



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
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MARCH RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during March 2016 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was up 2 percent from March 2015. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 644,000 pounds live weight, up 5 percent from March 2015. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,035 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 243,000 pounds live weight, up 10 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from the previous year, at 283 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 4.26 billion pounds in March, up 5 percent from the 4.07 billion pounds produced in March 2015.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, up 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.53 million head, up 6 percent from March 2015. The average live weight was up 23 pounds from the previous year, at 1,370 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.4 million pounds, 8 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 35,900 head, down 10 percent from March 2015. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from last year, at 302 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.15 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.09 million head, up 2 percent from March 2015. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 284 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.3 million pounds, was down slightly from March 2015. Sheep slaughter totaled 205,900 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

January to March 2016 commercial red meat production was 12.2 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2015. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

March 2015 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2016 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.