

# East Texas Livestock, Inc

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## April, 2025 Monthly Market Report

### Slaughter Cows

Canners.....\$ 118 to \$ 1.37  
 Boning/Utility.....\$ 1.36 to \$ 1.46  
 Cutters.....\$ 1.47 to \$ 1.56

Slaughter Bulls.....\$1.71 to \$1.96

Bred Cows.....\$1700.00 to \$3,000.00 /head

Cow/Calf Pairs.....\$ 2100.00 to \$3,750.00

### Feeder Calves

Feeder Steers/Bulls Large Frame #1		(avg prices)	Feeder Heifers Large Frame #1		(avg. prices)
200 to 300 lbs.....	\$2.50 to \$5.35	\$ 4.47	\$2.40 to \$4.98		\$ 3.97
300 to 400 lbs.....	\$2.38 to \$5.11	\$ 4.03	\$2.30 to \$4.53		\$ 3.64
400 to 500 lbs.....	\$2.35 to \$4.33	\$ 3.74	\$2.21 to \$3.99		\$ 3.44
500 to 600 lbs.....	\$2.18 to \$3.87	\$ 3.28	\$2.16 to \$3.69		\$ 3.01
600 to 800 lbs.....	\$2.08 to \$3.53	\$ 2.99	\$1.80 to \$3.11		\$ 2.60

### Month End Summary

April fats started in the \$2.14 range with the fed cattle portion making up a larger percentage of the total slaughter as both beef and dairy cows being in decline. More feeder calves from the feedlots are giving in the demand slots as fewer cows are heading to slaughter. Beef cow slaughter is near year ago levels and has caused the packers to pull from the fed cattle to fill the demand hole. Beef demand is coming mostly from the grind that represents almost half of all beef sold. Recent research has proven that hamburger meat is not only the most popular meat item but the fastest growing also.

President Trumps tariffs and their repercussions are yet to be totally felt. Early April showed both Mexico and Canada appeared to have escaped harm for both livestock and beef and with Australian higher tariffs on imported beef it has proven to be a positive for American markets. By mid-April it was announced a 90 day pause in tariffs and immediately the CBOT raised future prices by \$4 to \$5. Year to date shows our beef exports are down 4% or about 19M pounds. Americans spent a record \$104 billion for meat last year in 2024. China held the most potential for American beef exports but that appears to have disappeared with the current standoff of tariff trades. China purchased more than \$15.7 Billion dollars in US agricultural exports last year! Currently Mexico has the top spot with Canada in second.

As we are ending April, the summer grazing demand is here. Stocker operators are on the hunt for summer feeders for grass and are finding very short supplies. The offerings that are available are sky high in price offerings and is leaving many potential operators questioning whether to buy at these high prices and hope the market figures will be higher when their feeders finished grazing or just step to the sidelines. As it stands, the combination of tight supplies of feeder cattle and the recent constrained numbers of Mexican imports allowing to cross due the New World Screwworm infestation in Mexico, a price volatility period appears once again to have the market questioning itself. Prices continue to raise every week, and the word "uncertainty" has become the norm. These runaway prices continue to top the previous week, but market analysts fear both the tariffs along with consumer hesitancy for high beef might well stagger this momentum and create a backfire in this bullish market.

We have noticed a trend in March and then again, this month of light calves moving earlier than normal. Comparisons of calves weighing 400 lbs and down in March of 2024 and 2025 showed 75% more sold this year than last year. Fear of the prices rescinding, and present high prices are pulling these forward to market. This could well create an unusual window in June when these calves would normal be offered. Again, uncertainty continues to be the norm.


