



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, October 20, 2006 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 77.3 million pounds during September. This was down 11 percent from one year ago but up 3 percent from last month. For September, pork production was down but sheep and lamb production was 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 362,100 head during September compared to 423,000 head the year before. Average live weight was 262 pounds, which was up 5 pounds from September 2005.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,200 head during September, up 200 head from one year earlier. Average live weight was 116 pounds, which was down 4 pounds from September 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-10-20-2006.pdf>