



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture

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FEBRUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production during February 2011 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 15 percent from the February 2010 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 684,000 pounds live weight, up 13 percent from February 2010. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,024 pounds, was down 74 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 98,000 pounds live weight, up 14 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 400 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 255 pounds, was down 9 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 3.81 billion pounds in February, up 2 percent from the 3.74 billion pounds produced in February 2010. The record low production of veal, lamb and mutton reported in January continued into February, as the United States set another monthly record low for veal, lamb and mutton production.

Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.62 million head, up 3 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,286 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.5 million pounds, 2 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,800 head, down 7 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from last year, at 264 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.51 million head, down 2 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 12 percent from February 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 155,100 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 1 pound from February a year ago.

January to February 2011 commercial red meat production was 7.85 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 12 percent.

February 2010 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.