



Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
10 W 15th Street, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626

August 2008 Red Meat Production

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For more information contact: Lindsey Houska or Peggy Stringer at 1-800-835-2612

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.8 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during August 2008, up 32 percent from August 2007, but down 2 percent from July 2008. Cattle slaughter totaled 2,000 head, up 500 head from one year ago. The average live weight increased 30 pounds from last year to 1,195 pounds.

There were 1,800 hogs slaughtered in Montana during August, up 200 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 238 pounds, increased 2 pounds from last year. August sheep slaughter totaled 500 head, up 100 head from August 2007. The average live weight decreased 15 pounds from one year ago to 128 pounds.

U.S. commercial red meat production totaled 4.10 billion pounds in August, down 5 percent from the 4.33 billion pounds produced in August 2007.

Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 7 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.91 million head, down 7 percent from August 2007. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,284 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.2 million pounds, 9 percent above August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 79,200 head, up 21 percent from August 2007. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from last year, at 245 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.27 million head, down 1 percent from August 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 261 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.3 million pounds, was down 10 percent from August 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,700 head, 12 percent below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 3 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2008 commercial red meat production was 33.4 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 9 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

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