

Gordon Food Service Market Updates

Meat section for Market Update: January 11, 2019

Meat | Beef

Cattle prices are down a little from pre-holiday peaks. Beef prices remain mostly flat overall.

Ground Beef:

Ground beef prices are holding pretty close to where they were in January 2018.

Ribs:

There were 10% more rib features for the holidays than in previous years and the cleanup was very good. Prices remain \$1/lb above last year as supplies are still pretty low.

Briskets:

Prices remain above 2018 levels as demand continues strong. My wife brought me home a BBQ brisket sandwich from a Vietnamese restaurant. Is everybody serving briskets now?

Rounds:

Round prices started slipping last week as beef plants returned to a full production schedule. January peaks for insides and flats occurred in the first part of the month in both 2017 and 2018.

Strips:

Prices are even with last year but could lose a little ground now that we are back into full production.

Tenders:

Tender prices have peaked and are slowly adjusting lower. Pipelines have yet to completely refill following banner holiday demand.

Thin Meats:

Seasonally-declining beef production is usually price supportive for thin meats in January.

Meat | Pork

Pork prices were flat last week but we are entering the time when hog supplies begin to shrink and prices start to rise.

Butts:

Butt prices are lower as the market tries to attract buying for freezer programs or exports.

Hams:

Ham prices have dropped and could begin to find support from freezer and deep-chill programs.

Bacon/Bellies:

Belly supplies cleaned up last week and prices are trending higher.

Ribs:

Backrib prices are above last year; St Louis spareribs are cheaper. Right now St Louis spareribs offer considerable savings.

Loins:

Boneless loins are now cheaper than jumbo chicken breast which could attract retail features in a few weeks.