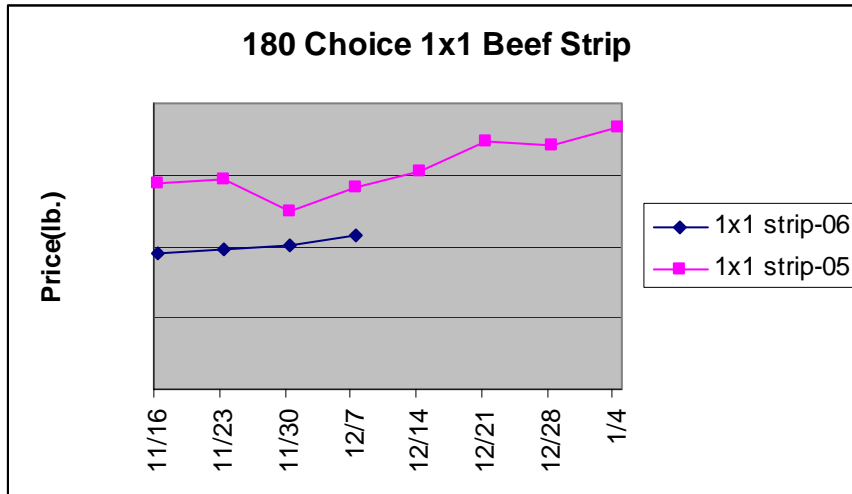


# Beef, Veal and Lamb Report

**Beef, Veal & Lamb-** Beef packers are beginning to curtail beef output due to poor profit margins. Modestly higher beef prices may occur over the next 2 weeks however ample beef inventories could temper any pending market increases. Some beef markets may experience a downward correction towards the end of the month but cyclical charts suggest that higher beef prices are likely in early January. The November steer and heifer feed price ratio was at its lowest level for the month since 1996 indicating poor profitability for cattle producers. The current cattle herd building cycle may stop prematurely.



	<u>Market Trend</u>	<u>Supplies</u>	<u>Price vs. Last Year</u>
Live Cattle (Steer)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Ground Beef 81/19	Increasing	Good	Lower
Ground Chuck	Increasing	Good	Lower
109 Export Rib (choice)	Increasing	Good	Lower
109 Export Rib (prime)	Increasing	Good	Higher
112a Ribeye (choice)	Increasing	Good	Higher
112a Ribeye (prime)	Increasing	Good	Higher
115 Chuck, 2-piece (choice)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
120 Brisket (choice)	Increasing	Good	Lower
121c Outside Skirt (ch/sel.)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
167a Knuckle, Trimmed (choice)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
168 Inside Round (choice)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (choice 2x3)	Increasing	Good	Higher
174 Short Loin (prime 2x3)	Increasing	Good	Higher
180 1x1 Strip (choice)	Increasing	Good	Lower
180 1x1 Strip (prime)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
180 0x1 Strip (choice)	Increasing	Good	Lower
184 Top Butt, boneless (choice)	Increasing	Good	Lower
184 Top Butt, boneless (prime)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
185a Sirloin Flap (choice)	Increasing	Good	Higher
185c Loin, Tri-Tip (choice)	Increasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (select, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (choice, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
189a Tender (prime, heavy)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
193 Flank Steak (choice)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
50% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
65% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Lower
75% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower

<b>85% Trimmings</b>	<b>Decreasing</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Lower</b>
<b>90% Trimmings</b>	<b>Increasing</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Higher</b>
<b>90% Imported Beef (frozen)</b>	<b>Increasing</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Higher</b>
<b>Veal Rack (Hotel 7 rib)</b>	<b>Steady</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Higher</b>
<b>Veal Top Round (cap off)</b>	<b>Steady</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Lower</b>
<b>Lamb Rack 7 &amp; up</b>	<b>Decreasing</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Lower</b>
<b>Lamb Leg (trotter off)</b>	<b>Increasing</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Higher</b>