East Texas Livestock, Inc

893 State Highway 7 West
Crockett, Texas 75835
936-544-2246
www.easttexaslivestock.com

July, 2026 Monthly Market Report

Slaughter Cows
Canners................$ 1.52 to $ 1.79
Boning/Utility.........$ 1.80 to $ 1.89
Cutters................. $ 1.90 to $ 2.03

Slaughter Bulls.........$2.09 to $2.42

Bred Cows...........$2400.00 to $5,400.00 /head

Cow/Calf Pairs.......$ 3700.00 to $5,000.00

Feeder Calves

Feeder Steers/Bulls Large Frame #1		(avg prices)	Feeder Heifers Large Frame #1	(avg. price
200 to 300 lbs	$4.09 to $7.59	$ 5.96	$2.25 to $6.28	$ 5.05
300 to 400 lbs	$3.78 to $6.54	$ 5.24	$2.18 to $5.78	$ 4.74
400 to 500 lbs	$3.65 to $4.56	$ 4.52	$2.12 to $5.26	$ 4.22
500 to 600 lbs	$3.51 to $4.45	$ 3.91	$2.06 to $4.26	$ 3.66
600 to 800 lbs	$3.09 to $3.99	$ 3.58	$1.85 to $3.83	$ 3.42

Month End Summary

The July beef demand ended strong but not strong enough to carry prices higher. Retail prices appear to have some consumer resistance. Increasing marketable cattle numbers along with seasonally slower beef demand throughout the "dog days of summer" appear to have weakened the cash market. Moving further into July the leverage started to tip into the Packers advantage. As the beef demand started its seasonal weakening, abnormal heat temperatures along with the smoke from the huge Canadian fires have kept people inside from any outside cooking. With school starting soon, household budgets are being strained and with beef inching higher, competing proteins such as chicken and pork are beginning to gain ground on beef products. The high price of beef continues to remain a risk for damage but the Trump Administration to lower beef prices also continuing to remain a threat. Beef will continue to suffer a loss of market not because of price but because we are producing less beef.

Beef demand will continue to focus on summer consumption and price issues. Heat and humidity will continue to play a role in cattle performance. By the end of summer heat along with humidity continue to take a toll on cattle in the feedlot. The heat dome over the central US has produced the hottest temperatures in history and is leaving a trial of dead animals in the feedlots in Kansas along with other Midwest states. Buyers have become more selective in their purchases as feeder calf quality rules the higher prices.

By the end of July, market pressures continue to drive the cash (fats) cattle downward. It appears the packers have again gained the upper hand in the markets. Live cattle prices have lost from the high of $2.55 to the current trading figures Of $2.30. The futures market also continues to turn bearish as we end the month. Beef cow slaughter is currently at 1.03 million head which is a decrease of 190,000 head which is 15.5% under this time last year.

The USDA announced it was reopening its Douglas, Arizona station on August 24th. This news cratered the futures board as the traders attempted to decipher what repercussions this would have on feeder cattle prices. The July 1st cattle inventory showed beef cows at 28.5 million which is 1% down from a year ago.

Heading into August the heat will continue to exert pressure on summer pastures and continue to create health problems in the feedlots. Many producers could well find bids on Fall deliveries substantially lower than expected. It appears that the bull market of the past 3 years could be encountering some market adjustments. Time will tell. The demand however continues to remain healthy and strong.