FEBRUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during February 2021 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was up 58 percent from February 2020. 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 1,273,000 pounds live weight, up 73 percent from February 2020. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,200 head, up 500 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,091 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 184,000 pounds live weight, up 35 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 326 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.39 billion pounds in February, down 1 percent from the 4.45 billion pounds produced in February 2020.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.52 million head, down 2 percent from February 2020. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,390 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.7 million pounds, 8 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 33,000 head, down 17 percent from February 2020. The average live weight was up 23 pounds from last year, at 247 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.27 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.4 million head, down 3 percent from February 2020. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.8 million pounds, was up slightly from February 2020. Sheep slaughter totaled 163,600 head, slightly below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 2 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2021 commercial red meat production was 9.19 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2020. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 19 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 6 percent.

February 2020 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.
February 2021 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.