



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
South Dakota Field Office • Sioux Falls, SD



Media contact: South Dakota Office, 605/323-6500
Email: nass-sd@nass.usda.gov

RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN

SIOUX FALLS, August 25, 2006 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 70.2 million pounds during July. This was down 4 percent from one year ago but virtually unchanged from last month. For July, pork production and sheep and lamb production were down from one year ago, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 325,000 head during July compared to 349,000 head the year before. Average live weight was 261 pounds, which was up 1 pound from July 2005.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 800 head during July, unchanged from one year earlier. Average live weight was 120 pounds, which was down 4 pounds from July 2005.

Commercial slaughter data for cattle is not published.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/LiveSlau/2000s/2006/LiveSlau-08-25-2006.pdf>