



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250
Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • www.usda.gov/nass/



Media Contact: USDA-NASS West Virginia Statistical Office, Charleston, WV 25305, or call 1 (800) 535-7088 or E-mail at nass-wv@nass.usda.gov.

November 28, 2005

OCTOBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA – Commercial red meat production during October 2005 totaled 900,000 pounds. This was down 11 percent from October 2004 but up 68 percent from September 2005 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 1.4 million pounds live weight, up less than 1 percent from October 2004. Cattle slaughter totaled 1.5 million head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 909 pounds, was up 18 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 223,000 pounds live weight, unchanged from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 259 pounds, was up 5 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 3.93 billion pounds in October, up slightly from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in October 2004.

Beef production, at 2.08 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.68 million head, down 2 percent from October 2004. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,280 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.6 million pounds, 2 percent above October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,400 head, down 10 percent from October 2004. The average live weight was 41 pounds above last year, at 371 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.82 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.12 million head, 2 percent above October 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.8 million pounds, was down 3 percent from October 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 228,500 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

January to October 2005 commercial red meat production was 37.8 billion pounds, up slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was virtually unchanged from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

October 2004 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

October 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.usda.gov/nass/.