

NOTE FROM JACE:

The market for Wednesday, September 13th was as follows: The 300 weight steer calves brought 199.00-187.00 and the 400 weight steers brought 192.00-170.00. The 300-400 weight heifer calves brought 179.00-150.00 and the 500 weight steers brought 175.00-160.00. The 600 weight steers brought 147.50-143.00 with a lite offering and the 500 weight heifers brought 145.00-136.00. The 600 weight heifers brought 137.00-131.00 with a lite offering. The 700 weight steers brought 147.00-136.00 and the 800-1000 weight steers brought 130.00-118.50. The 700 weight heifers brought 127.00-121.00 with a lite offering and the 800-900 weight heifers brought 121.00-120.00 also with a lite offering. Butcher cows were 2.00-4.00 lower 67.00-60.00 for fleshy cows and 60.00-52.00 for the thinner cows. The butcher bulls were 2.00-3.00 lower 87.00-80.00 for fleshy bulls and 80.00-75.00 for the thinner bulls.

The calf market has been very active and I still believe that it will continue to be very active. The 300, 400 & 500 weight calves will sell good no matter what time of the year. There will be a time in the fall when the 600-700 weight unweaned calves will sell lower than a weaned one or a yearling. The corporate feed yards will not buy them at any price because they're not set up to wean calves. I'm not sure when this might happen, but most likely sometime in October or November. A 30+ day weaned calf will bring you a premium price sometime in October and November. Cooler days and a little moisture would sure help all of us with weaning. The butcher cow price will continue to drop until the farmers get the silage & feed put up. Then, the farmers will start buying old bred cows and even open cows to put on feed, which will slow the supply down to the packer buyers, which in turn, will cause the increase in the price of cows. Make sure when you bring your cattle, you tell the trucker or let us know at La Junta Livestock, what the shots & boosters program is and the weaning length... The buyers want to know and it will sure help market your calves. The grass has finally cured over the last couple of weeks and for that reason, nobody is in any hurry (around here) to sell anything. But... fall is just around the corner! Feel free to contact me or any of the field reps in your area with any questions about your cattle or questions about the market. We are truly here to help you! See you Wednesday at the Sale!