Tennessee Market Highlights



December 1, 2023 Number: 48

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

Slaughter Bulls

No

Feeder Steers

Trends

Feeder Heifers

Feeder Cattle Index: 224.77

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$174.60 was down \$2.39. The dressed price of \$274.74 down \$5.35.

Corn

March closed at \$4.84 a bushel, up 2 cents since last Friday.

Soybeans

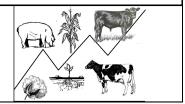
January closed at \$13.25 a bushel, down 5 cents since last Friday.

Wheat

March closed at \$6.02 a bushel, up 25 cents since last Friday.

Cotton

March closed at 79.42 cents per lb, down 1.57 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded \$2 to \$3 lower on a live basis compared to last week with live prices mainly between \$173 and \$175 while dressed prices were mainly \$273 to \$275.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$174.60 live, down \$2.39 compared to last week and \$274.74 dressed, down \$5.35 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$156.08 live and \$248.70 dressed.

Cattle are worth absolutely nothing! They cannot even be given away! Feedlots may as well give them their pink slip and send them packing to get them off the payroll! I apologize for digressing, but some feel as if finished cattle prices are pointing toward the end of time. Despite finished cattle prices failing to push higher and even hold par leading up to end of the year holidays, prices are not terrible. The only reason they seem terrible is because of how much cattle feeders paid for the cattle when they were placed on feed. This is exactly the reason cattle feeders are bidding less on feeder cattle today. Strong profits will come back around sooner rather than later. The key is not losing the farm on those being marketed today.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$298.02 down \$1.00 from Thursday and down \$0.57 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$265.91 up \$1.16 from Thursday and down \$3.14 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$32.11 compared to \$29.54 a week ago.

It would appear the holiday meat market has not kicked in just yet. It may not shift into high gear at all. Choice boxed beef prices have been stale or declining since the middle of September with a \$10 difference in the high and low during the two months. Over that same time period,

the Prime boxed beef cutout value declined from \$345 to \$325 per hundredweight. The branded boxed beef cutout price also slid \$10 lower, which is in line with Choice boxes, but branded boxes hold a \$5 to \$7 premium to Choice grade boxes. If the holiday market does catch fire or even smolders a little then Prime and Branded boxes should demonstrate the greatest strength. Choice boxes should not be far behind, but Prime grade should be the leader. As has been mentioned before, middle meats will be the leader during the holiday system with the rib being preferred over the loin. What consumers are willing to purchase over the holiday season will be a strong indicator of how beef prices will perform most of 2024.

OUTLOOK: Based on weekly auction market average, steer prices were \$10 to \$20 lower compared to two weeks ago while heifer prices were \$5 to \$15 lower compared the week before Thanksgiving. Slaughter cow prices were steady to \$1 higher than the weighted average price from two weeks ago while bull prices were \$1 lower compared to the previous week. Calf and feeder cattle prices are reeling in the current environment. The futures market has been in an utter free fall for two and a half months, and market participants do not know what to do given the expectations for cattle in the future based on the futures market. Thus, feedlots are bidding less for cattle ready to be placed on feed, which means everyone down the line has to bid lower for lighter weight cattle. It is difficult to say this is surprising given that market participants spent eight and a half months pushing cattle prices higher and to levels that were astronomical. Typically, there is an equal and opposite reaction when such force is placed on something. An equal and opposite reac-

(Continued on page 2)

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

tion may not be what is in store, because it is unlikely cattle prices will decline to beginning of the year levels, but they have declined much faster than they increased. This is an extremely similar price reaction as the market experienced from 2014 through 2016. The primary difference is that cattle producers have not started retaining heifers and growing the beef cattle herd. This means there has been no work on the pipeline to supply feeder cattle in the coming years. Thus, the market has likely overreacted to pushing prices too low just as the market pushed prices too high earlier this year. The hope would be that buyers and sellers could moderate their reactions and respond to actual supply and demand signals. The market has been responding to speculative supply and demand signals for ten months and it has brought feast and famine. There will be more feasting as the market moves into 2024. Hopefully, it will be at a more conservative pace and level than 2023.

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: A question was asked this week concerning budgeting and cost of production. It is extremely important for cattle producers to have a budget for their operation. There are several reasons it is important to

maintain a budget. The primary reason is to easily determine profits and losses from the operation. This would seem like enough of a reason to maintain a budget for a cattle operation. A second reason would be to identify costs and revenues that are too high or too low and result in an inefficiency in the operation. For example, if revenue seems low then it may be because the weaning and marketing rate is too low. This could be because of poor nutrition that led to poor conception rates. Similarly, there may be a cost category that appears way to high. Most of the time the extremely high costs categories will be in feed and nutrition. A producer should consider these values and determine if they are out of line with what would be expected to keep an animal fed over a certain time period. Budgets have more than one use.

Please send questions and comments to <u>agriff14@utk.edu</u> or send a letter to Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee, P.O. Box 160, 1000 Main Entrance Dr., Spring Hill, TN 37174.

FRIDAY'S FUTURES MARKET CLOSING PRICES: Friday's closing prices were as follows: Live/fed cattle –December \$169.28 -1.60; February \$169.13 -2.70; April \$171.63 -2.80; Feeder cattle –January \$214.43 -5.53; March \$217.23 -5.35; April \$221.18 -5.50; May \$224.90 -5.60; December corn closed at \$4.65 up 3 cents from Thursday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Overview

Corn and wheat were up; soybeans were mixed; and cotton was down for the week.

At this time of year, it may be beneficial to evaluate how your growing season marketing strategy performed. The 2023 harvest contracts for corn, soybean, and cotton have come off the trading board, or will com-

	Previous	Current	Change
USD Index	103.30	103.19	-0.12
Crude Oil	75.54	74.49	-1.05
DЛA	35,390	36,236	846

plete trading in the next two weeks. To compare your growing season pricing activity relative to the market, you can examine the futures prices you secured to the range and average daily futures market price closes for the harvest contract.

For example, from January 1 to December 1, the December 2023 corn futures contract had daily closings between \$4.50 and \$6.29 with an average of \$5.28. The 90th percentile for the December 2023 corn futures contract daily closing prices was \$5.93. So, if you priced corn above \$5.93 on the futures market, you were in the top 10% of daily closing prices for the calendar year. Likewise, if you priced futures below \$4.76 you were in the bottom 10% of the daily closing futures prices for the calendar year.

For soybeans, from January 1 to November 15, the 2023 November soybean contract had daily closes between \$11.47 and \$14.25 with an average daily close of \$13.18. The top 10% of daily closing prices were \$13.87 and greater, and the bottom 10% were \$12.39 and below.

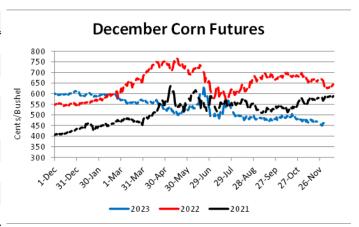
For cotton, from January 1 to December 1, the 2023 December contract traded between 74.9 and 90 cents with an average of 82.9 cents. The top 10% of daily closing prices were 86.96 cents and above and the bottom 10% were 79.03 cents and below. The above comparison is for the harvest futures contract only and does not factor in basis. Conducting a simple analysis on an annual basis can provide information on how your marketing strategy compares to market prices and identify potential improvements that can improve your marketing strategy in the future.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Corn

Ethanol production for the week ending November 24 was 1.011 million barrels per day, down 12,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 21.379 million barrels, down 273,000 barrels compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for November 17-23 were net sales of 75.9 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year – a marketing year high. Exports for the same period were down 20% compared to last week at 19.7 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 46% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 51%. Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) strengthened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, North-Central, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 50 under to 3 over, with an average of 13 under the December futures at elevators and barge points.

Corn	Dec 23	Change	Mar 24	Change
Price	\$4.64	\$0.01	\$4.84	\$0.02
Support	\$4.45	-\$0.12	\$4.71	-\$0.06
Resistance	\$4.71	-\$0.02	\$4.90	-\$0.02
20 Day MA	\$4.67	-\$0.04	\$4.85	-\$0.02
50 Day MA	\$4.78	-\$0.02	\$4.94	-\$0.01
100 Day MA	\$4.88	-\$0.02	\$5.03	-\$0.01
4-Week High	\$4.81	-\$0.03	\$4.96	-\$0.02
4-Week Low	\$4.47	-\$0.11	\$4.70	-\$0.06
Technical Trend	Down	=	Down	=

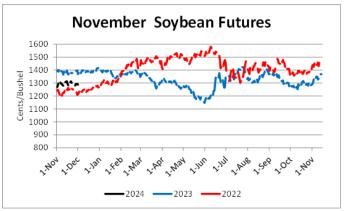


The Crop Progress report estimated corn harvested at 96% compared to 93% last week, 99% last year, and a 5-year average of 95%. In Tennessee, corn harvested was estimated at 99% compared to 98% last week, 100% last year, and a 5-year average of 100%. Cash prices ranged from \$4.05 to \$4.75 at elevators and barge points. December 2023 corn futures closed at \$4.64, up 1 cent since last Friday. For the week, December 2023 corn futures traded between \$4.47 and \$4.69. Dec/Mar and Dec/May future spreads were 20 and 32 cents. March 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.84, up 2 cents since last Friday. May 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.96, up 2 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$5.20 December 2024 Put Option costing 45 cents establishing a \$4.75 futures floor.

Soybeans

Across Tennessee average soybean basis weakened or remained unchanged at Mississippi River elevators and barge points and strengthened at Northwest, West, North-Central, and West-Central and elevators and barge points. Basis ranged from 53 under to 10 under the January futures contract, with an average basis at the end of the week of 24 under. Soybean net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 69.6 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 13% compared to last week at 53.2 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 65% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 67%.

Soybeans	Jan 24	Change	Nov 24	Change
Price	\$13.25	-\$0.05	\$12.82	\$0.02
Support	\$12.98	- \$0.14	\$12.77	\$0.12
Resistance	\$13.56	-\$0.07	\$13.00	-\$0.05
20 Day MA	\$13.55	\$0.05	\$12.95	\$0.04
50 Day MA	\$13.26	\$0.01	\$12.75	\$0.02
100 Day MA	\$13.47	\$0.00	\$12.79	\$0.03
4-Week High	\$13.98	\$0.00	\$13.17	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$13.15	\$0.15	\$12.70	\$0.12
Technical Trend	Down	-	Down	-



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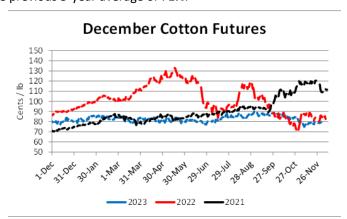
Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

In Tennessee, the Crop Progress report estimated soybeans harvested at 97% compared to 93% last week, 96 last year, and a 5-year average of 91%. January 2024 soybean futures closed at \$13.25, down 5 cents since last Friday. For the week, January 2024 soybean futures traded between \$13.23 and \$13.52. Cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$12.99 to \$13.47. March 2024 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.78 at the end of the week. Jan/Mar and Jan/Nov future spreads were 20 and -43 cents. March 2024 soybean futures closed at \$13.45, down 3 cents since last Friday. November 2024 soybean futures closed at \$12.82, up 2 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$13.00 November 2024 Put Option which would cost 89 cents and set a \$12.11 futures floor. Nov/Dec soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.50 at the end of the week.

Cotton

North Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for November 30 were 77.06 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 79.06 cents/lb (31-3-35). Adjusted world price (AWP) was down 1.05 cent at 64.18 cents. Cotton net weekly sales reported by exporters were 217,700 bales for the 2023/24 marketing year and 15,400 bales for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 14% compared to last week at 88,800 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 68% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 71%.

Cotton	Dec 23	Change	Mar 24	Change
Price	78.42	-1.97	79.42	-1.57
Support	78.71	1.34	78.77	-0.66
Resistance	80.11	-2.08	81.13	-1.38
20 Day MA	78.25	-0.45	80.23	-0.68
50 Day MA	82.36	-0.67	84.04	-0.64
100 Day MA	84.03	-0.10	84.92	-0.05
4-Week High	80.82	-4.43	82.98	-3.82
4-Week Low	74.77	0.00	77.66	0.00
Technical Trend	Down	-	Down	-



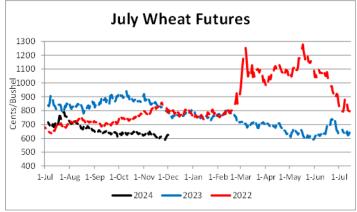
The Crop Progress report estimated cotton harvested at 83% compared to 77% last week, 83% last year, and a 5-year average of 79%. In Tennessee, the Crop Progress report estimated cotton harvested at 96% compared to 95% last week, 94% last year, and a 5-year average of 92%. December 2023 cotton futures closed at 78.42 cents, down 1.97 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2023 cotton futures traded between 76.0 and 80.42 cents. March 2024 cotton futures closed at 79.42 cents, down 1.57 cents since last Friday. May 2024 cotton futures closed at 80.12 cents, down 1.57 cents since last Friday. Dec/Mar and Dec/May cotton futures spreads were 1 cent and 1.7 cents. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 78 cent December 2024 Put Option costing 5.55 cents establishing a 72.45 cent futures floor.

Wheat

Wheat net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 22.9 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year and 0.4 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 14% compared to last week at 12.5 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 67% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 70%. Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$4.69 to \$5.63. December 2023 wheat futures closed at \$5.77, up 29 cents since last Friday. December 2023 wheat futures traded between \$5.56 and \$6.10 this week. December wheat-to-corn price ratio was 1.24. Dec/Mar and Dec/Jul future spreads were 25 and 51 cents. March 2024 wheat futures closed at \$6.02, up 25 cents since last Friday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Wheat	Dec 23	Change	Jul 24	Change
Price	\$5.77	\$0.29	\$6.28	\$0.24
Support	\$5.50	\$0.09	\$6.02	\$0.06
Resistance	\$5.89	\$0.30	\$6.36	\$0.21
20 Day MA	\$5.63	\$0.00	\$6.19	-\$0.02
50 Day MA	\$5.69	-\$0.02	\$6.27	-\$0.02
100 Day MA	\$6.08	-\$0.04	\$6.58	-\$0.03
4-Week High	\$5.98	\$0.00	\$6.50	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$5.27	-\$0.14	\$5.86	-\$0.11
Technical Trend	Up	+	Up	+



The Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat condition at 50% good-to-excellent and 15% poor-to-very poor; and winter wheat emerged at 91% compared to 87% last week, 90% last year, and a 5-year average of 89%. In Tennessee, winter wheat condition was estimated at 61% good-to-excellent and 10% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat planted at 94% compared to 88% last week and 96% last year; and winter wheat emerged at 80% compared to 65% last week and 84% last year. July 2024 wheat futures closed at \$6.28, up 24 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.30 July 2024 Put Option costing 49 cents establishing a \$5.81 futures floor. New crop wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.59 to \$6.01.

Additional Information:

Links for data presented:

U.S. Export Sales - https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html

USDA FAS: Weekly Export Performance Indicator - https://apps.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/esrpi.aspx

EIA: Weekly ethanol Plant Production - https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp_wprode_s1_w.htm

EIA: Weekly Supply Estimates - https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_sum_sndw_a_EPOOXE_sae_mbbl_w.htm

Upland Cotton Reports - https://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/epasReports?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=fta-uc

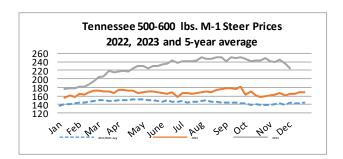
Tennessee Crop Progress - https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Tennessee/Publications/

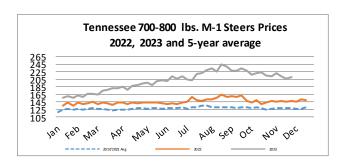
Crop Progress & Condition/

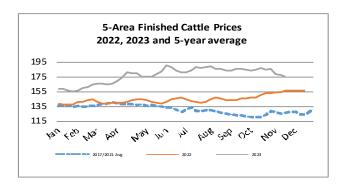
U.S. Crop Progress - http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1048
USDA AMS: Market News - https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/search-market-news

If you would like further information or clarification on topics discussed in the crop comments section or would like to be added to our free email list please contact me at aaron.smith@utk.edu.

	Prices Paid to Farmers by Elevators Friday, November 24, 2023Thursday, November 30, 2023						
	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		
_	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average		
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans			\$/bushel				
Northwest		12.77	12.94	12.95	12.90		
Iorth Central		13.00	13.17	13.27	13.23		
Vest Central							
Vest		13.20	13.37	13.37	13.33		
Aississippi River		13.17	13.35	13.34	13.30		
ellow Corn							
Iorthwest		4.43	4.39	4.53	4.62		
Iorth Central		4.05	4.04	4.06	4.13		
Vest Central							
Vest		4.56	4.52	4.50	4.62		
Aississippi River		4.48	4.44	4.42	4.57		
Vheat							
Iorthwest		4.69	4.79	4.91	5.48		
Iorth Central		5.26	5.37	5.51	5.63		
Vest							
Aississippi River		5.14	5.24	5.36	5.50		
otton			\$/pound				
лemphis	77.49-79.74	75.76-78.01	76.10-78.35	76.59-78.59	77.06-79.06		









Futures Settlement Prices: Crops & Livestock

Corn: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/corn.html

 $Soybeans: \underline{https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/soybean.html}\\$

Wheat: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/wheat.html

Soybean Meal: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/soybean-meal.html

Cotton: https://www.theice.com/products/254/Cotton-No-2-Futures/data?marketId=5352193

Live Cattle: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/live-cattle.html

Feeder Cattle: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/feeder-cattle.html

Lean Hogs: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/lean-hogs.html

Class III Milk: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/dairy/class-iii-milk.html

	This Week			Last Week's	Year Ago
-	Low	High	Weighted Average	- Weighted Average	•
			\$/cwt		
Steers: Medium/Large	e Frame #1-2				
300-400 lbs	245.00	270.00	257.91	257.60	173.77
400-500 lbs	220.00	252.00	235.38	244.87	164.69
500-600 lbs	218.00	235.00	223.69	235.24	164.76
600-700 lbs	205.00	225.00	218.35	218.38	155.86
700-800 lbs	205.00	219.00	211.70	206.50	148.52
Steers: Small Frame #	1-2				
300-400 lbs				213.48	
400-500 lbs				206.50	
500-600 lbs					
600-700 lbs					
Steers: Medium/Large	e Frame #3				
300-400 lbs	191.00	237.50	211.48	234.84	131.25
400-500 lbs	206.00	218.00	212.85	224.28	136.95
500-600 lbs	201.00	210.00	205.42	209.69	145.81
600-700 lbs	190.00	207.00	198.50	202.97	
700-800 lbs				187.61	
Holstein Steers					
300-400 lbs					
500-600 lbs					
700-800 lbs					
Slaughter Cows & Bull	ls				
Breakers 75-80%	75.00	98.00	89.96	90.91	71.45
Boners 80-85%	70.00	98.00	88.02	87.61	67.71
Lean 85-90%	47.00	81.00	74.02	78.07	58.68
Bulls YG 1	110.50	123.00	115.64	113.02	95.21
Heifers: Medium/Larg	ge Frame #1-2				
300-400 lbs	200.00	235.00	213.89	215.04	152.51
400-500 lbs	190.00	228.00	208.15	213.80	148.27
500-600 lbs	180.00	211.00	195.19	204.30	141.24
600-700 lbs	176.00	193.00	184.29	183.69	133.67
Heifers: Small Frame #	#1-2				
300-400 lbs				150.85	
400-500 lbs				160.00	
500-600 lbs				166.03	115.00
600-700 lbs					
Heifers: Medium/Larg	ge Frame #2-3				
300-400 lbs	160.00	207.00	182.07	201.94	140.93
400-500 lbs	162.00	201.00	188.01	191.40	135.78
500-600 lbs	170.00	190.00	181.16	181.59	130.92
600-700 lbs	160.00	175.00	169.42	166.12	116.98

Cattle Receipts

This week:1,330 Week ago:9,818 Year ago:1,193

Link to report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams 2063.pdf

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Browning Livestock Market Video/Internet Auction - Lafayette, TN

Weighted Average Report for 11/29/23

Total Receipts: 341 For complete report:

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams 3467.pdf

East Tennessee Livestock Center - Sweetwater, TN 11/29/23

1 load out of 76 steers from BQA certified producer; Est weight 865 lbs; 100% L&M-1s; medium flesh 100%; BLK/BWF; \$218.75

2 loads out of 155 steers from BQA certified producer; Est weight 890 lbs; 95% L&M-1s and 5% L&M-2s; medium flesh; 100% BLK/BWF; \$215.75

Hardin County Stockyard - Savannah, TN

11/29/23

63 Steers, 812 lbs, M&L 1, 42-Black/BWF 14-ChX 7-Red/RWF, 5-6 Flesh, \$214.00

Hardin County Stockyard Video Auction - Savannah, TN

Weighted Average Report for 11/29/23 Total Receipts: 455

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams 3509.pdf

Lower Middle Tennessee Cattlemen's Association-Video Board Sale-Columbia, TN

Weighted Average Report for 12/1/23

For complete report:

For complete report:

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams 3340.pdf

Graded Goat & Sheep Sale

Columbia Graded Sheep and Goat Sale-Columbia, TN

Weighted Average Report for 11/27/23

Total Receipts: 529 For complete report:

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams 2081.pdf

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

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USDA / Tennessee Department of Agriculture Market News Service https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/farms/news.html

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