



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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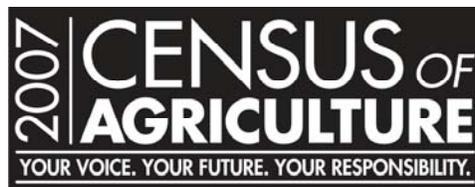
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Idaho April Red Meat Production Up 22 Percent from Last Year

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for April 2008 totaled 18.9 million pounds, up 22 percent from April of last year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. April production was down 1 percent from March 2008 production. Accumulated red meat production for the January-April 2008 period totaled 72.6 million pounds, up 70 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.30 billion pounds in April, up 14 percent from the 3.75 billion pounds produced in April 2007. Beef production, at 2.25 billion pounds, was 12 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 10 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds. Veal production totaled 11.9 million pounds, 1 percent above April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 73,300 head, up 29 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was down 70 pounds from last year, at 278 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.02 billion pounds, up 18 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.99 million head, up 18 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was up 2 percent from April 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 221,400 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, unchanged from April a year ago. January to April 2008 commercial red meat production was 16.8 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 13 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.



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