



NEWS RELEASE

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



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RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, September 22, 2006 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 75.1 million pounds during August. This was down 9 percent from one year ago but up 7 percent from last month. For August, pork production was down but sheep and lamb production were up from one year ago, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 347,600 head during August compared to 405,800 head the year before. Average live weight was 259 pounds, which was up 3 pounds from August 2005.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,600 head during August, up 700 head from one year earlier. Average live weight was 111 pounds, which was down 10 pounds from August 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-09-22-2006.pdf>