

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

*September Livestock Slaughter
Average Prices Received by Farmers: September 2002*

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during September totaled 1.4 million pounds, unchanged from August and the previous year.

There were 1,500 head of **cattle** slaughtered during September, down 300 head from August and 100 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 875 pounds up 36 pounds from the previous month and 50 pounds above September 2001. Total live weight, at 1.28 million pounds, was 15 percent below the previous month but 1 percent above the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during September totaled 1,000 head, up 300 head from August and 100 head above the previous year. Live weight averaged 493 pounds, down 9 pounds from August and 21 pounds below a year ago. Total live weight, at 470,000 pounds was 43 percent above August and 1 percent above the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during September totaled 1,800 head, unchanged from the previous month and September 2001. Average live weight was 212 pounds, down 3 pounds from August, and 10 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 379,000 pounds, down 1 percent from August and 5 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during September was 100 head, down 100 head from August but unchanged from the previous year. Live weight averaged 72 pounds, down 9 pounds from the previous month but 4 pounds above the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.87 billion pounds in September, up 6 percent from the 3.67 billion pounds produced in September 2001.

September 2001 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. September 2002 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Comparing September 2002 with September 2001

Beef production, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.86 million head, up 2 percent from September 2001. The average live weight was 1,264 pounds, up 24 pounds from September a year ago.

Veal production totaled 16.3 million pounds, 9 percent above September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 88,800 head, up 13 percent from September 2001. The average live weight was 303 pounds, down 11 pounds from September a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.64 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year and a monthly record high. Hog kill totaled 8.51 million head, 9 percent above September 2001. The average live weight was 260 pounds, down 2 pounds from September a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.6 million pounds, was up 8 percent from September 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 276,200 head, 13 percent above last year. The average live weight was 128 pounds, down 7 pounds from September a year ago.

January-September red meat production was 35.0 billion pounds, 4 percent above the previous year. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent to last year; veal was down 2 percent; pork was up 4 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	August	September		Jan - Sept		September		Jan - Sept	
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	-----Number, thousand head-----					-----Number, thousand head-----			
Cattle	1.8	1.6	1.5	13.0	12.8	2,808.1	2,864.8	26,525.0	26,831.0
Calves	0.7	0.9	1.0	7.0	6.9	78.8	88.8	741.0	754.1
Hogs	1.8	1.8	1.8	21.1	19.2	7,812.4	8,505.8	71,492.5	73,546.0
Sheep & Lambs	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.9	1.9	244.3	276.2	2,366.3	2,426.2
	-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----					-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----			
Cattle	1,503	1,291	1,280	10,716	10,952	3,482,194	3,619,859	32,096,080	33,425,181
Calves	328	467	470	3,514	3,408	24,712	26,936	238,986	236,064
Hogs	382	400	379	4,620	4,083	2,045,995	2,215,646	18,774,811	19,447,733
Sheep & Lambs	16	9	11	168	173	32,999	35,337	332,404	324,698
	-----Average live weight, pounds-----					-----Average live weight, pounds-----			
Cattle	839	825	875	824	856	1,240	1,264	1,210	1,246
Calves	502	514	493	502	494	314	303	323	313
Hogs	215	222	212	219	213	262	260	263	264
Sheep & Lambs	81	68	72	88	91	135	128	140	134
	-----Million pounds-----					-----Million pounds-----			
Red meat	1.4	1.4	1.4	12.3	12.1	3,665.7	3,873.2	33,493.8	35,020.3

Prices Received Index Down 4 Percent

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October is 95, based on 1990-92=100, down 4.0 percent from the September index. Lower prices for broilers, potatoes, corn and soybeans more than offset increased prices for hogs, wheat, milk and tobacco. The seasonal change in the marketings of wheat, milk, grapes and tobacco more than offset increased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton and sorghum.

The current All Farm Products Index is 1.1 percent above October, 2001. Lower prices for broilers, hogs, cattle and peanuts are more than offset by higher prices for soybeans, corn, wheat and sorghum.

The Food Commodities Index decreased 4.1 percent below last month to 93, and is 3.1 percent below October last year.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: September 2002

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	October	September	October ¹	October	September	October ¹
	2001	2002	2002	2001	2002	2002
	-----Dollars-----			-----Dollars-----		
Soybeans, per bushel	4.29	5.63	5.45	4.09	5.39	5.16
Rice, per cwt	4.67	3.90	3.85	4.36	3.94	3.86
Upland Cotton, per pound	.348	2/	2/	.307	.352	.365 3/
Hay, all, baled, per ton	N/A	N/A	N/A	98.00	95.50	94.50
Beef Cattle, per cwt	50.50	46.70	46.70	66.50	64.80	64.10
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	74.60	68.70	70.00	70.10	68.00	67.80
Cows, per cwt	36.30	33.70	33.00	37.60	34.90	33.70
Calves, per cwt	91.30	81.90	84.00	99.70	92.00	91.10
Broilers, live, per pound	N/A	N/A	N/A	.410	.300	.280
Eggs all, per dozen	N/A	N/A	N/A	.599	.579	.540
Milk, all, per cwt ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.60	11.60	11.90

¹Mid-month; ²Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms; ³Based on sales during the first half of the month; ⁴Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. N/A = Not Available

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