates

Meat section for Market Update: December 7, 2018

Meat | Beef

Cattle prices are higher as winter storms slow weight gains in feedlots. As holiday buying winds up packers will try to support prices by throttling back production.

Ground Beef:

Ground beef prices dropped following slow sales during Thanksgiving week. Prices could remain low until holiday production schedules tighten supply in late December.

Ribs:

Ribeye prices have topped out and will likely trade sharply lower once fill-in buying wraps up next week.

Briskets:

Holiday sales of BBQ brisket sandwiches are keeping product moving and prices well supported.

Rounds:

Retailers are actively booking rounds for post-holiday features. Prices may remain soft until after Christmas.

Strips:

Strip prices may have bottomed for now and could work a little higher around the holiday production slowdowns.

Tenders:

Tender prices appear to have peaked with just a few more days of fill-in buying before prices adjust lower.

Thin Meats:

Prices for most thin meats are weaker as we enter a slow demand time of the year. Prices could recover as production shrinks late this month.

Meat | Pork

Pork production is running at record levels with new processing capacity on stream and 3% more hogs available. Prices remain low.

Butts:

Butt prices are below previous 2018 lows. Extra production should move into freezer programs or exports,

Hams:

Ham prices have are also at 2018 lows, another good candidate for freezer programs.

Bacon/Bellies:

Belly prices have leveled out for now, but there is still downside risk until January..

Ribs:

Rib prices are below where they were last year. Demand for freezer programs is good.

Loins:

Loin prices are at a 5-year low as packers struggle to keep product moving. We

often see prices increase as we move into the winter months.