



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIoux FALLS, April 20, 2007 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 84.4 million pounds during March. This was up 3 percent from one year ago and up 20 percent from last month. For March, pork production was up from one year ago, while sheep and lamb production was down, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 391,400 head during March compared to 377,000 head the year before. Average live weight was 260 pounds, which was down 2 pounds from March 2006.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 900 head during March compared to 1,300 head a year earlier. Average live weight was 132 pounds, which was up 3 pounds from March 2006.

Commercial slaughter data for cattle is not published.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/nass/LiveSlau/2000s/2007/LiveSlau-04-20-2007.pdf>