



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

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MARCH RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA— Commercial red meat production during March 2004 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was 16 percent below February 2004, and 8 percent below March 2003 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 675,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent from March 2003. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 918 pounds, was down 84 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 146,000 pounds live weight, up 9 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 257 pounds, was down 3 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 3.95 billion pounds in March, up 6 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in March 2003.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.87 million head, up 4 percent from March 2003. The average live weight was down 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,217 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.2 million pounds, 14 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 76,900 head, down 10 percent from March 2003. The average live weight was 15 pounds below last year, at 308 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the previous year, and set a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 9.04 million head, 11 percent above March 2003. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 22.1 million pounds, was up 22 percent from March 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 306,800 head, 17 percent above last year. The average live weight was 144 pounds, up 6 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2004 commercial red meat production was 11.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 7 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

March 2003 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

March 2004 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.