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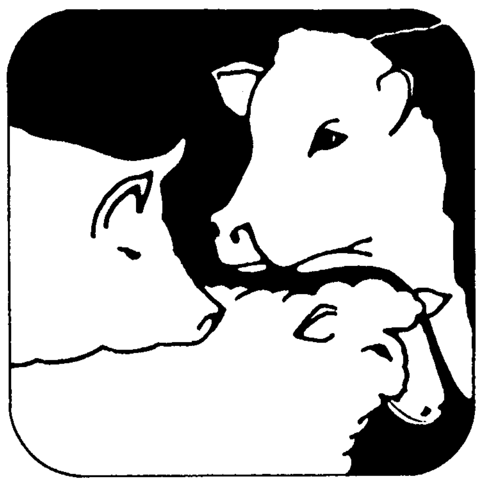
MARCH 1971

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT Situation



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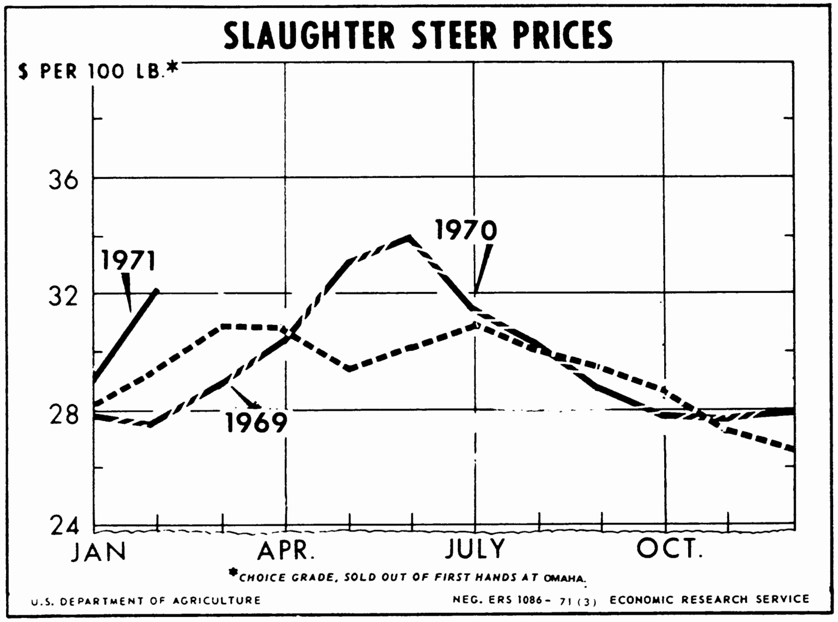
SLAUGHTER STEER PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
36
32
28
24
1971
1970
1969
JAN
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE, SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS AT OMAHA.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 1086 - 71 (3)
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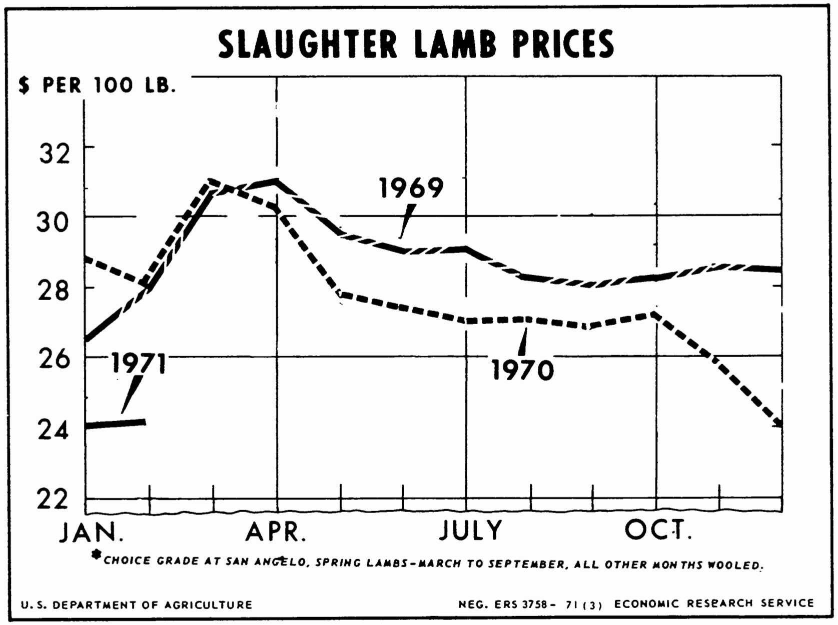
SLAUGHTER LAMB PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.
32
30
28
26
24
22
1969
1971
1970
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE AT SAN ANGELO, SPRING LAMBS-MARCH TO SEPTEMBER, ALL OTHER MONTHS WOOLED.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 3758 - 71 (3)
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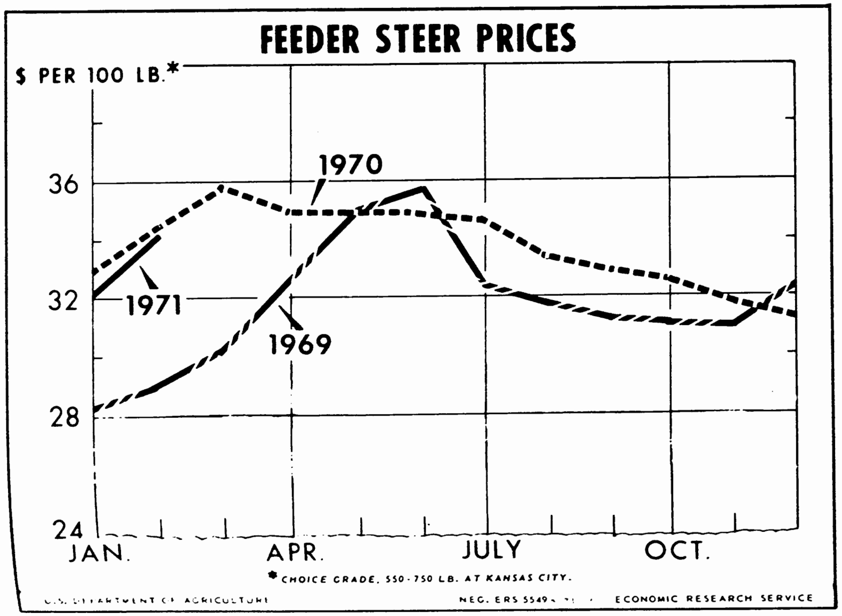
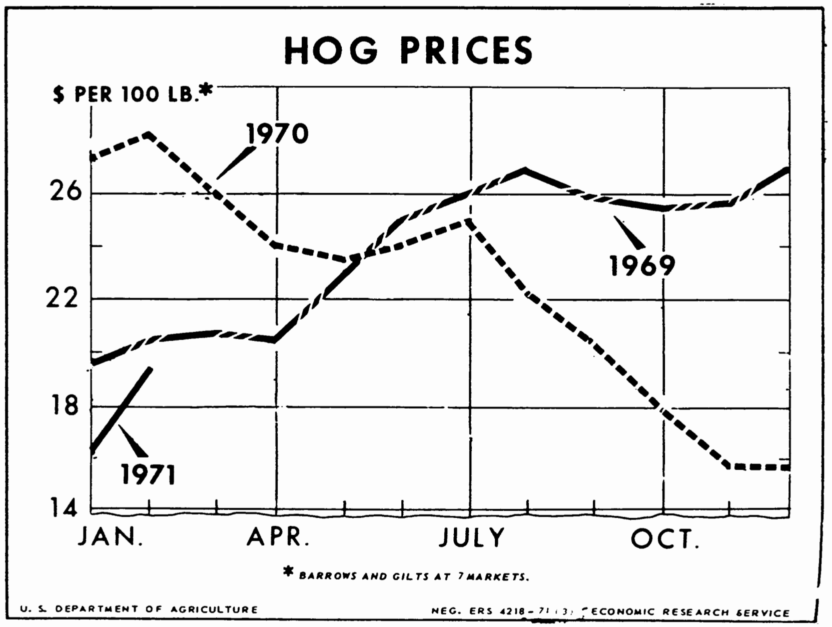

FEEDER STEER PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
36
32
28
24
1970
1971
1969
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE, 550-750 LB. AT KANSAS CITY.
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


HOG PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
26
22
18
14
1970
1969
1971
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* BARROWS AND GILTS AT 7 MARKETS.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

CONTENTS

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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
March 17, 1971

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The *Livestock and Meat Situation* is published in February, March, May, August, October, and November.

SUMMARY

The Nation's cattle herd rose by 2.3 million head during 1970 to 114.6 million at the beginning of this year. Beef cattle accounted for all of the gain. Beef cow numbers rose more than 1 million to 37.6 million. Also, there are enough feeder cattle to support increased placements of cattle on feed this year, and a larger calf crop is in prospect in 1971. Thus, with the breeding herd still expanding, beef supplies likely will remain on the uptrend the next several years.

Hog inventories are up sharply, indicating large slaughter supplies through the first half of 1971. However, the sheep and lamb inventory, declining further, sets the stage for another drop in the lamb crop.

Fed cattle marketings rose more than 4 percent in 1970. This trailed the 7 percent average annual gain of the past decade. In the first half of this year, marketings may differ little from the year-ago pace. On January 1, there were 3 percent fewer cattle on feed, and cattle feeders said that they would market 1 percent fewer cattle this winter than last. However, they seem to be placing more cattle on feed this winter, and spring marketings could equal or exceed last spring's volume. January-February placements in 6 major States were up 13 percent.

First half placements on feed will largely govern the pace of fed cattle marketings in the second half. With a larger feeder cattle supply and plenty of feedlot capacity, increased first half placements seem likely.

Choice steer prices declined steadily in the second half of 1970, dipping to a mid-December low of about $26 per 100 pounds at Omaha. However, prices rose as cattle and hog slaughter declined moderately after the holidays. In February prices were $32.25, about $3 higher than a year ago. In mid-March, Choice steers at Omaha were $31.60. Prices may edge lower, but spring prices will run as high as or higher than April-June 1970's level of better than $30. Despite some gains in fed cattle marketings, summer prices should about hold their own as hog slaughter supplies decline seasonally.

Sharply advanced hog slaughter will continue to dominate the livestock scene through midyear. Lightweight market hogs on farms December 1 were up nearly a fourth. Winter hog weights have been somewhat lighter, tempering increases in pork production.

Hog producers intended 1 percent more sows to farrow during December 1970-May 1971. Based on the indicated Corn Belt farrowing pattern, hog slaughter this summer will moderately exceed last summer's rate and then drop below year-earlier levels in the fall.

Hog prices strengthened from a low of about $15.50 per 100 pounds in early December to about $20 in mid-February. Prices are currently about $17.50. A seasonal rise is in store in late spring as hog prices rise to a summer high. This year's summer peak may come a

little later and a few dollars lower than the 1970 early July peak of $25.40. Price declines in late summer and fall will likely be much less severe than last year, if late-spring farrowings decline moderately as Corn Belt producers have indicated. Prices by late fall could go moderately above a year earlier.

On January 1, the inventory of sheep and lambs on farms fell to 19.6 million head, down 4 percent from a year earlier.

Sheep and lamb slaughter in January was up 6 percent. It continued upward in February then dropped in early March. With 11 percent fewer lambs on feed March 1 and a smaller lamb crop in prospect, slaughter supplies this spring and in the second half will run a little under year-ago levels.

Choice slaughter lambs at San Angelo have been averaging about $24 per 100 pounds so far this year. This is about $4 to $5 below prices a year earlier. The seasonal high will likely fall short of last year's March peak of about $31.75. Moderate seasonal price declines are in prospect for late spring, but second half prices probably will average near prices a year earlier.

SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

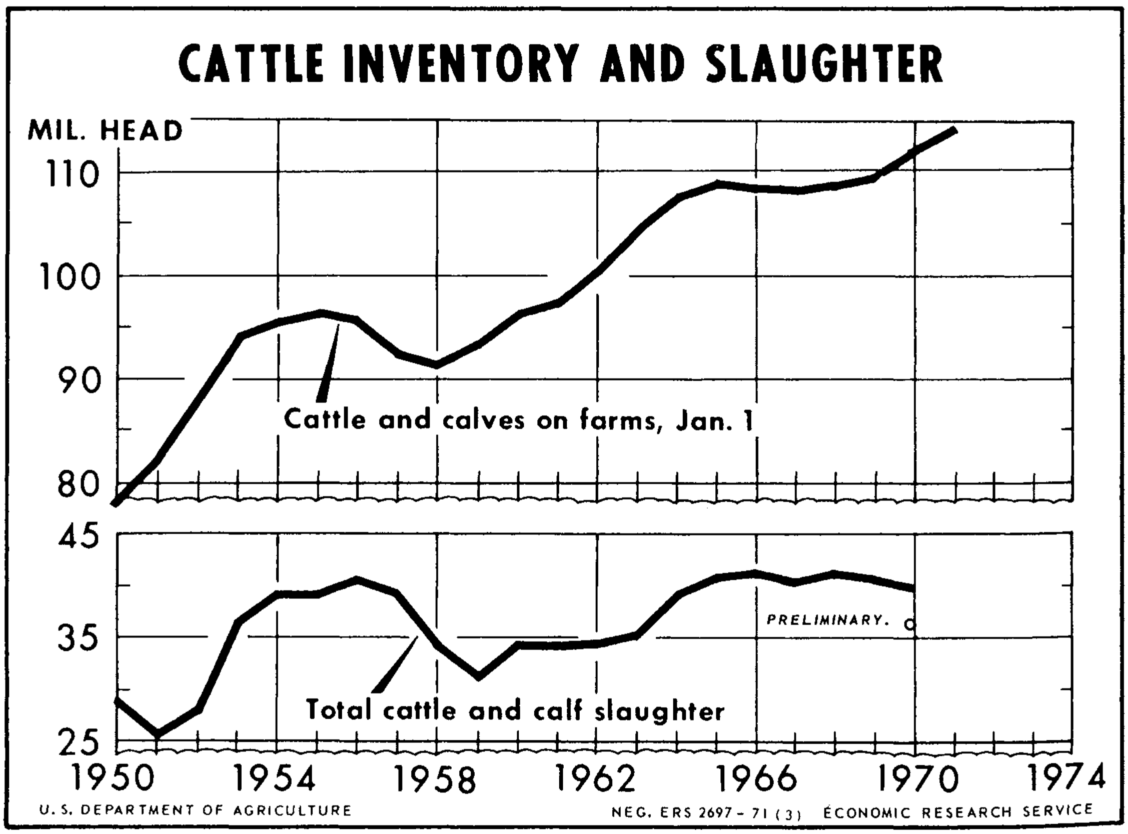
CATTLE

Cattle Numbers Rise Again

The inventory of cattle and calves on farms totaled 114.6 million head at the beginning of this year, 2.3 million more than a year earlier. Beef cattle numbers continued to increase in 1970, while dairy cattle numbers slipped a bit further. The cattle inventory fell further in the Northeast, where dairy cattle predominate, but increased in all other regions.

Last year was the fourth consecutive year of expansion in the cattle inventory. Changes in the inventory were small during 1965-67; cattle and calf slaughter was about in balance with the calf crop and feeder cattle imports. In 1969 and 1970, however, slaughter of cattle and calves was smaller than the calf crop plus imports of feeder cattle. In 1970 the calf crop increased 2 percent and live cattle imports rose 12 percent but slaughter of cattle and calves fell 2 percent, resulting in a net gain in the inventory of all cattle and calves of 2 percent. Reductions in number slaughtered in the past 2 years reflected rapidly declining calf slaughter, and some drop in cow slaughter.

The beef breeding herd has been expanding steadily since 1958. Last year, the number of beef cows that calved increased 3 percent, or 1.2 million head. Also, replacement beef heifers were up 4 percent. This means



Calf Crop

Year	Number	Percentage change from preceding year	Ratio to breeding stock on farms January 1
	1,000 head	*Percent*	
1959	38,938	+0.2	86
1960	39,416	+1.2	86
1961	40,180	+1.9	86
1962	41,441	+3.1	87
1963	42,268	+2.0	86
1964	43,809	+3.6	87
1965	43,928	+0.3	86
1966	43,526	-0.9	86
1967	43,765	+0.5	88
1968	44,239	+1.1	88
1969	45,196	+2.2	90
1970	45,926	+1.6	90

another increase in the cow herd this year. Dairy cows and dairy heifer replacements were both down slightly in 1970.

The feeder cattle supply is larger this year. There are about the same number of heifers but more calves and yearling steers. Thus, despite the 3 percent fewer cattle on feed on January 1, the supply of feeder cattle is sufficient to provide for expanded feeding in 1971.

Fed cattle marketings were up 4 percent last year, but probably will show a smaller increase in 1971.

Larger beef calf crops continue to more than offset declines in the dairy calf crop. With nearly 1.2 million more beef cows on farms on January 1, the 1971 beef calf crop likely will be up a million head or more. The decline in dairy calves born in 1971 will likely be less than a quarter of a million.

Thus, the uptrend in the beef production potential continues. However, the rate of increase has slowed from earlier years and probably will continue slower than during most of the past decade, when beef and veal output rose at an average annual rate of more than 5 percent. Since 1950 beef production has increased more than twice as fast as the cattle inventory because of an increasing proportion of slaughter cattle being fed to maturity rather than being slaughtered as calves. This has been largely the result of the substantial growth of cattle feeding, an expanding beef herd, and a shrinking dairy herd. In the future, most of the expansion in beef output will have to come from increases in the beef calf crop.

Less Beef Production In First Half

Beef output in 1970 was up 3 percent. The number and weight of fed cattle slaughtered more than offset the reduced output from the slaughter of nonfed cattle.

In the first half of 1971, beef output may be a bit smaller than a year earlier, when commercial beef production totaled 10.6 billion pounds. Any change will be small. Fed cattle slaughter may run close to January-June 1970 levels, but slaughter of cows and nonfed steers and heifers will be down. Also, weights of commercially slaughtered cattle were down slightly in January and likely will continue lighter through midyear.

Little Change In Fed Cattle Marketings in First Half

Little change is expected in fed cattle marketings in the first half of 1971 as a small decline in January-March marketings will likely be about offset by a small increase in April-June shipments.

There were 3 percent fewer cattle and calves on feed in 22 major feeding States on January 1 than a year earlier. Early this year, Western feeders had 1 percent more cattle on feed, but Corn Belt feedlots had 6 percent fewer.

Table 1.—Number of livestock on farms and ranches January 1, United States, 1962 to date

Year	Number on farms January 1				Index numbers, by groups (1967=100)			
	All cattle and calves	All sheep and lambs	Hogs	Chickens	Total livestock and poultry	Meat animals	Milk cattle	Poultry
	1,000 head	*1,000 head*	*1,000 head*	*1,000 head*				
1962	100,369	30,969	56,619	377,392	96	96	126	87
1963	104,488	29,176	57,993	375,575	99	99	122	86
1964	107,903	27,116	56,757	382,262	101	101	117	87
1965	109,000	25,127	50,792	394,118	101	101	112	89
1966	108,862	24,734	47,414	393,019	99	99	105	91
1967	108,645	23,898	53,249	428,746	100	100	100	100
1968	109,152	22,140	[1] 58,777	425,158	100	100	97	98
1969	109,885	21,238	60,632	419,635	101	101	94	95
1970	112,303	20,288	56,655	433,640	102	102	92	98
1971	114,568	19,560	67,540	442,783	105	105	([2])	102

[1] Number on farms December 1, preceding year. [2] Not available due to change in cattle inventory class estimates.

Table 2.—Number of cattle and calves on farms and ranches January 1, by classes, United States, 1965 to date

Year	Beef cows	Beef heifer replacements	Milk cows	Dairy heifer replacements	Other heifers 500 lb. and over	Steers 500 lb. and over	Heifers, steers and bulls under 500 lb.	Bulls 500 lb. and over
	1,000 head							
1965	33,400	5,700	15,380	4,780	5,980	14,050	27,530	2,180
1966	33,500	5,760	14,490	4,450	5,990	14,770	27,752	2,150
1967	33,740	5,810	13,770	4,220	6,090	14,750	28,125	2,140
1968	34,460	5,940	13,250	4,120	6,010	14,700	28,502	2,170
1969	35,250	6,020	12,835	4,040	5,900	14,850	28,800	2,190
1970	36,404	6,253	12,578	3,974	6,065	15,080	29,704	2,245
1971	37,557	6,472	12,445	3,939	6,045	15,404	30,400	2,306

Western States had the sharpest increase in cattle feeding in 1970, up more than 6 percent. The increase in the Corn Belt was 3 percent. The West and Southwest in 1971 probably will continue to show larger gains than the Corn Belt.

In early January, cattle feeders planned to market 1 percent fewer cattle this winter. Most of first quarter marketings come from steers that weighed over 900 pounds and heifers that weighed over 700 pounds on January 1. The number of animals in these weight groups combined was down 5 percent on January 1, but since market weights are declining, more cattle from lighter groups could move out, and feeders' intentions for January-March marketings could be met.

In January, steer and heifer slaughter was off 2 percent and cow slaughter was down 9 percent, for a net decline of 4 percent in number of cattle slaughtered. However, there was 1 less slaughter day in January than in January 1970, which would account for most of the decline. Fed cattle marketings in January-February fell 3 percent in the 6 States for which figures are available (Arizona, California, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, and Texas). At the beginning of the year, producers in these 6 States intended to reduce January-March marketings 1 percent from a year-earlier. Thus, marketings are occurring about as expected.

Choice steer prices per 100 pounds, Omaha

Month	1969	1970	1971
		Dollars	
January	27.82	28.23	29.11
February	27.63	29.30	32.23
March	29.00	30.97	
April	30.41	30.64	
May	33.18	29.52	
June	33.99	30.29	
July	31.56	31.12	
August	30.40	30.14	
September	28.77	29.32	
October	27.72	28.67	
November	27.67	27.21	
December	27.98	26.71	
Average	29.66	29.34	

On January 1 the number of cattle on feed in weight groups that typically reach slaughter finish in the spring was about the same as a year earlier. If winter placements are larger, and market weights drop further below a year ago as expected, spring marketings could rise slightly above a year earlier.

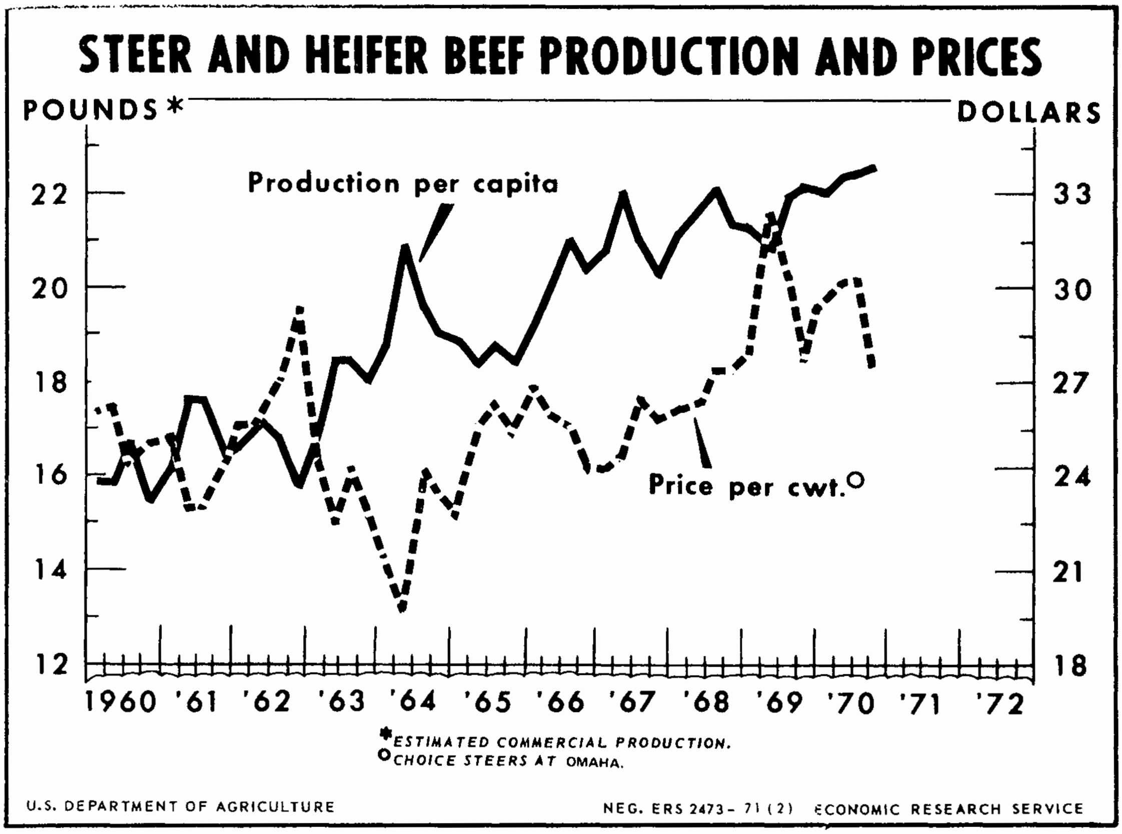
Market To Stiffen In The Spring

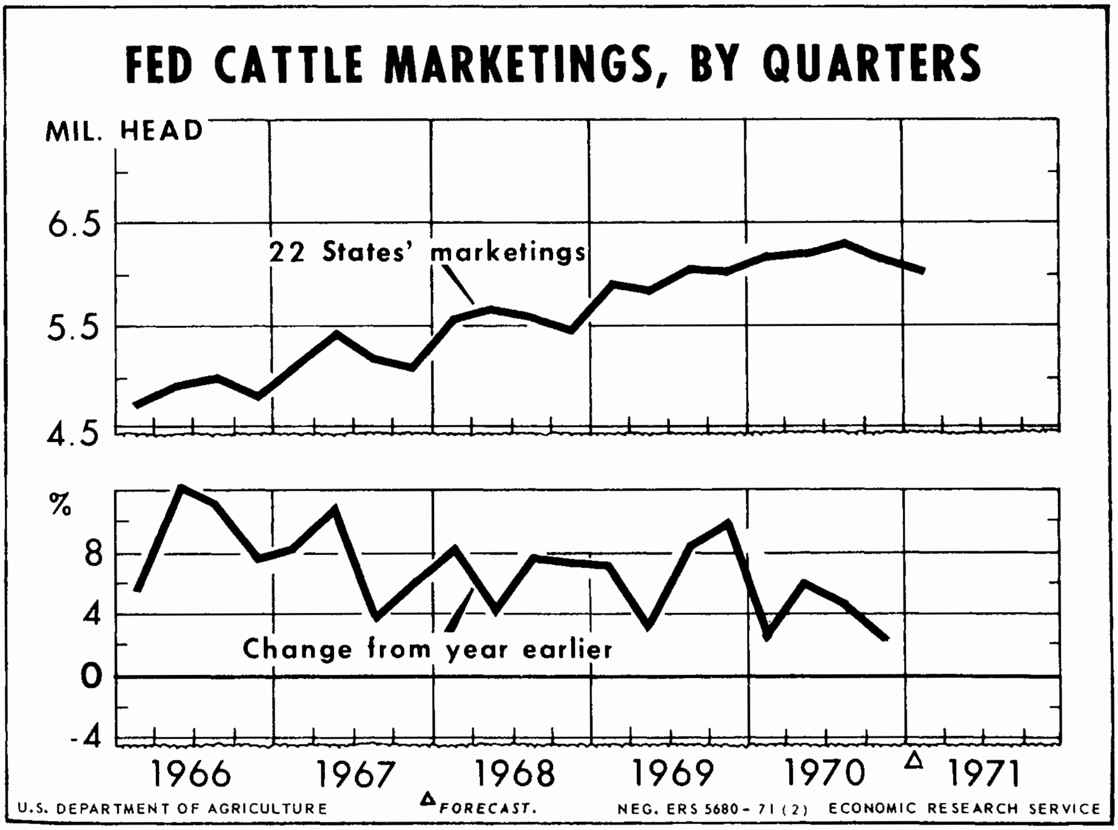
Fed cattle prices rose sharply early this year. Choice steers at Omaha were $27.25 per 100 pounds in late December but rose to $32.50 by mid-February, about $3 above a year earlier and the highest weekly average on that market since the summer of 1969. The market weakened some in late February and early March and likely will continue soft in the next few weeks.

Average liveweight of Choice steers at Omaha

Month	1970	1971
	Pounds	
January	1,135	1,148
February	1,146	1,150
March	1,148	
April	1,154	
May	1,147	
June	1,136	
July	1,116	
August	1,102	
September	1,093	
October	1,099	
November	1,115	
December	1,132	
Year	1,128	

A stronger price tone again in spring is likely, with the average somewhat above last year's $30.20 April-June average at Omaha. Feed cattle weights have not dropped as much as expected and are still running only slightly below last year on the river markets. A decline in shipping weights in the spring would have a strengthening effect on prices. Competing meat supplies are large. Pork supplies this spring will be well above a year ago, but will decline seasonally toward midyear. Broiler supplies are seasonally large in the spring, but will be lower this spring than last.


STEER AND HEIFER BEEF PRODUCTION AND PRICES
POUNDS*
DOLLARS
22
20
18
16
14
12
33
30
27
24
21
18
Production per capita
Price per cwt.○
1960 '61 '62 '63 '64 '65 '66 '67 '68 '69 '70 '71 '72
*ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION.
○CHOICE STEERS AT OMAHA.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 2473- 71 (2) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


FED CATTLE MARKETINGS, BY QUARTERS
MIL. HEAD
6.5
5.5
4.5
22 States' marketings
%
8
4
0
-4
Change from year earlier
1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 Δ 1971
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ΔFORECAST.
NEG. ERS 5680- 71 (2) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Fed Cattle Marketings To Increase In Second Half

July-December beef output will probably rise above the same period in 1970 as fed cattle marketings increase and nonfed slaughter approaches year-earlier levels. Fed cattle marketings next summer and fall are expected to be moderately larger than a year earlier. The feeder cattle supply is larger than last year and winter-spring placements seem to be headed upward. In January and February placements in the 6 reporting States that account for more than half the fed cattle marketed were up 13 percent. However, total placements probably have not been up this much.

Feeder Market To Continue Strong

Demand for feeder cattle is expected to continue strong through spring. The larger number of large-scale feedlots, coming both from new construction and expansion of some small lots in 1970, has expanded feeding capacity. Also, recent strength in the fed cattle market has significantly improved the feeding margin. In the months ahead, the feeding margin likely will continue more favorable to feeders while remaining negative.

Last year, Choice grade 550-750 pound feeder steers at Kansas City rose from $33 per 100 pounds in early January to $35.50 by early March, continued steady into the summer, then drifted to $31.25 by the end of the year. This year, prices advanced sharply in January in response to the rise in fed cattle prices. By late February, they were $34.50, up $3 from early in the year. They continued about unchanged into mid-March.

With strong feedlot demand, feeder cattle prices will hold steady to strong this spring and average near last April-June's average of $35 at Kansas City for Choice yearling steers. Significant strengthening factors include the normal seasonal price advance due to increasing roughage supplies, a higher fed cattle market since fall and improved feeding margins. Feeder cattle prices likely will average seasonally lower in the fall.

Current fed cattle prices per 100 pounds, compared with feeder cattle prices 5 months earlier

Year	Fed cattle[1]	Feeder cattle[2]	Margin
	Dollars		
1969			
January	27.74	28.40	-66
February	27.50	27.74	-24
March	28.81	27.09	+1.72
April	30.14	28.11	+2.03
May	32.79	28.42	+4.37
June	33.63	28.30	+5.33
July	31.29	29.04	+2.25
August	30.04	30.34	-.30
September	28.66	32.64	-3.98
October	27.60	35.18	-7.58
November	27.44	35.74	-8.30
December	27.73	32.46	-4.73
1970			
January	28.38	31.76	-3.38
February	29.30	31.29	-1.99
March	30.99	31.15	-.16
April	30.79	31.12	-.33
May	29.57	32.38	-2.81
June	30.36	32.83	-2.47
July	31.12	34.44	-3.32
August	30.09	35.85	-5.76
September	29.21	35.01	-5.80
October	28.47	35.00	-6.53
November	27.22	34.92	-7.70
December	26.82	34.54	-7.72
1971			
January	29.10	33.28	-4.18
February	32.18	32.86	-.68

[1] Choice steers at Omaha, 900-1,100 pounds. [2] Choice steers at Kansas City, 550-750 pounds.

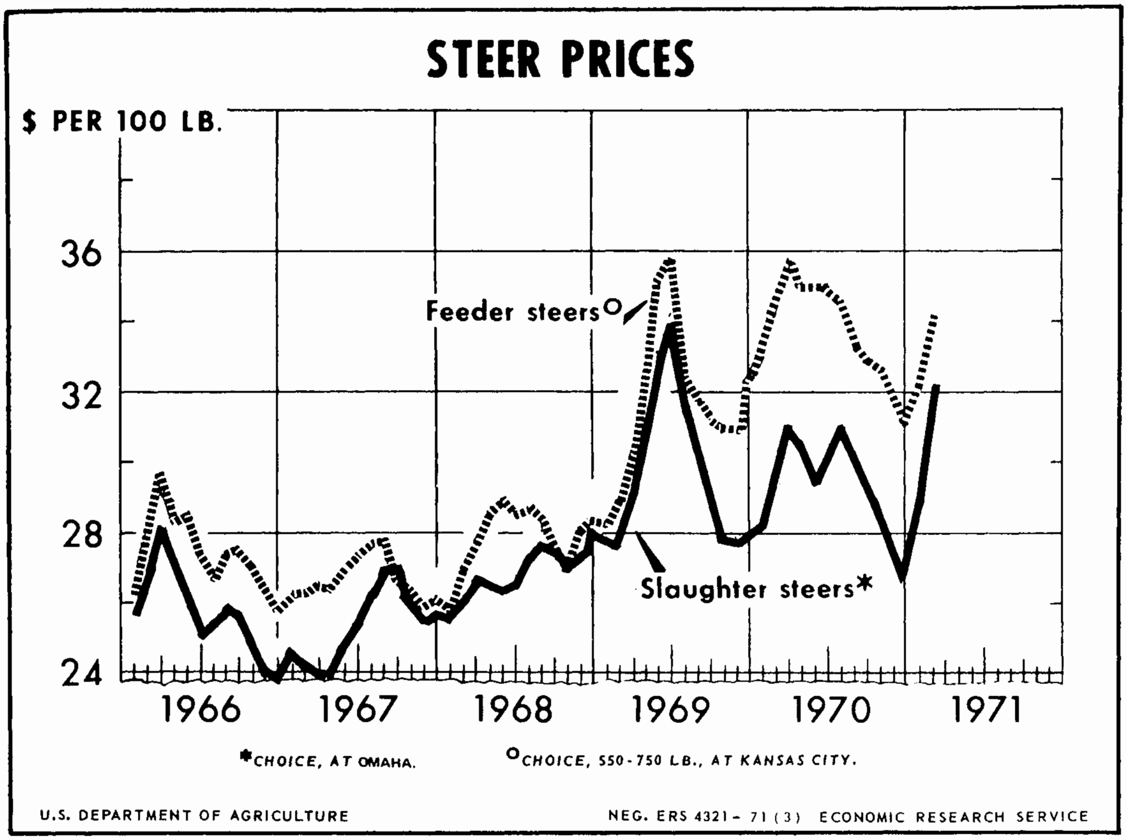
Feeder cattle prices per 100 pounds, Kansas City

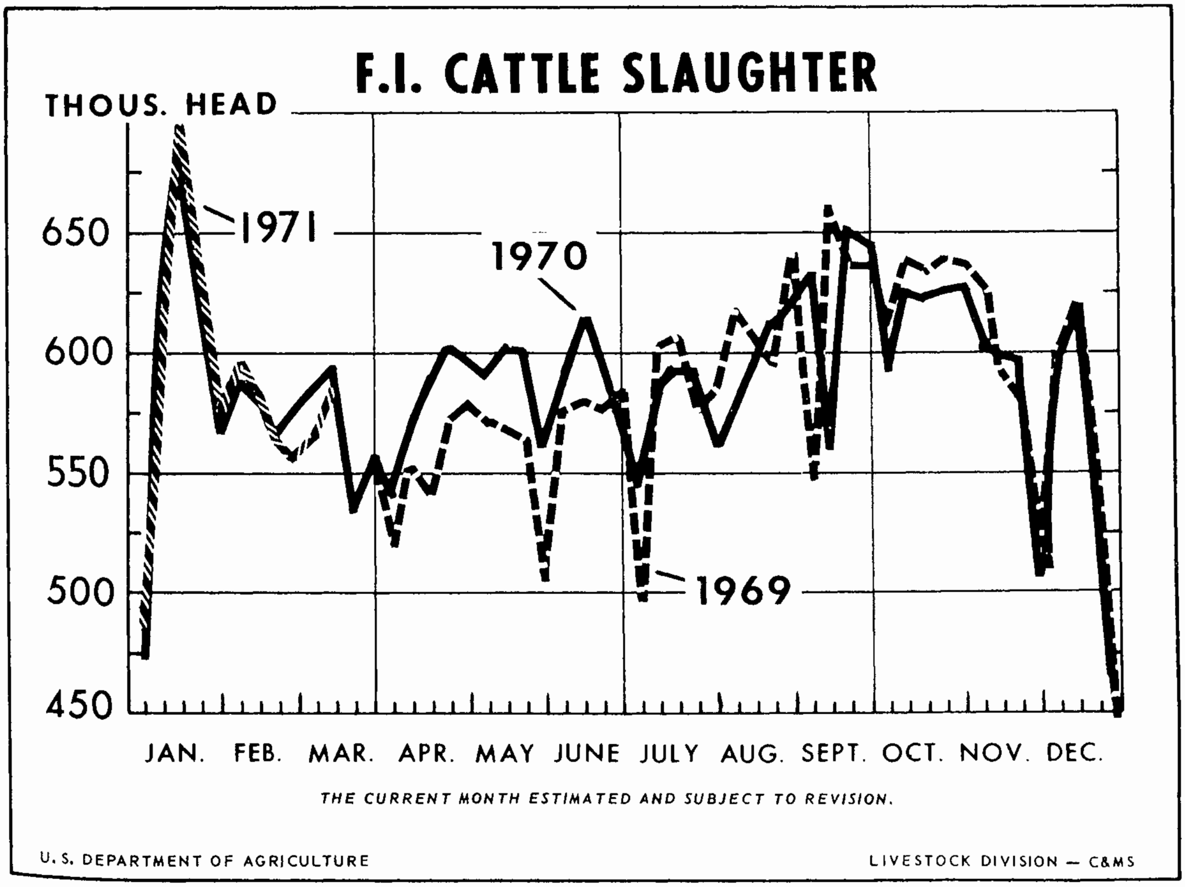
Month	Choice feeder steers 550-750 lb.		Choice feeder steer calves	
	1970	1971	1970	1971
	Dollars			
January	32.83	32.20	36.82	36.18
February	34.44	34.24	38.55	38.48
March	35.85		39.74	
April	35.01		39.40	
May	35.00		40.61	
June	34.92		41.48	
July	34.54		41.24	
August	33.28		39.50	
September	32.86		38.66	
October	32.66		37.60	
November	31.79		36.08	
December	31.28		35.49	
Average	33.70		38.76	

Cow Slaughter May Rise Late In The Year

Commercial cow slaughter in January was down 9 percent from a year earlier, but the decrease is expected to narrow this spring. Last year, cow slaughter dropped 12 percent, but with a larger breeding herd, it is unlikely that such a low rate of slaughter will be maintained this year. By summer, cow slaughter may be above a year earlier and continue on a higher plateau the rest of the year.

In February, Utility cows at Omaha averaged $21 per 100 pounds, $1.25 below a year earlier. Cow prices will likely continue near a year earlier for the next several months but may rise above later in the year when pork supplies drop nearer and then below 1970 fall levels. Beef imports are expected to continue large again this year, but not much different from 1970.


STEER PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.
36
32
28
24
Feeder steers°
Slaughter steers*
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
*CHOICE, AT OMAHA.
°CHOICE, 550-750 LB., AT KANSAS CITY.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 4321- 71 (3) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


F.I. CATTLE SLAUGHTER
THOUS. HEAD
650
600
550
500
450
1971
1970
1969
JAN.
FEB.
MAR.
APR.
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUG.
SEPT.
OCT.
NOV.
DEC.
THE CURRENT MONTH ESTIMATED AND SUBJECT TO REVISION.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION — C&MS

Utility cow prices per 100 pounds, Omaha

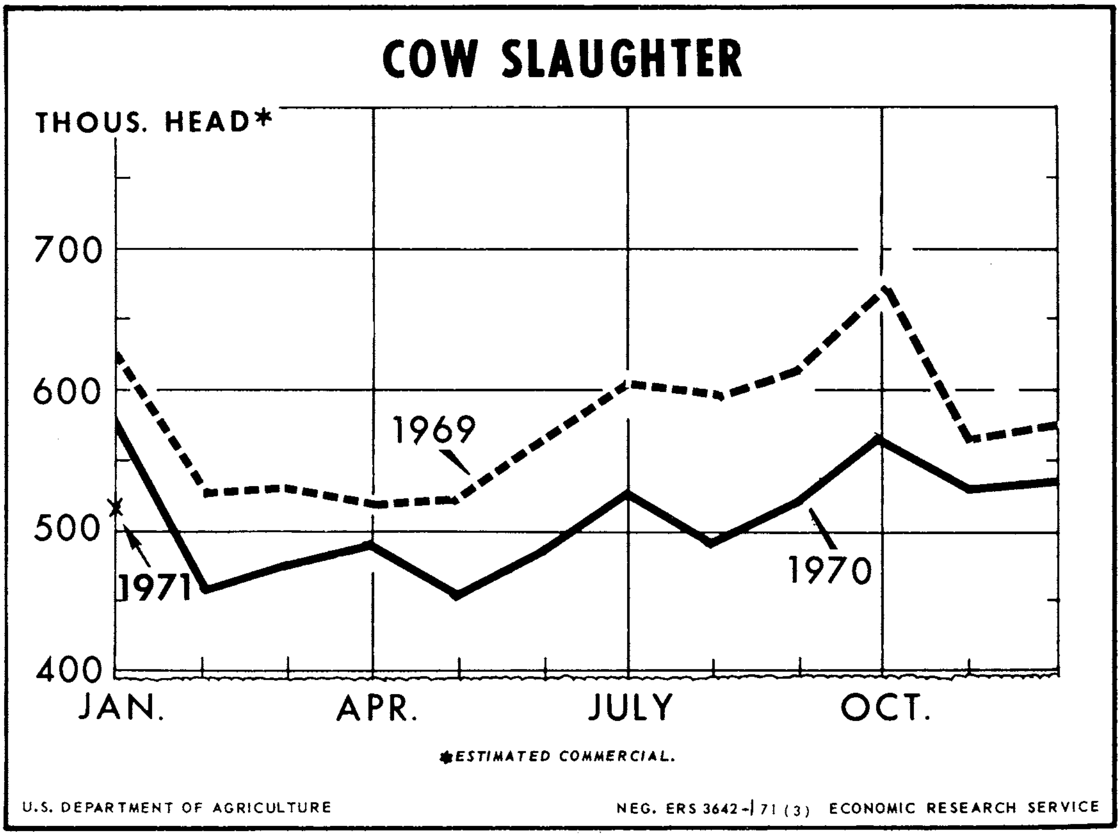
Month	1969	1970	1971
		Dollars	
January	17.22	20.93	19.98
February	18.53	22.18	20.98
March	20.12	23.24	
April	20.64	23.23	
May	21.92	22.64	
June	21.90	22.58	
July	21.32	20.85	
August	21.26	20.48	
September	20.96	21.13	
October	20.21	20.84	
November	19.31	19.04	
December	20.10	18.77	
Average	20.29	21.32	

Another Decline In Calf Slaughter

Calf slaughter in January and February continued well below the rates last winter. Calf slaughter fell 16 percent in 1970. Reduced slaughter reflects the continuing decline in the dairy herd and the continuing trend toward more dairy steer calves going to feedlots.

Choice vealers at South St. Paul averaged $43.40 per 100 pounds in February, $3.50 below a year earlier. Large supplies of competing meats, particularly pork, pressured veal prices under year-earlier levels for the first time in several years. Prices of veal calves this spring and summer likely will be strong. They averaged $45 per 100 pounds last April-June and then declined to nearly $42.50 by December. Strong prices in recent years reflect declining per capita veal supplies and strengthening demand for meat.

Commercial calf slaughter last year was less than half as large as in 1960. In recent years, declines have run 10 to 15 percent per year. Calf slaughter in 1971 will drop again but perhaps by less than in 1970.



HOGS

Hog Slaughter Up Sharply

Hog slaughter has ballooned since June 1970. Slaughterings in late 1970 and early this year ran about a fifth larger than a year ago. Gains in pork production so far this year, however, have been less excessive, because hog weights are lighter. The average liveweight of barrows and gilts at 7 markets in January and February was running 5 to 7 pounds less than a year ago. Hog weights have been consistently lighter since late last fall. They were up in the first half of 1970 and about the same as a year earlier in the summer and early fall. Producers began to cut weights after hog prices fell and corn prices strengthened.

Average liveweight of barrows and gilts, 7 markets

Month	1968	1969[1]	1970	1971
	Pounds			
January	239	233	242	235
February	235	229	236	231
March	235	230	238	
April	238	234	243	
May	240	237	246	
June	238	238	243	
July	231	232	234	
August	227	226	227	
September	228	229	230	
October	234	234	234	
November	237	239	238	
December	235	241	237	
Year	235	234	237	

[1] 8 markets prior to 1969.

Large hog slaughter in recent months reflects increases in the 1970 pig crop. Producers responded to higher hog prices in late 1969 and early 1970 by increasing the 1970 spring pig crop by 12 percent and the fall pig crop by 18 percent.

Larger Spring Slaughter

Hog slaughter this spring will continue considerably advanced. On December 1, there were 22 percent more market hogs on farms in weight groups that typically supply the bulk of spring slaughter supplies. Although much larger than last winter, weekly hog slaughter under Federal inspection in February and in early March dropped below late-fall and early-winter levels. Slaughter may show the usual March-April surge and then decline seasonally in late spring, to a low in the summer.

Increases in pork production this spring may not be quite as sharp as increases in the number of animals killed because of prospects for continued lighter market weights of hogs.

Hog prices declined sharply in the second half of 1970 and continued low in the opening weeks of 1971. Then barrows and gilts at 7 markets rose from about $15.50 per 100 pounds in mid-January to nearly $20 in mid-February. Prices declined to about $17.50 in mid-March. The February price rise reflected a shift to somewhat lower slaughter levels (although still well above a year earlier). Also, beef output in the early months of this year has been about the same as a year ago—it had been larger last fall.

Hog prices per 100 pounds, 7 markets

Month	Barrows and gilts[1]		Sows[1]	
	1970	1971	1970	1971
	Dollars			
January	27.40	16.30	23.25	12.74
February	28.23	19.43	24.96	16.68
March	25.94		23.75	
April	24.02		21.60	
May	23.53		19.20	
June	24.04		18.31	
July	25.13		18.90	
August	22.12		17.85	
September	20.35		17.24	
October	17.91		14.99	
November	15.69		12.31	
December	15.67		11.28	
Average	21.95		17.83	

[1] Average for all weights at Midwest Markets.

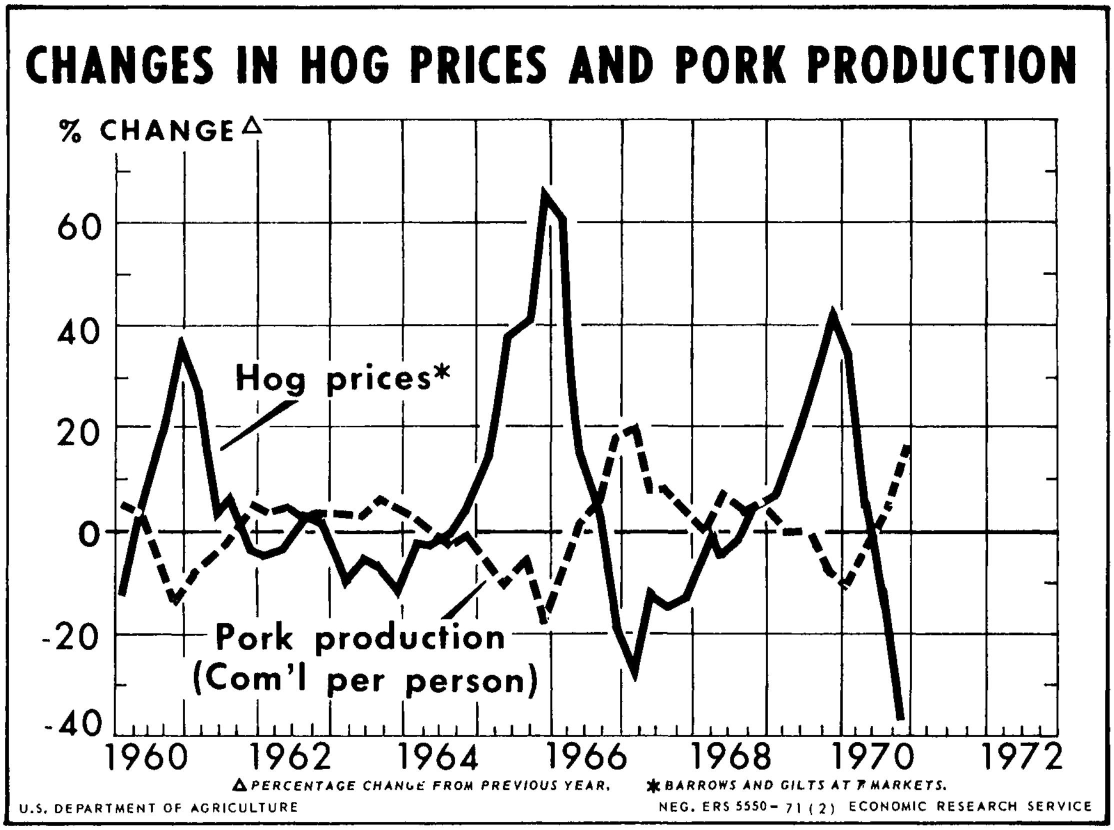
Hog prices likely will begin their rise to a summer high, as slaughter supplies decline seasonally in the spring. In April-June 1970, hog prices averaged $23.90. This was $3.40 below the unusually high winter prices in 1970. This year, spring prices probably will average above first quarter prices, but will continue to run well below prices last spring.

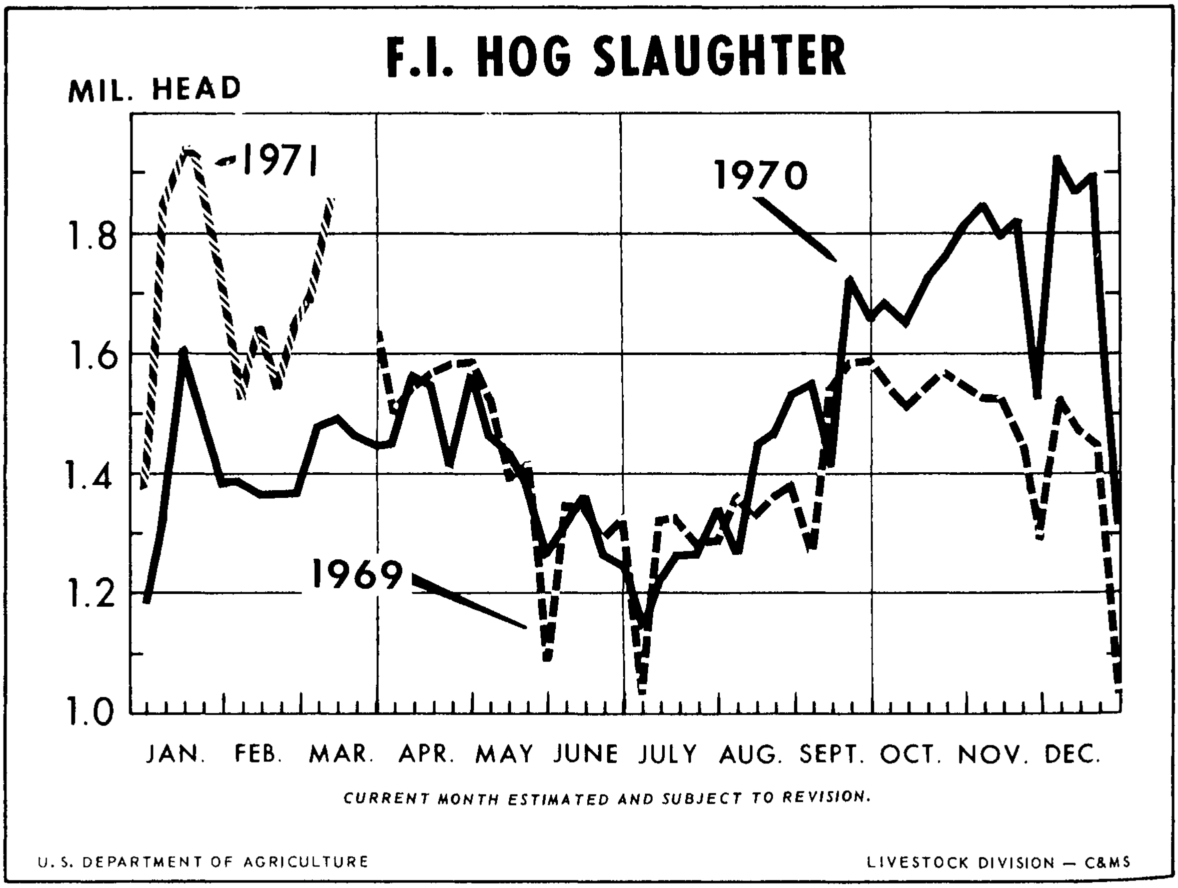
Hog Slaughter Larger Than 1970 In Summer, Smaller In Fall

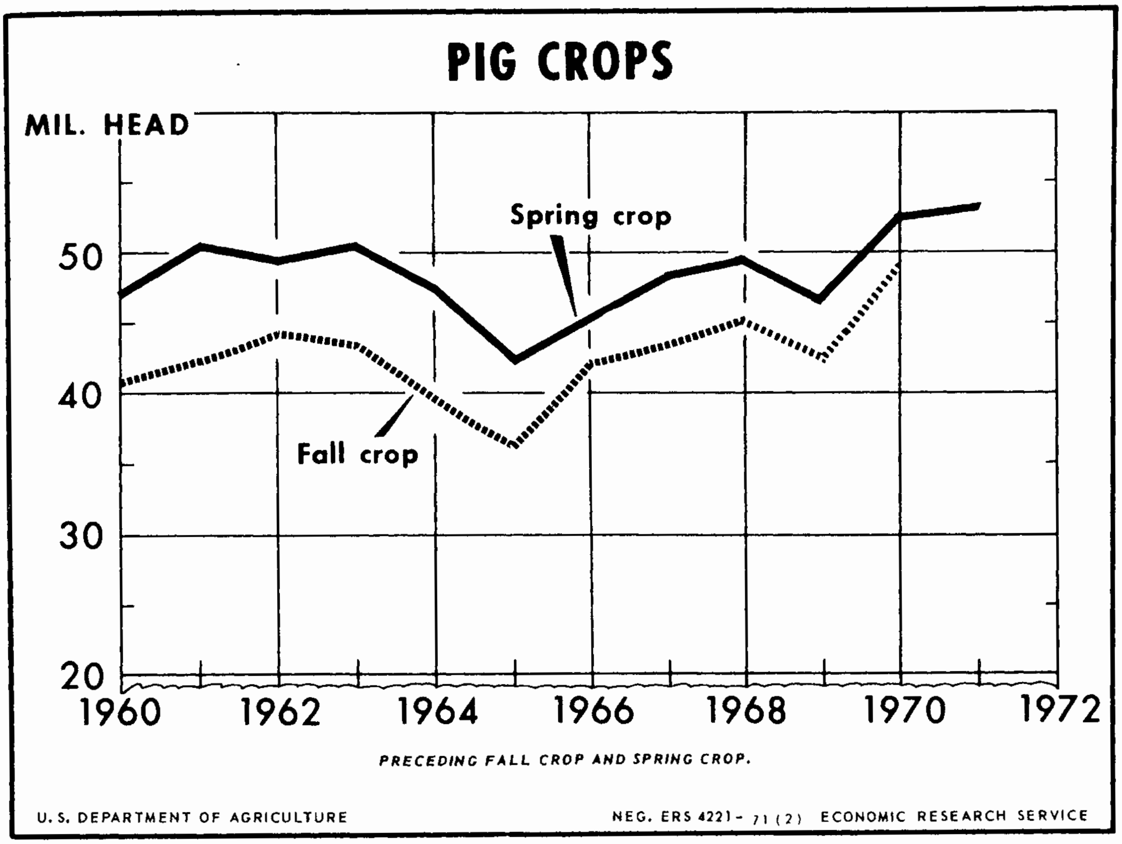
Hog slaughter this summer likely will be up only moderately from a year earlier. By the end of the year, hog slaughter should drop below year-earlier levels. The spring pig crop is estimated to be 1 percent larger this year. All of the increase is expected in early spring, since Corn Belt hog producers have indicated plans to increase December 1970-February 1971 farrowings 6 percent but to cut March-May farrowings by 6 percent. With such a farrowing pattern, summer hog slaughter will be seasonally low, but larger than in the summer of 1970, and the seasonal increase in fall slaughter will be moderate.

The Hogs and Pigs Report, for release March 22, will provide additional information on current developments in hog production in 10 Corn Belt States which account for about three-fourths of U.S. output.

In 1970, barrows and gilts at 7 markets rose to a summer peak in early July of $25.40 per 100 pounds. This year's summer peak likely will come a little later and be a few dollars below last year's. Prices in the fall


CHANGES IN HOG PRICES AND PORK PRODUCTION
% CHANGE △
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
Hog prices*
Pork production
(Com'l per person)
1960
1962
1964
1966
1968
1970
1972
△ PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR.
* BARROWS AND GILTS AT 7 MARKETS.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 5550-71 (2) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


F.I. HOG SLAUGHTER
MIL. HEAD
1.8
1.6
1.4
1.2
1.0
1971
1970
1969
JAN. FEB. MAR. APR. MAY JUNE JULY AUG. SEPT. OCT. NOV. DEC.
CURRENT MONTH ESTIMATED AND SUBJECT TO REVISION.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION — C&MS



will decline seasonally but probably be much less than the fall decline in 1970. Thus, prices are expected to be above year-earlier prices sometime next fall and to continue moderately above through the end of the year. Demand for meat will continue strong this summer and fall, but larger beef and broiler output in the second half likely will tend to dampen prices and larger stocks of pork in cold storage will add to summer pork supplies more than they usually do.

Farrowings Down This Fall?

Hog producers will decide during the next several months how many sows to hold for the 1971 fall farrowing season. The Hogs and Pigs Report will give an idea of producer decisions and how hog production may be changing. However, on the basis of current hog and corn prices, the number of sows farrowing likely will be down in the second half of 1971. This would reduce hog slaughter in the first half of 1972.

The corn supply is reduced this year and corn prices are higher than they have been in many years. Also, hog prices have been very low, so the hog-corn price ratio this winter has been well below winter levels in most other recent years. The ratio averaged 23.4 in the first quarter of 1970, but by the fourth quarter it was down to 12.1. From 10.7 in January 1971, it rose to 13.4 in

Hog-corn price ratio, farm basis

Month	*1969*	*1970*	*1971*
January	17.3	23.5	10.7
February	18.0	24.0	13.4
March	18.3	22.7	
April	17.6	20.7	
May	18.7	19.4	
June	20.3	19.2	
July	21.1	19.3	
August	21.9	17.1	
September	21.7	14.3	
October	22.1	13.4	
November	23.4	11.9	
December	23.6	11.1	
Year	20.3	18.0	

February but is currently down some from the February level. Although not a direct measure of profits, these ratios indicate the extent of the profit squeeze that hog producers are now experiencing.

Sow slaughter under Federal inspection in recent months has been showing about the same increase as barrow and gilt slaughter. However, as producers begin reducing the number of sows farrowing, sow slaughter likely will show relatively sharper increases. This, along with feeder pig price movements, will provide a barometer of the attitudes of hog producers in the coming months.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Sheep And Lamb Inventory Down Again

The number of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches dropped to 19.6 million head at the beginning of this year, 4 percent less than a year earlier. Numbers have declined more than a third since 1960 when the inventory totaled more than 33 million head. The decline continued to 1970 because sheep and lamb slaughter was only slightly less than in 1969 and relatively large in relation to the lamb crop.

All areas of the country shared in the decline, although 11 States showed increases or were unchanged. Texas sheepmen made the biggest increase boosting stock sheep numbers by 100,000 head. The largest decline was in Colorado with a drop of 74,000 head.

The 5 leading sheep States—Texas, Wyoming, California, Montana, and South Dakota,—accounted for 49 percent of the total stock sheep on farms and ranches at the beginning of this year, compared with 46 percent 10 years ago. But liquidation continued in these States last year as the 3 percent increase in Texas was slightly more than offset by a 3 percent decrease in the other 4 States.

Stock sheep numbers dropped to 16.9 million head, down 3 percent from a year earlier. Lambs on feed were off 9 percent. Ewes 1 year old and older were down 2 percent and there were 5 percent fewer ewe lambs. The decline in the number of replacement ewe lambs and the expected level of slaughter suggest some further shrinkage of the breeding herd in 1971.

With a smaller breeding herd, a smaller 1971 lamb crop is in prospect even though the number of lambs born from October 1 through the end of 1970 was up 6 percent. This mainly reflected a big increase in Texas. Its new lamb crop rose nearly 50 percent due to a recovery from poor lambing conditions in late 1969. However, the number of lambs born in late 1970 in Texas was still down 6 percent from the comparable period in 1968. Thus, while year-to-year fluctuations occur, the downtrend in Texas continues.

Last year's U.S. lamb crop totaled 13.4 million head, down 2 percent from a year earlier and the smallest on record. The smaller prospective 1971 crop will reduce market supplies and draw sheep and lamb slaughter to lower levels again this year. Slaughter last year fell slightly. Another small reduction this year would pull the inventory down another 3 to 5 percent. Slaughter in 1971 would have to be down 8 to 10 percent to stabilize the inventory. Such a sizable decline is not expected.

Lamb Crop

Year	Number	Percentage change from preceding year	Ratio to breeding stock on farms January 1
	1,000 head	*Percent*	
1959	21,120	+2.1	97
1960	21,012	-0.5	94
1961	20,782	-1.1	94
1962	19,712	-5.1	93
1963	18,516	-6.1	92
1964	16,994	-8.2	91
1965	16,312	-4.0	93
1966	15,881	-2.6	94
1967	15,003	-5.5	93
1968	14,433	-3.8	94
1969	13,703	-5.1	93
1970	13,413	-2.1	96

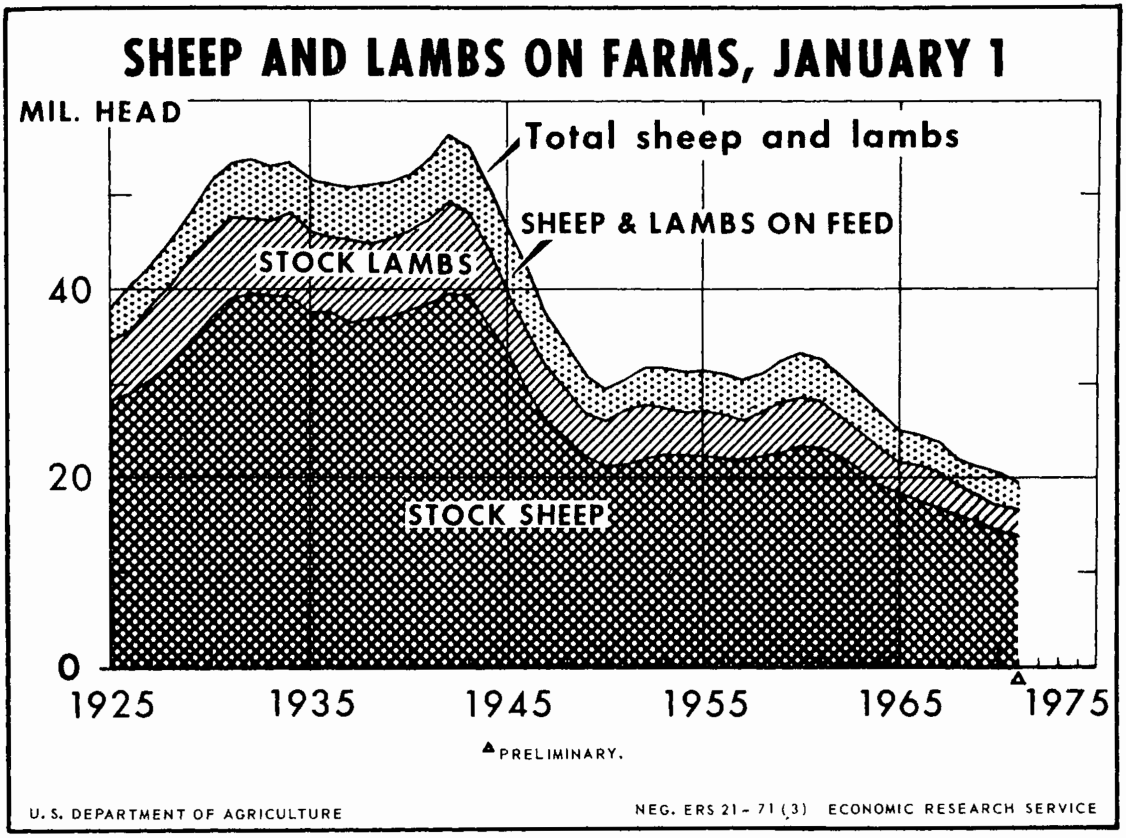
First Half Slaughter May Be About Unchanged

Sheep and lamb slaughter during the first 2 months this year was up 6 percent. However, slaughter rates are expected to drop below a year earlier this spring and by midyear likely will offset the early 1971 increases.

Table 3.—Balance sheet for sheep and lambs, United States, 1956 to date

Year	Number on farms Jan. 1	Born during year	Net exports	Slaughter	Deaths	Adjustment factor	Number on farms Dec. 31
	1,000 head						
1956	31,157	20,336	+57	16,328	4,322	-132	30,654
1957	30,654	19,810	+18	15,292	4,353	+416	31,217
1958	31,217	20,686	-22	14,495	4,350	-474	32,606
1959	32,606	21,120	-54	15,528	4,539	-543	33,170
1960	33,170	21,012	-13	16,240	4,590	-641	32,725
1961[1]	32,725	20,782	+27	17,537	4,499	-475	30,969
1962	30,969	19,712	+16	17,168	4,437	+116	29,176
1963	29,176	18,516	+28	16,147	4,157	-244	27,116
1964	27,116	16,994	+10	14,895	4,062	-16	25,127
1965	25,127	16,312	+6	13,300	3,910	+511	24,734
1966	24,734	15,881	+51	13,003	3,614	-49	23,898
1967	23,898	15,003	+108	13,034	3,650	+31	22,140
1968	22,140	14,433	+91	12,119	3,397	+272	21,238
1969	21,238	13,703	+83	10,923	3,457	-190	20,288
1970	20,288	13,413	+121	10,776	3,200	-44	19,560
1971[2]	19,560	13,145	+100	10,250	3,100		19-19.5

[1] Beginning 1961, 50-State total. [2] Estimated.



Spring slaughter supplies will depend to a considerable extent on new-crop lambs which will be approaching slaughter weight at that time. On January 1, 1971, there were 1.5 million lambs on farms and ranches that had been born during October-December 1970, about 6 percent more than a year earlier. Thus, lamb slaughter this spring may hold up better than it will later in the year. However, spring slaughter will not fully reflect the increase in the early lamb crop because marketings of early Texas lambs tend to be spread over a relatively longer period than in most other areas. Also, there were 11 percent fewer lambs on feed in 7 major feeding States on March 1 than a year ago.

Large output of red meats and weak hog and cattle markets were largely responsible for a sharp decline in lamb prices in late 1970. Choice grade slaughter lambs at San Angelo were near $27 from midyear into early November. Prices dropped $4 by the end of the year.

Lamb prices in January and February averaged around $24 per 100 pounds at San Angelo, $4 or so below a year earlier. Prices of early spring lambs will, as usual, be sharply higher than 1970—crop lambs marketed in the winter and may show a sharper rise over fed lambs than the $3.50 jump last year. Also, if slaughter rates drop below year-earlier rates as expected, the seasonal price decline of spring lambs into midyear may be somewhat smaller than last year's $4 March-April decline.

Choice lamb prices per 100 pounds, San Angelo

Month	Slaughter lambs		Feeder lambs	
	1970	1971	1970	1971
	Dollars			
January	28.81	24.06	29.81	24,00
February	28.06	24.12	29.50	24.75
March	31.06		30.88	
April	28.35		28.50	
May	27.75		27.12	
June	27.41		26.25	
July	27.00		25.25	
August	27.06		25.44	
September	26.85		26.60	
October	27.19		26.19	
November	25.81		24.56	
December	24.00		23.50	
Average	27.45		26.97	

Second Half Slaughter To Decline

July-December slaughter could turn out moderately smaller, reflecting the prospective reduction in the 1971 lamb crop. Though small, the decline will tend to lower slaughter rates. Second half prices will run near last year's $26 plus average. Supplies of competing meats in the second half will be smaller than in the first half, but still larger than a year ago.

1970 Lamb Imports Down

Imports of lamb were down slightly in 1970 to 43 million pounds. In the past decade, lamb imports ranged between 10 million pounds in 1964 and 44 million in 1969. With only a small change in both imports and domestic production, imports last year were again equal to about 9 percent of production. This is about the same as a year earlier and compares with 4 percent in 1968 and 2 percent in the early 1960's.

Imports of mutton typically have been several times those of lamb imports. However, in 1970 mutton imports dropped to 79 million pounds, down 27 percent from 1969. Lamb and mutton imports combined were down 20 percent last year.

FOREIGN TRADE IN MEATS

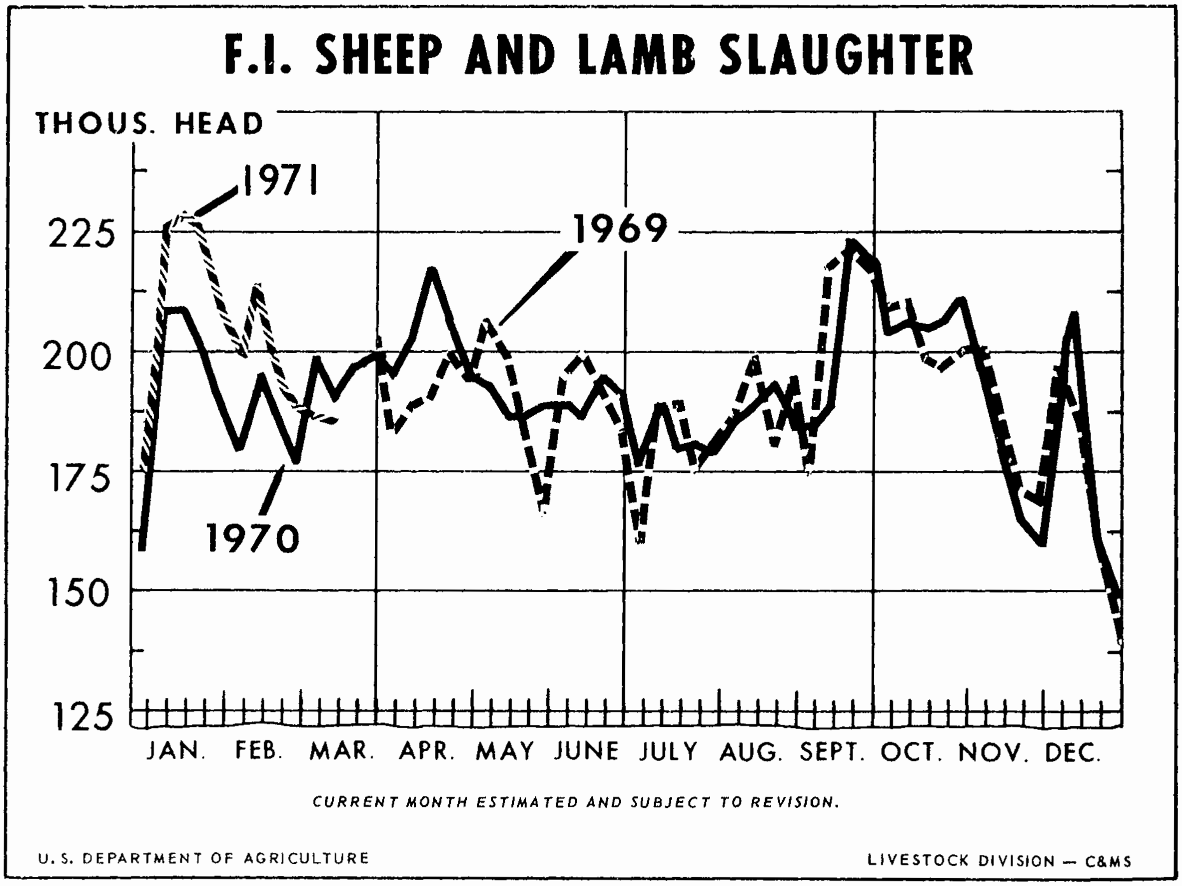
Meat imports totaled 172.5 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) in January, 24 percent less than in January 1970. Imports of beef and veal were 128.2 million pounds, down 31 percent, and imports of mutton and goat, at 1.9 million pounds, dropped 86 percent. Imports of lamb were 7.6 million pounds, more than 2 1/2 times as much as in January 1970. Pork imports totaled 34.8 million pounds, up 41 percent.

U.S. meat exports in January 1971 totaled 8.2 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent), virtually the same as a year earlier. Pork exports, at 4.6 million pounds, were 2 percent larger, but beef and veal exports, at 3.5 million pounds, were 3 percent smaller.

Imports of Meat Subject To Meat Import Law

Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin announced on March 13 that calendar 1971 imports of meat subject to the Meat Import Law are estimated at 1,160 million pounds (product weight). In calendar 1970, actual imports for consumption amounted to 1,153 million pounds, 7 million pounds below the revised restraint level announced in October.

The estimate for 1971 is based upon a new voluntary restraint program which the Secretary of State is negotiating with the Governments of the principal



supplying countries. These countries have agreed that the restraint program should be continued.

Public Law 88-482, enacted in August 1964, provides that if yearly imports of certain meats—primarily fresh, chilled or frozen beef and mutton—are estimated to equal or exceed 110 percent of an adjusted base quota, the President is required to invoke a quota on imports of these meats. The adjusted base quota for 1971 is 1,025.0 million pounds. The amount of estimated imports which would trigger its imposition is 110 percent of the adjusted base quota or 1,127.5 million pounds.

The President has issued a proclamation pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of Public Law 88-482 limiting imports of meats subject to the Act. At the same time he suspended that limitation on the basis that this action is required by overriding economic interests of the United States, giving special weight to the importance to the Nation of the economic well-being of the domestic livestock industry. This procedure is the same as that followed with Presidential Proclamation 3993 of June 30, 1970.

Imports of meat subject to the Meat Import Law totaled 83.4 million pounds in January 1971. This volume was a third smaller than in January 1970.

USDA MEAT PURCHASES

USDA meat purchases this year through March 12 include 20.7 million pounds of canned chopped meat—basic pork formulation—($9.3 million), 9.5 million pounds of canned pork with natural juices ($6.5 million), 14.1 million pounds of frozen ground pork ($7.2 million), and 6.6 million pounds of frozen ground beef ($3.5 million). Frozen ground beef purchases were terminated January 21 and the pork program ended on February 11.

Purchases were made with funds provided by Sections 6 and 32.

Table 4.—Meat subject to U.S. import quota restriction: Product weight of imports by months, average 1959-63, 1964-71

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	Mil. lb.	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
1959-63 average	47.3	49.6	57.5	54.3	48.5	58.6	67.1	84.1	76.1	61.6	56.1	61.4	722.2
1964	87.2	44.9	68.9	61.4	51.1	98.1	43.7	79.5	49.6	46.4	55.7	53.4	739.9
1965	28.2	34.5	68.7	32.4	52.3	42.1	58.5	59.9	62.2	64.4	57.3	53.7	614.2
1966	51.4	60.3	49.4	63.3	52.0	100.2	61.4	87.1	91.5	79.7	61.1	66.0	823.4
1967	77.4	58.5	61.9	58.8	51.5	69.6	88.7	92.2	89.8	91.8	82.3	72.4	894.9
1968	80.7	72.6	64.1	78.4	56.1	105.1	86.4	108.6	115.5	102.1	95.8	35.6	1,001.0
1969[1]	41.9	50.4	136.1	90.0	80.5	85.7	107.1	141.8	121.4	108.4	51.4	69.4	1,084.1
1970[1]	124.5	100.7	112.0	88.7	62.1	93.4	110.1	112.8	107.6	89.3	79.3	89.8	1,170.4
1971	83.4												

[1] Rejections for calendar year 1969 equaled 13.5 million pounds, and 17.4 million pounds for 1970.

Table 5.—U.S. meat imports and exports and percentage comparisons (carcass weight), 1970 and 1971

Months	Beef and veal			Lamb and mutton[1]			Pork			Total meat		
	1970	1971	Change	1970	1971	Change	1970	1971	Change	1970	1971	Change
	Mil. lb.	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*
IMPORTS												
January	187	128	-31	17	9	-44	25	35	+41	229	172	-24
February	149			13			43			205		
March	168			15			43			226		
April	129			13			42			184		
May	96			8			37			141		
June	138			16			42			196		
July	166			19			40			225		
August	180			7			31			218		
September	180			3			32			215		
October	156			3			39			198		
November	129			3			38			170		
December	138			5			37			180		
Total	1,816			122			449			2,387		
EXPORTS												
January	3.57	3.45	-3	0.17	0.17	+4	4.47	4.55	+2	8.21	8.17	-0.4
February	2.77			.12			4.37			7.26		
March	3.11			.14			4.05			7.30		
April	3.17			.13			3.79			7.09		
May	3.72			.15			4.13			8.00		
June	3.43			.20			4.18			7.81		
July	3.50			.10			4.66			8.26		
August	2.75			.24			4.52			7.51		
September	2.67			.10			10.98			13.75		
October	3.46			.14			9.15			12.75		
November	3.63			.13			8.84			12.60		
December	4.01			.13			5.24			9.38		
Total	39.79			1.75			68.38			109.92		

[1] Includes goat meat.

Table 6.—Rank of States in number of cattle and calves on farms, January 1, 1971

Rank	All cattle and calves		Beef cows		Milk cows	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		1,000 head		*1,000 head*		*1,000 head*
1	Texas	12,578	Texas	5,791	Wisconsin	1,846
2	Iowa	7,403	Oklahoma	2,188	New York	1,018
3	Kansas	6,618	Nebraska	1,913	Minnesota	981
4	Nebraska	6,457	Missouri	1,909	California	806
5	Oklahoma	5,085	Kansas	1,899	Pennsylvania	705
6	Missouri	4,989	South Dakota	1,731	Iowa	486
7	California	4,771	Montana	1,570	Michigan	462
8	South Dakota	4,498	Iowa	1,517	Ohio	449
9	Wisconsin	4,158	Mississippi	1,285	Texas	355
10	Minnesota	3,998	Colorado	1,110	Missouri	351
11	Colorado	3,516	Kentucky	1,087	Kentucky	340
12	Illinois	3,245	North Dakota	964	Tennessee	302
13	Montana	3,104	Tennessee	948	Illinois	301
14	Kentucky	2,859	Arkansas	920	Indiana	234
15	Mississippi	2,537	Florida	917	Virginia	220
16	Tennessee	2,354	Alabama	915	Vermont	205
17	Ohio	2,200	California	906	Kansas	198
18	North Dakota	2,190	Louisiana	887	Florida	193
19	Georgia	2,002	Georgia	856	Washington	192
20	Alabama	1,973	Illinois	750	Mississippi	191
21	Indiana	1,937	Wyoming	696	Nebraska	187
22	Florida	1,864	New Mexico	681	North Carolina	185
23	New York	1,848	Oregon	676	South Dakota	177
24	Arkansas	1,787	Idaho	596	Louisiana	169
25	Pennsylvania	1,763	Minnesota	536	Maryland	168
26	Idaho	1,735	Virginia	511	Idaho	159
27	Louisiana	1,705	Indiana	444	Georgia	147
28	Oregon	1,609	Ohio	375	Oklahoma	146
29	Michigan	1,527	North Carolina	367	North Dakota	137
30	Virginia	1,489	Washington	361	Alabama	134
31	Wyoming	1,461	Utah	347	Oregon	107
32	New Mexico	1,372	Arizona	344	Colorado	101
33	Arizona	1,289	Nevada	343	Arkansas	97
34	Washington	1,285	South Carolina	274	Utah	81
35	North Carolina	1,081	Wisconsin	257	New Jersey	68
36	Utah	840	West Virginia	202	Maine	66
37	South Carolina	661	Michigan	137	South Carolina	65
38	Nevada	657	Pennsylvania	97	Massachusetts	63
39	West Virginia	470	Hawaii	89	Connecticut	63
40	Maryland	430	New York	61	West Virginia	57
41	Vermont	351	Maryland	56	Arizona	52
42	Hawaii	249	Maine	9	Montana	42
43	Maine	141	New Jersey	9	New Hampshire	36
44	New Jersey	125	Vermont	8	New Mexico	35
45	Connecticut	119	Connecticut	5	Wyoming	17
46	Massachusetts	114	Massachusetts	4	Delaware	15
47	New Hampshire	71	Delaware	4	Nevada	14
48	Delaware	32	Alaska	2	Hawaii	13
49	Rhode Island	12	New Hampshire	2	Rhode Island	7
50	Alaska	9	Rhode Island	1	Alaska	2
	United States	114,568		37,557		12,445

Table 7.- Rank of States in number of cattle on feed, sheep and lambs on farms, January 1, 1971 and pigs saved 1970

Rank	Cattle on feed January[1]		All sheep and lambs		Number of pigs saved[2]	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		1,000 head		*1,000 head*		*1,000 head*
1	Iowa	1,992	Texas	3,789	Iowa	22,871
2	Texas	1,480	Wyoming	1,734	Illinois	11,881
3	Nebraska	1,422	California	1,264	Missouri	8,283
4	California	1,001	Colorado	1,229	Indiana	7,281
5	Kansas	916	Montana	1,142	Minnesota	6,102
6	Colorado	862	South Dakota	1,121	Nebraska	5,968
7	Illinois	649	Utah	1,058	Ohio	4,226
8	Minnesota	548	New Mexico	799	Wisconsin	3,690
9	Arizona	524	Iowa	797	North Carolina	3,496
10	Missouri	342	Idaho	773	South Dakota	3,375
11	South Dakota	339	Ohio	693	Kansas	3,245
12	Indiana	328	Arizona	506	Georgia	2,807
13	Ohio	308	Minnesota	504	Kentucky	2,635
14	Michigan	237	Oregon	479	Tennessee	2,012
15	Oklahoma	234	Nebraska	370	Texas	1,987
16	Idaho	222	North Dakota	368	Alabama	1,721
17	New Mexico	165	Kansas	328	Michigan	1,242
18	Wisconsin	150	Illinois	317	Virginia	963
19	Washington	141	Missouri	272	Mississippi	945
20	Montana	130	Indiana	251	Pennsylvania	881
21	Pennsylvania	92	Michigan	251	South Carolina	880
22	Oregon	85	Nevada	206	Oklahoma	772
23	Utah	68	Virginia	176	Arkansas	650
24	Georgia	59	Pennsylvania	160	North Dakota	611
25	Florida	57	West Virginia	155	Colorado	557
26	North Carolina	49	Wisconsin	151	Florida	535
27	Kentucky	48	Washington	144	Montana	321
28	Virginia	46	Oklahoma	122	Louisiana	303
29	Nevada	45	New York	98	Maryland	278
30	North Dakota	36	Kentucky	88	Idaho	228
31	Alabama	35	Tennessee	35	California	222
32	Wyoming	35	Alaska	27	Oregon	195
33	Tennessee	29	Louisiana	23	New York	150
34	Maryland	20	Maryland	20	Washington	139
35	Arkansas	17	Mississippi	16	Arizona	126
36	South Carolina	16	North Carolina	16	West Virginia	109
37	Mississippi	15	Maine	15	Massachusetts	100
38	New York	11	New Jersey	8	New Mexico	88
39	Louisiana	9	Arkansas	8	New Jersey	84
40			Massachusetts	8	Utah	82
41			Vermont	6	Hawaii	76
42			Alabama	6	Delaware	72
43			Florida	6	Wyoming	53
44			Georgia	5	New Hampshire	16
45			New Hampshire	5	Nevada	15
46			Connecticut	5	Maine	13
47			Delaware	2	Connecticut	12
48			Rhode Island	2	Rhode Island	10
49			South Carolina	2	Vermont	9
50			Hawaii	---	Alaska	2
	United States	12,762		19,560		102,319

[1] Data available for only 39 States. [2] Total pigs saved from December-May and June-November pig crops.

Supply and distribution of commercially produced meat, by months, July-December 1970

Meat and period	Supply: Production[1]	Supply: Beginning stocks	Supply: Imports	Distribution: Exports and shipments	Distribution: Ending stocks	Distribution: Military	Distribution: Civilian consumption: Total	Distribution: Civilian consumption: Per person[2]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
Beef:								
July	1,808	317	165	8	308	34	1,940	9.6
August	1,737	308	179	9	290	40	1,885	9.4
September	1,875	290	179	8	287	34	2,015	10.0
3rd quarter	5,420	317	523	25	287	108	5,840	29.0
October	1,917	287	154	8	301	33	2,016	10.0
November	1,697	301	127	9	318	29	1,769	8.7
December	1,854	318	134	11	338			
4th quarter	5,468	287	415	28	338			
Year	21,487	353	1,792	101	338			
Veal:								
July	47	10	1	1	9	3	45	0.2
August	46	9	1	([3])	10	4	42	.2
September	49	10	1	([3])	9	2	49	.2
3rd quarter	142	10	3	1	9	9	136	.6
October	49	9	2	([3])	9	1	49	.2
November	43	9	2	([3])	8	1	45	.2
December	44	8	4	1	9			
4th quarter	136	9	8	1	9			
Year	558	10	24	3	9			
Lamb and mutton:								
July	44	20	19	1	23	([3])	59	0.3
August	41	23	7	1	23	([3])	47	.2
September	47	23	3	1	21	1	50	.2
3rd quarter	132	20	29	3	21	1	156	.7
October	48	21	3	([3])	21	1	50	.2
November	39	21	3	([3])	20	([3])	43	.2
December	46	20	5	1	19			
4th quarter	133	21	11	1	19			
Year	540	16	122	7	19			
Pork:								
July	991	304	40	13	255	10	1,057	5.3
August	1,008	255	31	12	217	15	1,050	5.2
September	1,158	217	32	20	210	12	1,165	5.8
3rd quarter	3,157	304	103	45	210	37	3,272	16.3
October	1,275	210	39	18	246	11	1,249	6.2
November	1,255	246	38	18	304	13	1,204	6.0
December	1,371	304	37	18	336			
4th quarter	3,901	210	114	54	336			
Year	13,247	211	449	177	336			
All meat:								
July	2,890	651	225	23	595	47	3,101	15.4
August	2,832	595	218	22	540	59	3,024	15.0
September	3,129	540	215	29	527	49	3,279	16.2
3rd quarter	8,851	651	658	74	527	155	9,404	46.6
October	3,289	527	198	26	577	46	3,364	16.6
November	3,034	577	170	27	650	43	3,061	15.1
December	3,315	650	180	31	702			
4th quarter	9,638	527	548	84	702			
Year	35,832	590	2,387	288	702			

[1] Excludes production from farm slaughter. [2] Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies.
[3] Less than 500,000 pounds.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1970 Year or average	1970 January	1970 February	1971 January	1971 February
	Dollars per 100 pounds				
CATTLE AND CALVES					
Beef steers, slaughter, Omaha					
Prime	30.02	28.90	30.07	29.90	33.26
Choice	29.34	28.23	29.30	29.11	32.23
Good	27.91	26.95	27.70	27.49	30.71
Standard	25.49	24.32	25.18	24.80	26.89
Utility	23.52	22.99	24.00	23.75	25.78
All grades	29.02	27.96	29.02	28.83	31.80
Choice 900-1100 pounds, California	30.20	29.50	29.19	29.94	33.19
Choice 900-1100 pounds, Colorado	29.49	29.03	29.34	29.06	32.13
Cows, Omaha Commercial	20.94	20.68	21.88	19.31	20.40
Utility	21.32	20.93	22.18	19.98	20.98
Cutter	20.36	19.48	21.12	18.86	19.78
Canner	19.24	17.83	19.70	17.51	18.39
Vealers, Choice, S. St. Paul	44.82	43.88	46.92	42.12	43.42
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City[1]	30.11	29.44	31.31	29.42	31.69
Price received by farmers					
Beef cattle	27.05	26.20	27.20	25.90	28.50
Cows	20.44	19.70	21.00	19.20	20.60
Steers and heifers	28.98	28.40	29.10	28.00	30.90
Calves	34.48	33.60	35.10	33.30	35.70
Beef steer-corn price ratio[2]	18.5	23.3	24.2	19.7	21.8
HOGS					
Barrows and gilts, U.S. No. 1 and 2, Omaha					
180-200 pounds	26.23	---	28.96	---	---
200-220 pounds	23.54	28.86	29.24	17.27	20.10
220-240 pounds	23.44	28.74	29.10	17.18	20.07
Barrows and gilts, 7 markets[3]	21.95	27.40	28.23	16.30	19.43
Sows,, 7 markets[3]	17.83	23.25	24.96	12.74	16.68
Price received by farmers	21.92	26.30	27.40	15.20	19.20
Hog-corn price ratio[4]					
Omaha, barrows and gilts	10.8	22.8	23.5	11.0	13.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	18.0	23.5	24.0	10.7	13.4
SHEEP AND LAMBS					
Sheep					
Slaughter ewes, Good, San Angelo	9.55	10.31	11.25	9.25	9.69
Price received by farmers	7.86	8.20	8.39	6.86	6.96
Lambs					
Slaughter, Choice, San Angelo	27.45	28.81	28.06	24.06	24.12
Feeder, Choice, San Angelo	26.97	29.81	29.50	24.00	24.75
Price received by farmers	26.58	28.00	27.80	23.10	23.80
ALL MEAT ANIMALS					
Index number price received by farmers (1967-100)	120	125	130	106	120
MEAT					
Wholesale, Chicago, Carlot					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 600-700	47.33	46.89	46.74	48.60	51.86
Heifer beef, Choice, 500-600 pounds	46.27	45.81	46.18	46.92	50.63
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter	44.72	43.56	45.56	43.05	44.96
Lamb carcass, Prime & Choice, 45-55 pounds	59.13	60.30	59.10	54.39	55.25
Fresh pork loins, 8-14 pounds	52.57	61.89	59.46	42.75	48.74
	Cents per pound				
Retail, United States average					
Beef, Choice grade	98.7	97.6	97.4	97.2	
Pork, retail cuts and sausage	78.0	82.1	81.8	68.2	
Lamb, Choice grade	10.75	106.6	106.7	107.9	
Index number all meats (BLS)					
Wholesale (1967=100)	[5] 115.0	[5] 118.5	[5] 118.1	105.9	113.6
Retail (1967=100)	117.6	116.8	117.7	112.9	113.5
Beef and veal	119.5	116.9	117.6	118.5	120.0
Pork	115.9	118.1	119.5	103.6	103.2

[1] Average all weights and grades. [2] Bushels of No. 2 Yellow Corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of slaughter steers sold out of first hands, Omaha, all grades. [3] St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis. [4] Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs. [5] Computed by ERS.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1970			1971	
		Year average or total	January	February	January	February
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1967=100)		102.8	101.3	91.2	107.9	94.5
6-State Cattle on Feed Report						
Number on feed	1,000 head	82,100	7,443	7,338	7,281	7,455
Place on feed	1,000 head	15,869	1,230	924	1,456	970
Marketings	1,000 head	16,031	1,335	1,229	1,282	1,207
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	1,000 head	30,793	2,653	2,318	2,569	
Steers	1,000 head	16,608	1,414	1,258	1,388	
Heifers	1,000 head	8,304	698	624	686	
Cows	1,000 head	5,373	501	401	456	
Bulls and stags	1,000 head	507	40	35	39	
Calves	1,000 head	3,025	290	239	247	
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	10,010	855	742	903	
Hogs	1,000 head	78,186	6,170	5,507	7,489	
Percentage sows	Percent	6	5	5	6	
Average liveweight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	1,048	1,068	1,066	1,060	
Calves	Pounds	199	195	195	198	
Sheep and lambs	Pounds	104	108	109	107	
Hogs	Pounds	241	242	238	239	
Average production						
Beef, per head	Pounds	624	629	631	632	
Veal, per head	Pounds	112	109	111	113	
Lamb and mutton, per head	Pounds	52	53	54	53	
Pork, per head	Pounds	155	152	150	154	
Pork, per 100 pounds liveweight	Pounds	64	64	64	64	
Lard, per head	Pounds	23	23	22	22	
Lard, per 100 pounds liveweight	Pounds	9	10	10	9	
Total production						
Beef	Mil. lbs.	19,158	1,663	1,460	1,618	
Veal	Mil. lbs.	337	31	26	28	
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lbs.	514	45	40	48	
Pork	Mil. lbs.	12,119	951	844	1,153	
Lard	Mil. lbs.	1,776	144	121	166	
Commercial slaughter[1]						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	1,000 head	35,042	3,033	2,651	2,918	
Calves	1,000 head	4,080	389	327	322	
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	10,553	896	774	936	
Hogs	1,000 head	85,778	6,824	6,073	8,257	
Total production						
Beef	Mil. lbs.	21,487	1,872	1,643	1,814	
Veal	Mil. lbs.	558	50	44	44	
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lbs.	540	47	41	50	
Pork	Mil. lbs.	13,247	1,050	928	1,268	
Lard	Mil. lbs.	1,887	154	130	177	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	Mil. lbs.	---	353	368	338	326
Veal	Mil. lbs.	---	10	11	9	9
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lbs.	---	16	17	19	21
Pork	Mil. lbs.	---	211	210	336	353
Total meat and meat products[2]	Mil. lbs.	---	637	660	759	771

[1] Federally inspected and other commercial. [2] Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the 4 meats listed.

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