

Pork Production Sets Record Monthly High for September

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in September, down 3 percent from the 4.01 billion pounds produced in September 2003.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.74 million head, down 13 percent from September 2003. The average live weight was up 38 pounds from the previous year, at 1,266 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 15 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,300 head, down 18 percent from September 2003. The average live weight was 13 pounds above last year, at 321 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.00 million head, 5 percent above September 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 243,600 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2004 commercial red meat production was 33.8 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

September 2003 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. September 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial Slaughter 1/, September 2004

Species	Wisconsin	Change from last year	U.S.	Change from last year
	1,000hd	Percent	1,000hd	Percent
Cattle, all	122.5	-18	2,735.5	-13
Cows, dairy 2/	48.3	-25	197.2	-21
Cows, other 2/	16.1	-31	220.9	-18
Heifers 2/	3.7	+12	847.0	-16
Steers 2/	47.3	-10	1,371.3	-8
Calves	8.0	-26	67.3	-18
Hogs, all	47.0	+19	8,997.7	+5
Sows 2/	38.6	+24	277.9	-1
Sheep and lambs	1.5	-12	243.6	-5

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Federally inspected only. Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial Red Meat Production, United States 1/

Kind	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Jan.-Sept. 2/		Change from last year
				2003	2004	
	Million pounds					Percent
Beef	2,314	2,151	2,104	20,265	18,449	-9
Veal	15.3	14.0	13.0	141.2	126.0	-11
Pork	1,668	1,698	1,772	14,447	15,074	+4
Lamb & mutton	16.9	15.1	16.3	147.5	143.9	-2
Total red meat	4,014	3,878	3,905	35,001	33,793	-3

1/Based on packers dress weights and excludes farm slaughter.
2/Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.
Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service.

