

Appendix 3. Descriptions of Major Ethnic Holidays with Goat Meat Specifications

Holiday	Religious Significance	Meat Goat Specification
Christian		
Christmas	One of the most well known Christian holidays. Celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.	Milk fed kids, but hard to get because it required out-of-season breeding. Quality control not as important as is the case with Easter.
Easter	Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.	Milk fed kids with relatively light colored meat, 3 months old or younger. Kids weighing less than 20 lbs. are disappointing to buyers due to low meat-to-bone ratios and high carcass drying losses. Slight price penalties for kids weighing over 40 lbs. Acceptable weights generally range from 20 to 50 lbs. with 25 lbs. considered optimum by buyers.
Palm Sunday	The Sunday preceding Easter Sunday. Palm Sunday is a day that many Christian churches commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem.	
Good Friday	Also known as Easter Friday. A Day Christians remember the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.	
Jewish		
Passover	An 8 day observance or celebration commemorating the freedom of the Israelites from Egypt. It is consider a time of family gatherings and lavish meals called Seders.	Milk fed kids, but hard to get because it required out of season breeding. Quality control not as important as is the case with Easter.
Hanukkah	Often mistaken for the Jewish Christmas, Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Jerusalem temple by Judah Maccabee in 165 B.C.	
Rosh Hashanah	The Jewish New Year. Rosh Hashanah begins the 10 day period known as the High Holy Days.	
Islamic		
Ramadan	The nine month of the lunar calendar. Muslims throughout the world fast during the daylight hours of this month. Because Ramadan is a special time, many Muslims prepare certain favorite foods during this month.	Male and female kids with all of their milk teeth (not older than 12 months). Males can be whole or castrated. Overly fat kids are discriminated against. Optimum live weight is about 60 lbs.
Id Al Fitr	Celebration at the end of Ramadan. It is similar to Christmas in its celebration but with strong religious significance.	Yearling animals with one set of adult teeth.
Id Al Adha	The festival of sacrifice. The festival is celebrated as a commemoration of Abraham's willingness to sacrifice everything for God. Muslims commemorate this occasion by slaughtering an animal and distributing its meat among family, friends, and the needy.	See Id Al Adha. Less discrimination in quality or type of goat than other holidays.

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