



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
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March 21, 2008

FEBRUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production during February 2008 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 5 percent from February 2007 and down 29 percent from January 2008 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 701,000 pounds live weight, up 12 percent from February 2007. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,018 pounds, was down 81 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 158,000 pounds live weight, up 14 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 307 pounds, was up 16 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.97 billion pounds in February, up 10 percent from the 3.62 billion pounds produced in February 2007.

Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.64 million head, up 3 percent from February 2007. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from the previous year, at 1,285 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.0 million pounds, 9 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 69,100 head, up 4 percent from February 2007. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from last year, at 272 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.90 billion pounds, up 16 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.38 million head, up 16 percent from February 2007. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was up 4 percent from February 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 211,400 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2008 commercial red meat production was 8.38 billion pounds, up 9 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was up 15 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

February 2007 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

February 2008 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.