Religious & Ethnic Holidays and Demand for Lamb and Goat Meat

2013 Holidays		Meat
Mawlid al-Nabi Prophet's Birthday Jan 24	Islamic Holiday	• The Halal slaughtering is the acceptable way of processing. • No indication of specific age, sex or weight.
Passover Mar 26- Apr 2	Jewish Holiday	• Preferences are for lambs of 30-55 lbs live weight, that are milk fed and fat. • Meat should be prepared by Kosher slaughter
Easter	Western Roman Mar 31	• Traditional market is for lambs 30-45 lbs live weight, milk fed and fat, or for a suckling kid weighing 18-35lbs live weight.
	Eastern Orthodox May 5	• Traditional market is for lambs 40-55 lbs which are milk fed and fat, o r suckling kids in the 25-50lbs live weight range.
Start of Ramadan Month of Fasting July 9	Islamic Holiday	• Weaned market lambs 60-80lbs are preferred as well as male and female kids with all their milk teeth (not older than 12 months).
Rosh Hashana Sept 5-6	Jewish Holiday	• Forequarters from weaned lambs 60-110 lbs are wanted.
Eid ul Fitr Festival of Fast Breaking Aug 8	Islamic Holiday	• Most desired lambs are between 60-80 lbs live weight. The most desired goat is usually a young animal weighing between 50-70lbs. • Either animal is usually acceptable and male animals are preferred. It is also important that the animal be without any blemishes.
Eid ul-Adha Festival of Sacrifice Oct 15	Islamic Holiday	• The traditional lamb for this holiday is a yearling although large market lambs and older sheep are also used. • The animals must be blemish free, however the definition varies. For some this means the animals should be healthy with no broken horns, open wounds or lameness. For others, it should not be castrated nor have even a torn ear. • Age is the main concern and the weight is ideally between 60-80 lbs.
Dasara / Navaratri Oct 14	Hindu Holiday	• Females are not usually acceptable for this holiday. • The size of the carcass varies.
Chanukkah Nov 28- Dec 5	Jewish Holiday	• The meat preferences are the same as Passover, which are lambs 30-55lbs live weight, milk fed and fat prepared by Kosher method of slaughter.
Muharram /Islamic New Year	Islamic Holiday	• Mutton is one of the dishes for this festive. • There is no restriction of age or weight for this

Nov 4		day except the animal should be healthy and good looking.
Christmas Dec 25	Christian Holiday	• Milk fed lambs are preferred
Various Caribbean holidays through the year	Caribbean	• Curried goat from intact market kids or bucks accompanied by a goat soup using the rest of the goat carcass is a traditional dish for Caribbean's.
Cinco de Mayo and other Hispanic holidays	Hispanic	• Some Mexican families desire a small Cabrito kid to celebrate Mexico's independence day from Spain. Others prefer a large market kid or yearling barbecued whole over a pit. • Goat stew (Seco de Chivo) is a popular dish for other Latin American cultures for holidays such as Christmas. • The Hispanic market for goats is for 20-35 lb live weight milk-fed kids for Cabrito, and larger animals for Seco de Chivo.
Various Chinese holidays through the year	Chinese	• The Chinese market for goat is limited to the six colder months. • The preferred weight range is 60-80 pounds live, and goats in good health are required.
Various Filipino holidays through the year	Filipino	• Goat is one of the livestock animals that are very popular among Filipinos. • Goat meat is cooked in several ways like stew or roasted. • Healthy looking >60 lbs goat is what Filipinos always look for.