



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

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OCTOBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA— Commercial red meat production during October 2003 totaled 1,100,000 pounds. This was 68 percent above September 2003, but 7 percent below October 2002 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 1,635,000 pounds live weight, down 6 percent from October 2002. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight at 877 pounds was up 18 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 244,000 pounds live weight, down 13 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,000 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight at 249 pounds was down 4 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 4.15 billion pounds in October, down 5 percent from the 4.38 billion pounds produced in October 2002.

October 2002 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.
October 2003 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.21 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.00 million head, down 8 percent from October 2002. The average live weight was down 39 pounds from the previous year, at 1,231 pounds.

Veal production totaled 16.4 million pounds, 13 percent below October a year ago and a record monthly low. Calf slaughter totaled 87,500 head, down 13 percent from October 2002. The average live weight was unchanged last year, at 308 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.91 billion pounds, a record monthly high and up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.64 million head, 3 percent above October 2002. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 267 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 18.0 million pounds, was down 9 percent from October 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 265,500 head, 12 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

January to October 2003 commercial red meat production was 39.1 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent