

South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

February 25, 2005

RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

SIoux FALLS, February 25, 2005 – Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 77.8 million pounds during January. This is down 18 percent from one year ago and down 21 percent from last month, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Office. For January, both pork production and sheep and lamb production were down from one year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 360,800 head during January compared to 446,400 head last year. Average live weight was 261 pounds, down 4 pounds from January 2004.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 600 head during January compared to 700 head last year. Average live weight was 123 pounds, unchanged from January 2004.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

*The complete report can be accessed at www.usda.gov/nass/
or call Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at
605-323-6500*