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2002 Annual Livestock Slaughter
Farm & Land in Farms

Louisiana Annual Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during 2002, totaled 16.6 million pounds, down 3 percent from a year earlier.

There were 16,900 head of **cattle** slaughtered during 2002, down 4 percent from 2001. Average live weight per head at 866 pounds was up 30 pounds from the previous year. Total live weight at 14.6 million pounds was virtually unchanged from a year earlier.

Calves slaughtered totaled 10,000 head during 2002, down 3 percent from the previous year. Live weight averaged 497 pounds per head, up 2 pounds from 2001. Total live weight was 4.97 million pounds, down 3 percent from a year earlier.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during 2002, totaled 27,200 head, down 8 percent from the previous year. Live weight averaged 207 pounds per head, down 6 pounds from 2001. Total live weight was 5.63 million pounds, down 10 percent from a year earlier.

Sheep slaughtered during 2002 totaled 2,200 head, down 4 percent from 2001. Live weight per head averaged 94 pounds, up 4 pounds from a year earlier. Total live weight, at 203,000 pounds, was down 2 percent from 2001.

U. S. Annual Livestock Slaughter

Red meat production in commercial plants and on farms for the United States totaled 47.3 billion pounds in 2002, a new record high. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 47.2 billion pounds.

Beef production, at 27.2 billion pounds, rose 1 percent above the previous record high set in 2000. **Veal production** totaled 205.2

million pounds, up 1 percent from the record low set last year. **Pork production**, at 19.7 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the record high set in 1999. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 222.2 million pounds, falling 3 percent below the previous record low set a year ago.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2002 totaled 35.7 million head, up 1 percent from 2001, with federal inspection comprising 98.3 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,251 pounds, up 30 pounds from a year ago. **Steers** comprised 49.9 percent of the total federally inspected slaughter, **heifers** 32.3 percent, **dairy cows** 7.4 percent, **other cows** 8.7 percent, and **bulls** 1.7 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 1.05 million head, up 4 percent from a year ago with 97.5 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 312 pounds, down 8 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 100.3 million head, up 2 percent from 2001, with 98.7 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight, at 265 pounds, was up 1 pound from last year. Barrows and gilts comprised 96.5 percent of the total federally inspected slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 3.29 million head, up 2 percent from 2001, with 94.1 percent comprised by federal inspection. The average live weight fell 7 pounds from 2001 to 133 pounds.

There were 879 slaughtering plants under federal inspection on January 1, 2003, compared with 881 last year. Of these, 706 slaughtered at least one head of cattle during 2002 with 15 slaughtering over 56 percent of the total cattle killed. There were 683 plants that slaughtered hogs, with 13 accounting for 57 percent of the total. Likewise, 6 of the 268 plants that slaughtered calves accounted for 49 percent of the total and 7 of the 525 plants that slaughtered sheep or lambs in 2002 comprised 80 percent of the total head.

Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Texas accounted for over 52 percent of the United States commercial red meat production in 2002.

2002 Louisiana Livestock Slaughter¹

Month	Cattle Slaughtered		Calves Slaughtered		Hogs Slaughtered		Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered		Red Meat Production ²
	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Thousand Pounds
January	1,700	862	700	517	2,300	215	100	89	1,500
February	1,200	913	800	473	2,800	233	400	123	1,500
March	1,300	897	700	493	2,800	211	300	110	1,400
April	1,300	861	800	503	2,000	215	200	103	1,300
May	1,400	815	700	507	2,100	205	200	91	1,300
June	1,300	838	700	517	1,800	206	200	80	1,200
July	1,300	826	800	499	1,800	209	200	76	1,200
August	1,500	893	700	502	1,800	215	200	86	1,400
September	1,500	875	1,000	493	1,800	212	100	72	1,400
October	1,900	882	1,100	494	2,400	197	100	92	1,700
November	1,400	895	1,100	489	2,600	193	100	70	1,500
December	1,100	818	900	485	3,000	183	100	79	1,300
Year ³	16,900	866	10,000	497	27,200	207	2,200	94	16,600

¹Includes slaughter in federally inspected and other slaughter plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

²Includes total beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton excluding farm slaughter.

³Total may not add due to rounding.

United States Farms and Land in Farms Increase in 2002

The number of farms in the United States in 2002 is estimated at 2.16 million, up 0.1 percent from 2001. The increase in farms occurred primarily in agricultural operations with \$1,000-\$9,999 in sales. Total land in farms, at 941.5 million acres, increased 170,000 acres from last year. The average size of farm at 436 acres, decreased one acre from 2001. The increase in the number of farms and land in farms primarily resulted from the inclusion of pasture only farms in 2002.

The number of farms in 2002 increased in nine States, remained unchanged in 32 States, and decreased in nine States. Texas gained 3,000 farms while Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Oregon add 1,000 farms during the year. Arkansas, Montana, and South Carolina farms increased by 500. California, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Tennessee farms declined by 1,000. New York lost 500 farms and North Dakota lost 300.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm: United States, 2000-2002¹

Selected States	Number of Farms			Land in Farms			Average Farm Size		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
	-----Number-----			-----1,000 Acres-----			-----Acres-----		
Alabama	47,000	47,000	47,000	9,000	8,900	8,900	191	189	189
Arkansas	48,000	48,000	48,500	14,600	14,600	14,600	304	304	301
Georgia	50,000	50,000	50,000	11,100	11,000	11,000	222	220	220
Louisiana	29,500	29,000	29,000	8,100	8,050	8,050	275	278	278
Mississippi	43,000	42,000	43,000	11,100	11,000	11,000	258	262	256
Oklahoma	85,000	86,000	87,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	400	395	391
Texas	226,000	227,000	230,000	130,000	130,000	131,000	575	573	570
United States	2,172,280	2,155,680	2,158,090	943,090	941,310	941,480	434	437	436

¹A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

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