



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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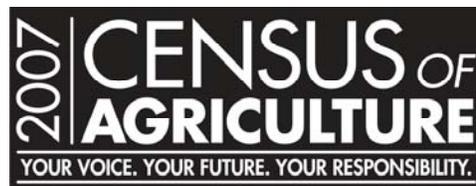
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Idaho December Red Meat Production Down 5 Percent from Previous Month

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for December 2007 totaled 17.9 million pounds, up 373 percent from December of last year according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. December production was down 5 percent from November 2007 production. Accumulated red meat production for 2007 totaled 180 million pounds, down 20 percent from the previous year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.06 billion pounds in December, up 5 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in December 2006. Beef production, at 2.06 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.65 million head, up 1 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,302 pounds. Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 21 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 61,000 head, down 11 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was down 35 pounds from last year, at 289 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.97 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.69 million head, up 9 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 272 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.4 million pounds, was down 1 percent from December 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 229,100 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 1 pound from December a year ago. January to December 2007 commercial red meat production was 48.7 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.



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