

THE *Livestock and Meat* SITUATION

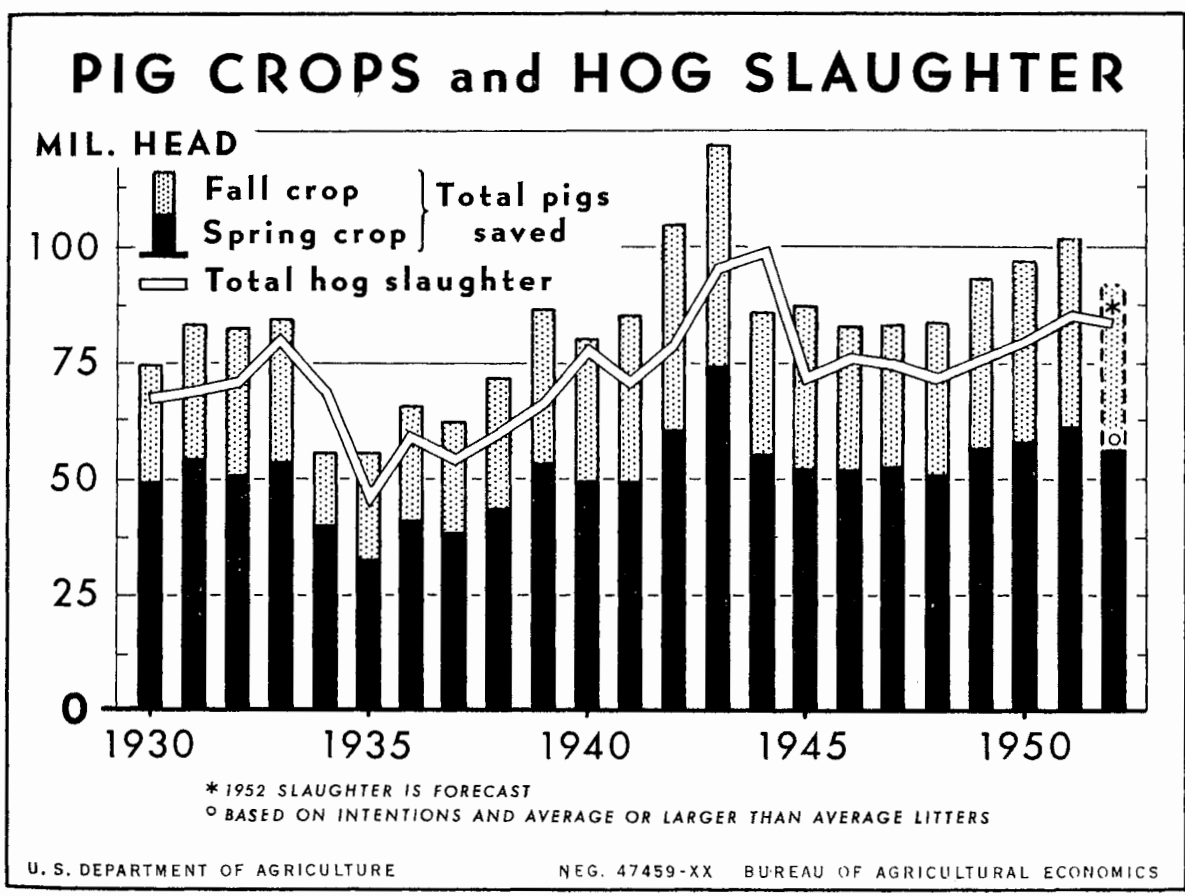
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
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In this issue:
Cattle Slaughter in Relation to Numbers on Farms
Index to 1951 Issues



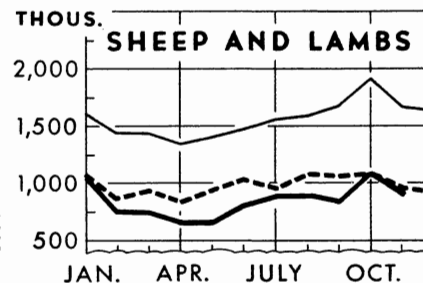
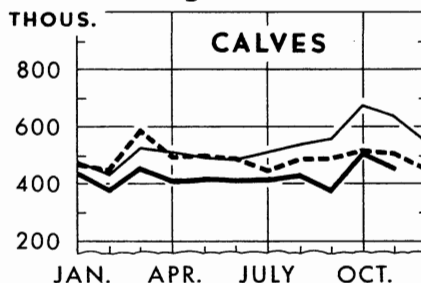
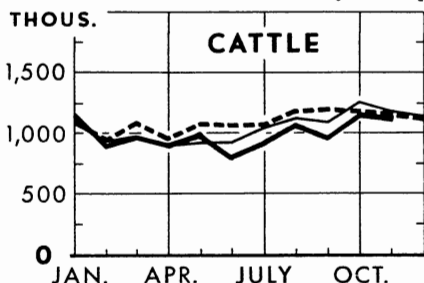
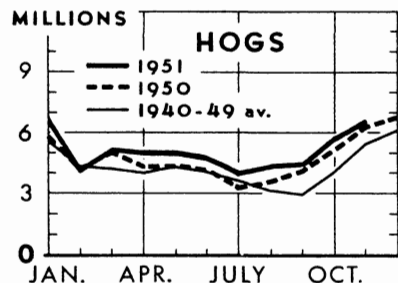
Hog production has turned down after an up-trend of several years. The 1951 fall pig crop was only 2 percent larger than the 1950 fall crop, and the increase was probably confined to the first half of the season. Farmers' intentions on December 1 indicated a 1952 spring pig crop 9 percent smaller than the crop a year earlier. Because of this probable reduction in pigs saved, prospects are for hog slaughter beginning in early fall to drop consider-

ably below the large slaughter of this past fall. The 1952 total hog slaughter will be moderately less than 1951 slaughter, and a greater decrease may occur in 1953.

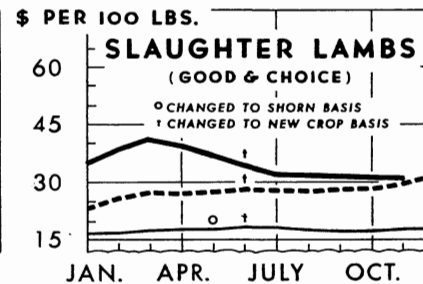
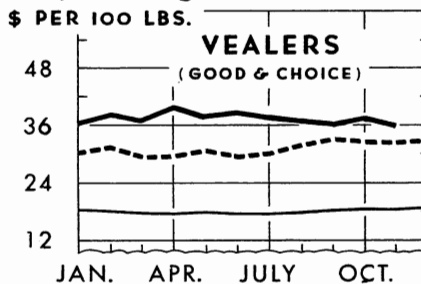
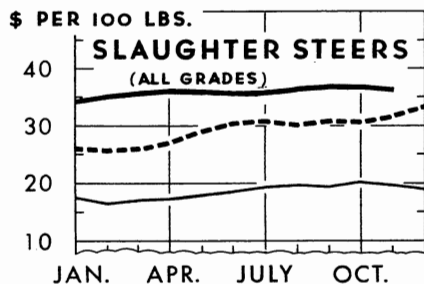
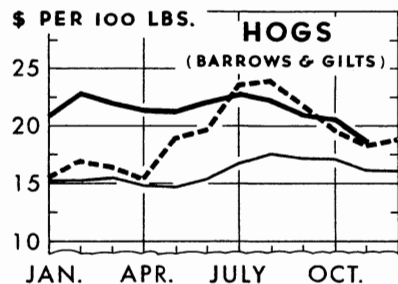
Output of beef is expected to increase at least as much in 1952 as output of pork decreases, and output of all meat for the year may be somewhat larger than in 1951.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

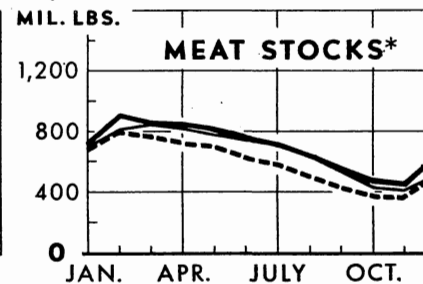
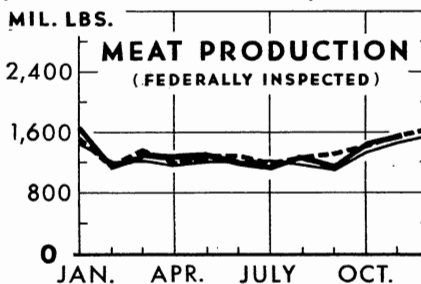
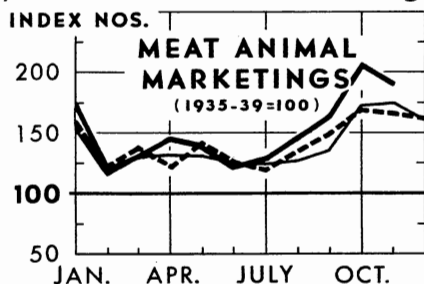
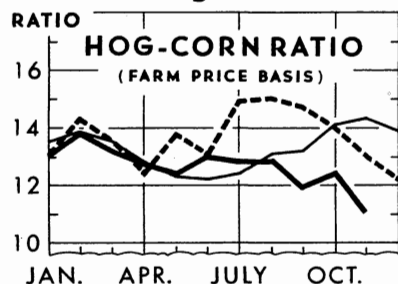
Federally Inspected Slaughter



Market Prices, Chicago



Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States



* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

SUMMARY

Meat production is expected to continue as large or a little larger than a year earlier in the next 2 or 3 months although total output will decline seasonally as hog slaughter is reduced from its December peak. By next spring, meat production may be considerably above the small output of last spring.

Commercial meat production during October-December was probably slightly larger than a year earlier after running 2 percent less in the previous two quarters. Pork has continued to be the only meat in larger supply than in the previous year. However, the output of beef has improved relatively and in the October-December quarter was close to that of a year earlier. In months ahead pork will contribute less and less of the gain in meat supplies over last year and beef, veal and lamb will make up a larger share. By late 1952, pork production will be considerably smaller than at the same time in 1951, and beef production may be considerably larger.

The shift from pork to beef will reflect both the sharp expansion in cattle numbers in 1950 and 1951 and the present downtrend in size of pig crops. The 1951 fall pig crop, from which marketings will begin in late winter and early spring, was only 2 percent larger than the 1950 fall crop. And farmers' intentions are for a 9 percent smaller spring pig crop this year than last. The reduction will affect hog slaughter and pork production beginning in the fall of 1952.

Prospects are that consumption of all meat per person in 1952 will be somewhat above the 140 pounds estimated for 1951.

Prices of hogs are expected to rise seasonally until late February or sometime in March. Their total decline during the fall was a little less than normal for the season, and prices have about equalled last year. Prices of cattle declined moderately late in 1951. Prospective supplies of cattle do not point to a material weakness in cattle prices. Price strength is more likely for cows than for other classes, while a further seasonal decline may occur in prices of top grades of steers.

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. This issue is for two months, November and December. .
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. Most issues in the future will be bi-monthly. .
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REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Hog Production Turning Down;
Fall Pig Crop Up Only 2 Percent
Spring Intentions Down 9 Percent

Hog production is turning down after increasing for 5 successive years. The 1951 fall pig crop was only 2 percent larger than the 1950 fall crop. And farmers' intentions on December 1 were for 8 percent fewer sows to farrow in the spring of 1952 than of 1951. If the size of litter is average, adjusted for trend, the 1952 spring pig crop would be 9 percent less than the crop a year earlier (table 1).

The 1951 fall pig crop of 40.2 million head compares with the 39.4 million saved in the fall of 1950. The increase, though small, was the fifth in succession, and the crop was the third largest fall crop on record.

The average of 6.60 pigs saved per litter was the second largest on record, second only to the 6.65 saved in the fall of 1950.

The monthly distribution of farrowings shows a higher percentage of the total in the first 3 months for this fall than last (table 2). In September, October, and November the number of sows farrowing was less than a year before. The progressive reduction in farrowings throughout the season reflected the dimming prospects for a big corn crop.

In all regions except the South Central States more pigs were saved this fall than in the fall of 1950. In both the East and West North Central regions the increase was the same as the United States average of 2 percent.

The 1951 total pig crop, spring and fall combined, was 102 million head. It was less than the record 1943 crop and almost equal to the second-ranking 1942 crop.

The 56.5 million pigs in prospect for next spring would be the smallest crop since 1948 but larger than any previous crop except 1942 and 1943.

Farmers' intentions on sows farrowing indicate a reduction of 4 percent in the East North Central States and of 11 percent in the West North Central States. All other regions combined show a probable reduction of 6 percent, although increases are planned in the North Atlantic and South Atlantic States.

Smaller Supply, Higher Price of Corn
Main Factor in Reduced Hog Production

The 1951 crop of 2,941 million bushels of corn was 116 million smaller than the 1950 crop, and of poorer quality. With the carry-over of corn also less than last year, the total supply is down 233 million bushels or 6 percent. Meanwhile, production of almost all kinds of livestock has increased in the past year, so that competition for the corn supply is greater. As a consequence, the price of corn has been about 25 cents per bushel higher this fall than last.

Table 1.- Sows farrowed, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States, by regions, average 1937-41, by years 1945 to date

Year	Spring Pig Crop						
	North Atlantic	North Central		South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Sows farrowed							
1937-41 av.	140	2,016	3,417	580	1,069	312	7,534
1945	158	2,129	4,111	620	1,024	260	8,302
1946	148	2,169	3,861	630	1,017	252	8,077
1947	159	2,311	4,230	639	979	230	8,548
1948	153	2,111	3,718	608	987	256	7,833
1949	165	2,394	4,319	633	1,053	256	8,820
1950	145	2,554	4,568	631	1,048	228	9,174
1951 1/	153	2,625	4,842	683	1,029	249	9,581
1952 2/	162	2,508	4,291	702	903	228	8,794
Pigs saved							
1937-41 av.	886	12,961	21,472	3,377	6,157	1,948	46,801
1945	1,027	14,176	25,756	3,635	6,003	1,619	52,216
1946	998	14,559	25,226	3,732	6,073	1,603	52,191
1947	1,029	14,265	25,812	3,790	5,857	1,446	52,199
1948	1,010	14,052	24,062	3,714	6,030	1,600	50,468
1949	1,107	15,909	27,835	3,909	6,570	1,639	56,969
1950	920	16,177	28,905	3,971	6,534	1,428	57,935
1951 1/	1,032	17,238	31,381	4,273	6,446	1,587	61,957
1952 2/							56,500
Pigs saved per litter							
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.32	6.45	6.30	5.82	5.76	6.24	6.22
1945	6.48	6.66	6.26	5.87	5.86	6.22	6.29
1946	6.76	6.71	6.53	5.92	5.97	6.35	6.46
1947	6.48	6.17	6.10	5.93	5.98	6.27	6.11
1948	6.58	6.65	6.47	6.11	6.11	6.26	6.44
1949	6.73	6.65	6.44	6.17	6.24	6.39	6.46
1950	6.36	6.33	6.33	6.29	6.23	6.26	6.31
1951 1/	6.74	6.57	6.48	6.26	6.26	6.38	6.47
Fall Pig Crop							
Sows farrowed							
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1937-41 av.	127	1,471	1,480	507	963	254	4,802
1945	142	1,705	1,848	558	976	200	5,429
1946	121	1,515	1,447	585	877	159	4,704
1947	121	1,557	1,530	583	901	174	4,866
1948	126	1,609	1,690	551	904	190	5,070
1949	123	1,800	1,941	565	951	188	5,568
1950	119	1,970	2,183	561	924	166	5,923
1951 1/	126	2,015	2,269	611	879	189	6,089
Pigs saved							
1937-41 av.	844	9,756	9,400	3,051	5,769	1,608	30,428
1945	937	11,224	11,761	3,401	6,007	1,281	34,611
1946	818	10,194	9,578	3,578	5,348	987	30,503
1947	831	10,199	9,732	3,584	5,627	1,117	31,090
1948	865	10,917	11,184	3,452	5,717	1,223	33,358
1949	831	11,925	12,694	3,531	6,059	1,235	36,275
1950	815	13,289	14,674	3,552	5,998	1,076	39,404
1951 1/	872	13,508	14,899	3,975	5,704	1,224	40,182
Pigs saved per litter							
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.63	6.63	6.34	6.02	5.99	6.31	6.33
1945	6.57	6.58	6.36	6.10	6.15	6.41	6.38
1946	6.72	6.73	6.62	6.12	6.10	6.23	6.49
1947	6.82	6.55	6.36	6.14	6.25	6.45	6.39
1948	6.88	6.78	6.62	6.27	6.32	6.43	6.58
1949	6.77	6.62	6.54	6.25	6.37	6.55	6.52
1950	6.83	6.74	6.72	6.33	6.49	6.50	6.65
1951 1/	6.92	6.70	6.57	6.51	6.49	6.47	6.60

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of December 1, 1951. Average (1940-49) number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, spring and fall season, United States, average 1937-41 and by years 1945 to date

	Number, spring season						
	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	290	409	791	1,999	2,605	1,440	7,534
1945	311	378	700	2,024	3,004	1,885	8,302
1946	293	354	701	2,128	2,952	1,649	8,077
1947	293	381	900	2,452	3,035	1,487	8,548
1948	254	350	746	2,122	2,838	1,523	7,833
1949	283	441	958	2,567	3,026	1,545	8,820
1950	249	416	1,089	2,803	3,084	1,533	9,174
1951	288	493	1,237	2,748	3,098	1,717	9,581
1952 2/							8,794
	Percentage, spring season						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	3.9	5.4	10.5	26.5	34.6	19.1	100.0
1945	3.7	4.6	8.4	24.4	36.2	22.7	100.0
1946	3.6	4.4	8.7	26.3	36.6	20.4	100.0
1947	3.4	4.5	10.5	28.7	35.5	17.4	100.0
1948	3.2	4.5	9.5	27.1	36.2	19.5	100.0
1949	3.2	5.0	10.9	29.1	34.3	17.5	100.0
1950	2.7	4.5	11.9	30.6	33.6	16.7	100.0
1951	3.0	5.2	12.9	28.7	32.3	17.9	100.0
	Number, fall season						
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	546	510	879	1,483	939	445	4,802
1945	778	598	1,024	1,662	974	393	5,429
1946	667	522	871	1,449	820	375	4,704
1947	640	552	1,000	1,501	833	340	4,866
1948	727	570	985	1,525	871	392	5,070
1949	731	618	1,172	1,760	901	386	5,568
1950	710	610	1,285	1,891	1,004	423	5,923
1951	824	680	1,364	1,845	996	380	6,089
	Percentage, fall season						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	11.4	10.6	18.3	30.9	19.5	9.3	100.0
1945	14.3	11.0	18.9	30.6	18.0	7.2	100.0
1946	14.2	11.1	18.5	30.8	17.4	8.0	100.0
1947	13.2	11.3	20.6	30.8	17.1	7.0	100.0
1948	14.3	11.3	19.4	30.1	17.2	7.7	100.0
1949	13.1	11.1	21.1	31.6	16.2	6.9	100.0
1950	12.0	10.3	21.7	31.9	17.0	7.1	100.0
1951	13.5	11.2	22.4	30.3	16.4	6.2	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.

2/ Spring farrowings indicated from breeding intentions report.

Revised December 1, 1951.

On the other hand, the price of hogs during the last several months has been about the same as a year earlier, and the hog-corn price ratio has been lower than last year. In the 3 months October-December the United States ratio averaged 11.3. A year before it was 13.1, and the 40-year average for those months is 12.3.

1952 Pork Production
to be a Little Smaller than 1951;
Reduction in Last Half of Year

From September through November, commercial hog slaughter was approximately 10 percent larger than a year previously. The increase was somewhat less than 10 percent in Federally inspected plants and somewhat more in other commercial plants, as a higher percentage of hog slaughter than a year earlier, as well as of cattle slaughter, has been in the non-inspected plants. Since the 1951 spring pig crop was up only 7 percent, the substantial early fall increase in slaughter reflected early farrowing dates and feeding out faster for market. Slaughter in December, the peak month of the year, was only a little larger than last December.

The large quantities of soft corn in the Western Corn Belt combined with a rather small price discount for heavy hogs may have caused some producers to delay marketings until after the first of 1952. Data on farrowings by months indicate that more pigs were born last May-July than a year before. Hence, slaughter of hogs in early months of 1952 may be a little greater than a year earlier. The increase will probably be less than in the season to date.

Prospects are that by next summer slaughter of hogs and production of pork will drop below the same periods of 1951. Barrow and gilt slaughter at that season may be up slightly because of the 2 percent larger fall pig crop, but the number of sows slaughtered will be down from last year because of the fewer farrowing during the spring.

Beginning about late summer or early fall, production of pork will be considerably below the corresponding 1951 level because of the smaller 1952 spring pig crop.

The reduction in pork supply late in 1952 compared with 1951 will probably more than offset the small gain during the earlier months. The year's pork production will probably total a little smaller than 1951 production. Despite an increase in imports that may amount to $\frac{1}{2}$ pound or more per person, pork consumption may be down to 70 pounds or less per person from the 73 now estimated for 1951.

Production of Beef to Increase

The prospective trend in slaughter of cattle and production of beef for 1952 is about opposite to that for pork. Slaughter of grain fed cattle has been fairly close to last year. Since as many or more cattle are on feed this winter than last the number slaughtered in the next few months will probably average at least as large as a year before. Cattle slaughter may be up considerably next summer from the very small slaughter last summer and will probably continue higher the rest of the year.

The larger cattle slaughter in prospect for 1952 will result from the increase in numbers of cattle on farms, which are now a record. However, the shorter supply and higher price of corn may tend to restrict the number of cattle going on feed in months ahead. Thus, a smaller percentage of the total slaughter in 1952 may be of the top grades of grain fed cattle than in 1951. Average weights for all cattle slaughtered are likely to be somewhat lighter than in 1951.

Moreover, it now appears that cattle numbers have not risen quite so much as had been reported in official estimates. Data from the Census of 1960 indicate that reported cattle numbers for that year were overstated by 2 to 2½ percent. This downward revision, which will be incorporated in the report of numbers to be made in February, lowers somewhat the prospective size of the increase in cattle slaughter.

Cattle slaughter may rise enough in 1952 to provide 2 to 4 pounds more beef per person than the approximately 58 pounds consumed in 1951.

Production of lamb and mutton is also expected to increase in 1952. Slaughter of lambs, like that of cattle, was reduced in 1951 as numbers on farms were expanded. Most of the increase in slaughter likely in 1952 will come in the latter part of the year. In early months, sheep and lamb slaughter will about equal that of a year before, as lamb feeding this winter is apparently up only moderately from last winter.

1952 Total Meat Production to be
Moderately larger than 1951

Indications are that total meat production in 1952 may be enough larger than in 1951 to allow consumption per person to rise somewhat from the 140 pounds estimated for 1951. However, the chances are less promising than formerly for the 1948-50 level of 144 pounds per person to be regained.

Consumption of meat per person in the first quarter may be little if any larger than the 35.6 pounds consumed in the same quarter of 1951. Consumption in the second and third quarters may be as much as 1 to 2 pounds per person larger than in the same 1951 quarters. (table 3)

Beef and veal will probably provide an increasingly larger part of the total meat supply in 1952 compared with 1951. This shift in composition of the meat supply will probably continue beyond 1952. It will result in a more normal ratio among meats. In 1951, pork was a larger percentage of the total supply than it had been in 7 years.

Hog Prices to Rise Seasonally;
Marketing Margins Wider

Prices of hogs moved to a low in December after a seasonal reduction that began earlier than usual but was a little less than the average percentage decline. Prices are expected to rise seasonally until late February or early March. After that a moderate seasonal decline may occur. The total seasonal advance this winter may be a little less than last winter, when it was greater than usual. However, prices this spring may be fully as high or a little higher than last spring.

Table 3. - Meat consumption per person by years, 1940-48 and by quarter years, 1949 to date

Period	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork ^{1/}	Total
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1940	54.7	7.4	6.6	73.0	141.7
1941	60.5	7.6	6.8	67.9	142.8
1942	60.8	8.2	7.2	63.3	139.5
1943	52.9	8.2	6.4	78.5	146.0
1944	55.3	12.4	6.6	79.2	153.5
1945	59.0	11.8	7.3	66.3	144.4
1946	61.3	9.9	6.6	75.6	153.4
1947	69.1	10.7	5.4	69.8	155.0
1948	62.6	9.4	5.0	68.4	145.4
1949					
Jan.-Mar.	16.0	2.0	1.2	17.9	37.1
Apr.-June	16.0	2.0	0.8	16.1	34.9
July-Sept.	16.4	2.4	1.0	14.8	34.6
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	2.3	1.1	18.8	37.3
Year	63.5	8.7	4.1	67.6	143.9
1950					
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	1.9	1.0	18.5	37.0
Apr.-June	15.7	1.9	1.0	16.6	35.2
July-Sept.	15.9	2.1	1.0	15.0	34.0
Oct.-Dec.	15.8	2.0	1.0	18.7	37.5
Year	63.0	7.9	4.0	68.8	143.7
1951					
Jan.-Mar.	14.6	1.6	0.9	18.5	35.6
Apr.-June	13.3	1.5	0.8	17.3	32.9
July-Sept.	14.3	1.8	0.8	16.4	33.3
Oct.-Dec. ^{2/}	---	---	---	---	38
Year ^{2/}	---	---	---	---	140

^{1/} Excluding lard. ^{2/} Preliminary.

A factor in hog prices in recent months has been a somewhat wider marketing margin for pork than a year before. This margin is the difference, in dollars and cents, between the price of live hogs and the average price of the derived pork products. Although, data on the margin are not entirely satisfactory, three standard series all show increased margins this past fall (table 4).

There is evidence that margins were narrowed somewhat at midsummer when hog marketings were seasonally small, and then increased more than they usually do as marketings expanded.

Just after the war, marketing margins on pork were unusually low compared with retail prices. They have increased slowly since that time and the increase in 1951 continued the upward trend. The ratio of margins to retail prices of pork is still less than the long-time average. It is characteristic of margins that they change slowly and that the changes have no close relationship to variations in retail prices of pork or prices of live hogs.

Table 4. - Selected series on marketing margins for pork, July to December, 1950 and 1951

Month	Live to wholesale margin		Live-to-retail margin			
	Market News data, Chicago, per 100 lbs. live hog	1/	Market News data, New York, per 100 lbs. live hog	2/	BAE data, United States, per lb. pork at retail	3/
	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
July	0.79	0.09	7.83	7.66	16.5	14.6
August	1.66	0.27	8.88	8.20	16.2	15.8
September	1.80	1.22	10.35	9.89	18.2	17.0
October	1.29	0.48	10.42	9.15	17.3	16.1
November	1.44	1.26	10.54	9.97	---	16.5
December	4/1.53	2.03	---	---	---	16.9

1/ Price of 72.74 lbs. pork products, fresh basis, at wholesale compared with price per 100 lbs. of 200-220 lb. barrows and gilts. No credit given for value of by-products.

2/ Price of 60.37 lbs. of pork products at retail compared with price per 100 lbs. of 220-240 lb. barrows and gilts. No credit given for value of byproducts.

3/ Price of 1 lb. of pork products at retail compared with price for 1.41 lbs. live hog (basis U. S. average price for all hogs, including sows).

4/ Average for first 2 weeks.

Cattle Prices Likely to Change Little

Prices of the better grades of slaughter steers and heifers have dropped \$1.00 to \$2.50 per 100 pounds to just below their level of last summer. Special compliance relief by the Office of Price Stabilization for low-volume slaughterers and other factors had resulted in some rise during early fall. Prices of cows also declined moderately late in 1951.

The supplies of cattle in prospect do not point to any general weakness in cattle prices. However, it seems fairly certain that prices will not repeat the marked mid-winter rise that took place a year ago. Price strength is more likely for cows and lower-grade steers and heifers than for the better grades of fed cattle. Some further seasonal decline in prices of the top grades may occur.

Prices of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City have declined \$2.00 to \$3.00 per 100 pounds since early fall, and prices of stocker and feeder steer calves have fallen about \$3.00. A seasonally larger supply partly explains the lower prices but less optimism on long-term feeding prospects may also have been involved.

Lamb Prices Lower;
May Rise Seasonally

Prices of lambs in December were lowest of the year, about \$1.00 per hundred pounds below the level they held in late summer and early fall. Prices are now about the same as at this time last winter.

Some advance in prices of lambs may occur, due largely to the greater value of the heavier pelt. But prices are not expected to reach their peaks of last March.

Beef Set-Aside for Military

On November 30 the Office of Price Stabilization issued two regulations, Distribution Regulation 3 and Supplement thereto, requiring Federally inspected slaughterers to make deliveries of beef pursuant to military orders in certain circumstances. This is the first mandatory set-aside under present controls. For each accounting period beginning after October 27, slaughterers are required to fill military orders for the 3 top grades of beef to the extent that their slaughter of all beef the preceding month exceeded by 25,000 pounds or more a specified percentage -- first set at 100 percent -- of their kill in the same month of 1950. This beef set aside for military purchases must be offered at no premium above ceiling prices. It may be in the form of carcasses, hindquarters, or boneless beef.

Dollars-and-Cents Ceilings Set for Veal

Early in December, dollars-and-cents ceilings were announced for wholesale sales of veal. The regulation, Ceiling Price Regulation 101, follows the same general pattern as previous regulations on other meats in that it sets up ceiling prices for carcasses and cuts by geographic zone together with specified allowances for certain services.

With the issuance of this regulation on veal all major meat items have specific dollars-and-cents ceilings for sales at wholesale. Specific retail ceilings have been established for beef. Retail prices for most pork, veal, lamb, and mutton are limited by restrictions on mark-ups from wholesale ceilings. The Office of Price Stabilization has indicated that it would soon issue dollars-and-cents ceilings for sale of these meats at retail. Ceiling prices for canned and processed meats continue to be based on the prices in effect December 19, 1950 to January 25, 1951 plus certain increases in costs.

New Grades Proposed for Barrows and Gilts

New grade standards for slaughter barrows and gilts and for their carcasses have been proposed by the Production and Marketing Administration of USDA. The new grades are intended to provide a more accurate way of determining the market value for hogs. The proposed grades are Choice No. 1, Choice No. 2, Choice No. 3, Medium and Cull. These grades are based on the quality of pork and on the relative proportion of lean cuts to fat. All choice grade hogs and carcasses would yield high quality pork cuts. Choice No. 1 would have a relatively high ratio of lean to fat. Choice No. 2 and 3 would carry more fat. Medium and cull would be subject to discount for poor quality because of underfinish.

The grade standards were set up after several years of study on carcass values and on correlations between characteristics of live hogs and the quality of carcass produced. Tentative grades for slaughter hogs were developed by USDA and have been in use for some years. It is felt that neither these grades nor the practice of selling primarily by weight groups adequately recognizes the extent to which finish determines the yield or the quality of pork produced. Moreover, the proportion of lean meat in a carcass has been of increasing importance as consumers have shown an increasing preference for lean over fat pork.

Table 5.- Number of pigs saved and hogs slaughtered, 1930-51 and forecast for 1952

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Number pigs saved			Number hogs slaughtered 2/
	Spring 1/	Fall	Year	
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	
1930	49,332	24,803	74,135	67,272
1931	53,984	29,192	83,176	69,233
1932	51,031	31,494	82,525	71,425
1933	53,460	30,740	84,200	5/ 79,681
1934	39,698	17,068	56,766	68,760
1935	32,884	23,260	56,144	46,011
1936	41,422	24,303	65,725	58,730
1937	38,525	23,994	62,519	53,715
1938	43,289	28,566	71,855	58,927
1939	53,238	33,714	86,952	66,561
1940	49,584	30,282	79,866	77,610
1941	49,368	35,584	84,952	71,397
1942	61,093	43,810	104,903	78,547
1943	74,223	47,584	121,807	95,226
1944	55,754	30,905	86,659	98,068
1945	52,216	34,611	86,827	71,891
1946	52,191	30,503	82,694	76,244
1947	52,199	31,090	83,289	74,710
1948	50,468	33,358	83,826	71,936
1949	56,969	36,275	93,244	75,293
1950	57,935	39,404	97,339	79,488
1951 3/	61,957	40,182	102,139	86,000
1952 4/	56,500	---	---	84,000

1/ Begins December of preceding year.

2/ Total slaughter, including farm.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Spring pig crop based on intentions. Slaughter forecast.

5/ Includes slaughter for Government account in drought programs.

CATTLE SLAUGHTER IN RELATION TO NUMBERS ON FARMS

By Harold F. Breimyer

In 1947, when 81 million cattle were reported on farms January 1, 36 million head were slaughtered. In 1951 the number on farms was up to 84 million but slaughter was only 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ million 1/. Over a long period of time the number of cattle slaughtered is closely related to the level of numbers on farms, but in the short run it corresponds more to the changes taking place in numbers during each year.

Variations in cattle slaughter and numbers on farms and the relationships between them are examined briefly here. In an accounting sense and for a particular year the relationship is simple: cattle slaughtered are a deduction from numbers on farms, and cattle withheld from slaughter are an addition to numbers. In this sense the net deduction or addition to numbers on farms may be said to result from the size of slaughter. In a longer-run and an economic point of view, however, the relationship is more complex, involving both longtime and cyclical trends in slaughter and in numbers. Furthermore, insofar as producers make deliberate decisions to expand or reduce their herds, the number of cattle slaughtered stands as a result of those decisions.

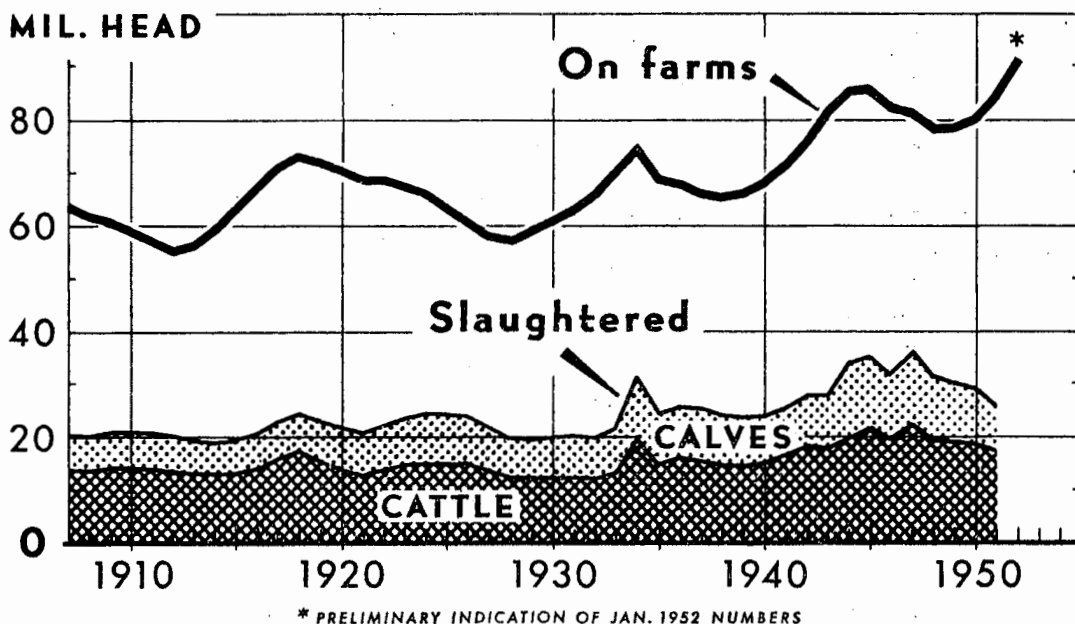
This discussion follows two other special analyses presented in this Situation. In the September 1951 issue, cattle numbers on farms by regions were noted and charted, and in October annual numbers and slaughter were projected to 1955 on the basis of past experience.

Big changes in the number of cattle and calves slaughtered are not new. In 1921 and again at the end of the 1920's, reductions in slaughter were particularly large. Over spans of 2 to 4 years beginning with 1916, 1922, 1933 and 1944, increases in slaughter were substantial.

As may be observed from the upper chart on page 14, cattle slaughter and numbers on farms have trended gradually upward in the last 50 years. Both trends are marked by a good deal of short-run cyclical variation. Cycles in slaughter are not so smooth and well defined as those in numbers. Nevertheless, there is much correspondence between the two. Annual slaughter is usually small when numbers on farms are beginning their upswing and for 2 or 3 years thereafter. Typically, slaughter reaches a peak in the year when numbers first turn down from their high point, and hits a second peak at the time of fastest liquidation of numbers. This was true in 1918 and 1924-25; 1934 and 1936-37; and 1945 and 1947.

1/ In the Annual Summary of Acreage, Yield and Production of Principal Crops of December 17, 1951, it was indicated that cattle numbers for 1950 were overstated by 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ percent. The estimate of 84 million for 1951 will probably therefore be revised downward when new data on January numbers are released in February.

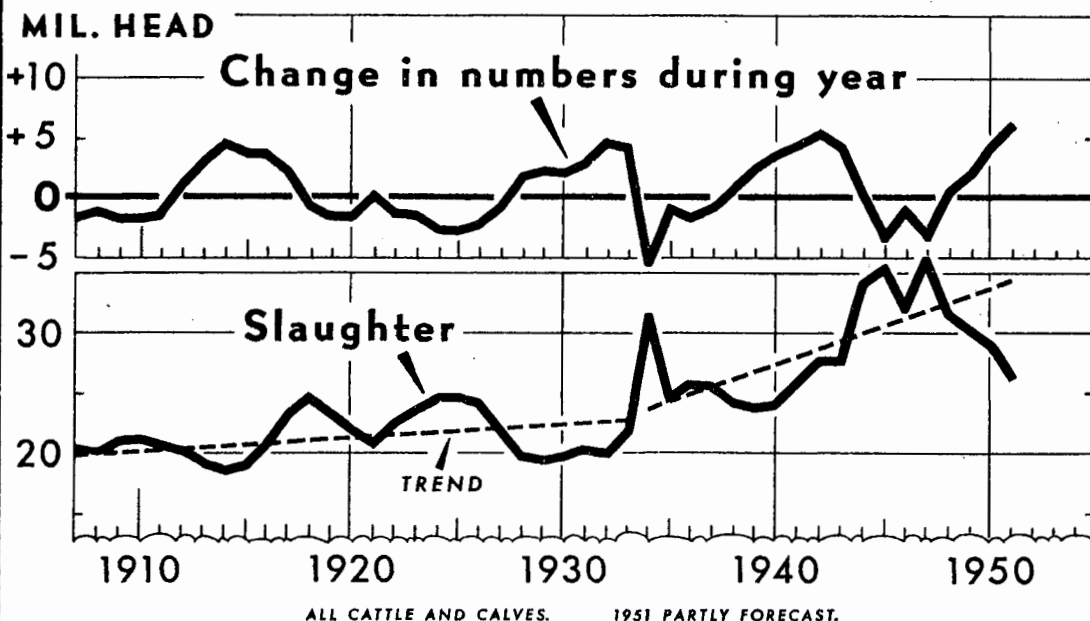
CATTLE AND CALVES ON FARMS JAN. 1, AND ANNUAL SLAUGHTER



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 48388-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

CHANGE IN CATTLE NUMBERS, AND ANNUAL SLAUGHTER



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 48390-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The cyclical relationships between slaughter and numbers are seen best when the numbers are converted into the changes taking place from one January to the next. That the net additions or reductions in number vary a great deal from year to year is shown by the top line of the lower chart on page 14. Variations are much more irregular than would be suggested by the smoothly flowing cyclical trends in numbers on farms. During the continuous rise in numbers from 1937 to 1945, for instance, the actual addition in individual years was only 900 thousand head in 1937, was 4 million in 1942, and was a mere 200 thousand in 1944.

In general, a period of substantial increases in numbers on farms is associated with a period of slaughter less than its trend line; and successive reductions in numbers coincide with a large slaughter. However, near the end of a prolonged period of increase in numbers slaughter rises to or above its trend value because of the effect of the larger breeding herds and calf crops. And near the end of a prolonged decrease in numbers slaughter falls back to its trend line.

The trends in slaughter shown in the lower chart are fitted by free hand. They illustrate the faster growth in slaughter since the mid-30's than before.

Another way of indicating the factors associated with annual cattle and calf slaughter is by multiple correlation analysis. The number of cattle and calves slaughtered annually (x_1) was correlated with (1) the number on farms January 1 of each year (x_2), and (2) the changes in number on farms during each year, (x_3), both for 1907-50 and for the shorter 1924-50 period.

In the 1907-50 analysis a multiple R^2 of .83 was obtained, showing that of the original variation in cattle and calf slaughter from its 44-year average, 83 percent can be explained by the level of cattle numbers at the beginning of each year and by changes in numbers during each year.

Numbers on farms alone explained 76 percent of the variation in slaughter. Of the variation remaining unexplained by numbers alone, 29 percent was accounted for by changes in numbers each year. The level of January numbers predominates in such a 44-year analysis because of the strong uptrend in both numbers and slaughter.

In the analysis for the shorter 1924-50 period the following regression equation was obtained:

$$X_1 = -.44 + .42X_2 - .95X_3 + .98X_4$$

X_4 is the annual calf crop as a percent of cattle and calf numbers on farms January 1.

In this 27-year analysis changes in numbers on farms became much more important than they were in the longer analysis--they explained 71 percent of the variation in slaughter not accounted for by the level of numbers alone.

The shorter the period analyzed, the greater is the relative importance of changes in cattle numbers in explaining cattle slaughter.

For a strictly short-run analysis, a correlation can be applied to the data for the lower chart on page 14. When deviations of slaughter from its trend line are correlated with yearly changes in cattle numbers on farms, a regression is obtained with a b coefficient of $-.76$. The r^2 is $.63$. This shows that 63 percent of the short-run variation in cattle and calf slaughter from its trend is associated with changes in numbers on farms. That is, the relationship seen visually in the chart is 63 percent of a perfect relationship.

These statistical measures give emphasis to the importance of changes in cattle numbers on farms in explaining short-run fluctuations in slaughter. They show how slaughter in 1951 could be at a 10 year low, one-fourth less than 4 years earlier, even though numbers on farms at the beginning of the year were close to record high.

In explaining long-run trends in slaughter, where trends in numbers on farms are most significant, the size of the calf crop can be included as a separate independent variable. The general tendency is for the calf crop to move up and down along with cattle numbers, and it is partly for this reason that trends in numbers bear a close relation to trends in slaughter. But over several decades the calf crop has increased in relation to numbers of all cattle and calves on farms as breeding cows have made up a rising proportion of all cattle on farms and the percentage calf crop (the number saved per 100 cows) has improved. The result is that slaughter has trended upward faster than numbers on farms. The average yearly increase in slaughter during the 1907-50 period was 1.1 percent. The yearly increase in numbers on farms was 2/3 of one percent.

In the 1924-50 analysis, 81 percent of the variation in slaughter not associated with cattle numbers on farms and changes in numbers was accounted for by the size of the calf crop, as expressed as a ratio to numbers.

Table 6.- Number of cattle and calves on farms Jan. 1 and annual slaughter 1907-1951

(Data for charts on page 14)

	: Number cattle and calves on farms January 1:		: Change in numbers during year:		: Number slaughtered during year 1/		
	: 1,000 head :		: 1,000 head :		: Cattle :	: Calves :	: Cattle and Calves :
	: 1,000 head :		: 1,000 head :		: 1,000 head :	: 1,000 head :	: 1,000 head :
1907	63,754	-1,765	13,886	6,395	20,281		
1908	61,989	-1,215	13,569	6,546	20,115		
1909	60,774	-1,781	14,135	6,864	20,999		
1910	58,993	-1,768	14,140	6,917	21,057		
1911	57,225	-1,550	13,817	6,855	20,672		
1912	55,675	917	13,386	6,828	20,214		
1913	56,592	2,869	12,939	6,305	19,244		
1914	59,461	4,388	12,676	5,927	18,603		
1915	63,849	3,589	12,901	6,054	18,955		
1916	67,438	3,541	13,793	6,628	20,421		
1917	70,979	2,061	15,741	7,372	23,113		
1918	73,040	-946	17,093	7,485	24,578		
1919	72,094	-1,094	15,027	8,201	23,228		
1920	70,400	-1,686	13,470	8,481	21,951		
1921	68,714	81	12,428	8,394	20,822		
1922	68,795	-1,249	13,706	8,832	22,538		
1923	67,546	-1,550	14,283	9,327	23,610		
1924	65,996	-2,623	14,750	9,804	24,554		
1925	63,373	-2,797	14,704	9,936	24,640		
1926	60,576	-2,398	14,766	9,369	24,135		
1927	58,178	-856	13,413	8,478	21,891		
1928	57,322	1,555	12,028	7,651	19,679		
1929	58,877	2,126	12,038	7,406	19,444		
1930	61,003	2,027	12,056	7,761	19,817		
1931	63,030	2,771	12,096	8,057	20,153		
1932	65,801	4,479	11,980	7,970	19,950		
1933	70,280	4,089	13,107	8,564	21,671		
1934	74,369	-5,523	5/ 19,509	5/ 11,759	5/ 31,268		
1935	68,846	-299	5/ 14,805	5/ 9,632	5/ 24,437		
1936	67,847	-1,749	5/ 15,901	5/ 10,008	5/ 25,909		
1937	66,098	-849	15,254	10,304	25,558		
1938	65,249	780	14,822	9,306	24,128		
1939	66,029	2,280	14,621	9,191	23,812		
1940	68,309	3,446	14,958	9,089	24,047		
1941	71,755	4,270	16,419	9,252	25,671		
1942	76,025	5,179	18,033	9,718	27,751		
1943	81,204	4,130	17,845	9,940	27,785		
1944	85,334	239	19,844	14,242	34,086		
1945	85,573	-3,139	21,691	13,645	35,336		
1946	82,434	-1,227	19,824	12,168	31,992		
1947	81,207	-3,081	22,393	13,695	36,088		
1948	78,126	172	19,186	12,328	31,514		
1949	78,298	1,754	18,789	11,345	30,134		
1950	4/ 80,052	4,127	18,642	10,435	29,077		
1951	2/ 84,179	6,000	17,300	8,900	26,200		
1952	3/ 90,000	---	---	---	---		

1/ Total, including farm. 2/ Preliminary estimate.

3/ Forecast. 4/ Estimates of numbers for 1950 to date and perhaps earlier will be revised downward in the February numbers report.

5/ Includes slaughter for Government account in drought programs.

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 79 Issued November 8, 1951 Effective November 13, 1951	Sets up a formula for adjusting retail ceiling prices for veal, lamb and mutton in line with dollars-and-cents wholesale ceilings.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Amendment 4 Issued October 25, 1951 Effective October 30, 1951	Provides an additional method for sellers in U. S. territories and possessions for computing a single ceiling price for different cost inventories.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 9 Issued October 15, 1951 Effective October 20, 1951	Allows wholesalers who sell to institutions to use alternative business years in qualifying for special markups.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 31 Issued October 10, 1951 Effective October 15, 1951	Makes the parity pass-through provisions of CPR 22 applicable to agricultural commodities produced in the territories and possessions. See GCPR, Amdt. 20.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 33 Issued November 9, 1951 Effective November 9, 1951	Sets the mandatory effective date for CPR 22 at December 19, 1951.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 35 Issued December 5, 1951 Effective December 10, 1951	Eliminates the 15 day waiting period provided for in CPR 22 before putting new ceilings into effect.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 36 Issued December 13, 1951 Effective December 18, 1951	Changes the regulations under which manufacturers (of canned meat and dry sausage) may obtain adjustments in ceiling prices.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 2 Revision 1 Issued November 21, 1951 Effective November 26, 1951	Provides an alternative method for making ceiling price adjustments by using GCPR prices as a basis instead of base period prices required under CPR 22, SR 17.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 2 Revision 1, Amendment 1 Issued December 5, 1951 Effective December 5, 1951	Provides a simplified method for making the adjustments allowed in CPR 22, SR 2, Rev. 1.

Continued

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 22: Supplementary Regulation 15: Amendment 2 Issued November 1, 1951 Effective November 1, 1951	Changes the mandatory filing date for manufacturers of sterile canned meat and dry sausage from November 1 to December 15.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22: Supplementary Regulation 17: Issued November 9, 1951 Effective November 9, 1951	Provides for optional adjustments under Section 402 (d)(4) of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951. (Capehart Amendment).
Ceiling Price Regulation 22: Supplementary Regulation 18: Issued November 28, 1951 Effective November 28, 1951	Provides a simplified method for certain small manufacturers to use in making Capehart adjustments in their ceilings.
Ceiling Price Regulation 23: Amendment 4 Issued September 28, 1951 Effective September 28, 1951	Extends the exemption from compliance set forth in Amdt. 2 until November 4, and tightens compliance requirements of multiple plant operations.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24: Amendment 7 Issued December 6, 1951 Effective December 11, 1951	Makes miscellaneous changes including whole sale ceiling price adjustments among various beef cuts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25: Revised Issued September 27, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Revises ceiling prices of beef items sold at retail.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25: Revised Amendment 1 Issued October 23, 1951 Effective October 23, 1951	Changes 10 Idaho counties from beef retail pricing zone 2 to zone 1.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25: Revised Amendment 2 Issued November 6, 1951 Effective November 6, 1951	Revised ceiling prices for boneless beef brisket.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26: Revised Amendment 1 Issued September 27, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Permits the keeping of ungraded beef which has been certified for home consumption by resident farm operators or livestock raisers. See DR 2, Amdt. 4.
Ceiling Price Regulation 51: Amendment 1 Issued September 28, 1951 Effective September 26, 1951	Fixes the ceiling price for sales of live cattle and establishes dollars-and-cents beef ceiling prices at wholesale and retail in Puerto Rico.

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 69 Revision 1 Issued November 16, 1951 Effective November 21, 1951	: Establishes dollars-and-cents wholesale : and retail ceiling prices for carcasses : and cuts of "island" pork in Hawaii.
Ceiling Price Regulation 73 Amendment 1 Issued October 18, 1951 Effective October 23, 1951	: Amends and corrects CPR 73. Adjusts the : ceiling price for the sale of goats in : St. Croix, Virgin Islands.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 1 Issued November 19, 1951 Effective November 24, 1951	: Makes miscellaneous Amendments in CPR 74, : mainly on dried pork and specialty pork : products.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Issued November 8, 1951 Effective November 13, 1951	: Sets up dollars-and-cents wholesale ceil- : ing prices for lamb, yearling and mutton : carcasses and cuts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Issued December 4, 1951 Effective December 12, 1951	: Sets up dollars-and-cents wholesale ceil- : ing prices for veal, including calf, : carcasses and cuts.
General Overriding Regulation 16 Amendment 1 Issued October 4, 1951 Effective October 4, 1951	: Exempted Kansas City packers from live : cattle ceiling compliance on September 5 : and 6 due to rail embargo.
General Overriding Regulation 20 Issued November 28, 1951 Effective November 29, 1951	: Provides a simplified method for certain : small manufacturers to use in making ad- : justments under Section 402 (d) (4) of : the Defense Production Act Amendments : of 1951.
General Overriding Regulation 21 Issued December 5, 1951 Effective December 10, 1951	: Provides a method to use in making Capehart : adjustments in ceiling prices. Does not : apply if the ceiling price is governed by a : regulation which has an adjustment procedure : already in effect.
Regulation issued by the National Production Authority, Department of Commerce	
M-18, as amended October 8 Issued October 8, 1951 Effective October 8, 1951	: Makes certain changes in the restrictions : on the use of hog bristles in the manufac- : ture of brushes.
M-29, Revocation Issued October 1, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	: Revokes M-29 (deerskins) and makes deerskins : subject to the provisions of M-62.
M-62, as amended October 1 Issued October 1, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	: Amends M-62 to include sheepskin parts and : deerskins.

Selected features, The Livestock and Meat Situation 1951 with issue dates

Cattle and calves:

Cash Receipts- Feb., Apr.
 Deaths- Feb.
 Farm slaughter- Feb., May
 Federal grade standards- Jan., Feb.
 Feeding- Jan., Feb., Aug.
 Grades- Jan., Feb.
 Imports- Jan., Mar., Aug.
 Liveweight of slaughter- Feb., June
 Marketing- Feb.
 Market receipts by regions- June
 Number Jan. 1- Feb., Sept., Oct.
 Outlook- Oct.
 Price ceilings- May, June, Aug.
 Price margins in feeding cattle- Jan., Aug., Oct.
 Ratio of beef steer prices to lamb and hogs- Oct.
 Regional variation in number of cattle and calves on farms- Sept.
 Slaughter by classes,- Apr., May, June, Aug., Oct.
 Slaughter by regions- June
 Slaughter in relation to numbers on farms- Dec.
 Slaughter quotas- Feb., Apr., June, Aug.
 World numbers- Apr.

Feed:

Balance sheet- Feb., July, Oct.
 Outlook- Oct.
 Planting intentions- Mar.

Hog and hog products:

Cash receipts- Feb., Apr.
 Deaths- Feb.
 Grades- Dec.
 Hog-corn ratio- Feb., Mar., July, Sept.
 Hog numbers Jan. 1 and June 1.- Feb., June
 Hog prices by weights- Feb.
 Lard consumption- Feb., May
 Lard Production- Feb., May
 Liveweight of production- Feb., Apr.
 Marketing margin; Jan., Dec.
 Marketings- Feb., Apr.
 Market receipts by regions- June
 Outlook- Oct.

Hog and Hog production: Continued

Pig crop - Feb., June, Dec.
 Prices - Feb., May, Aug.
 Price ceilings - Aug.
 Slaughter - Feb., Mar., May, June, July, Dec.
 Slaughter by regions - June
 Slaughter quotas - Aug.
 Sows farrowing - Feb., Mar., June, Aug., Sept., Dec.
 World numbers - April

Horses and mules:

Numbers Jan. 1 - Feb.
 Outlook - Oct.

Livestock, general:

Liveweight of slaughter - Feb., June
 Number Jan. 1 - Feb.
 Prices meat animals - Feb., May, Aug.
 Rank of states in livestock numbers and production - May.
 Slaughter - Feb., May, June
 Slaughter quotas - Feb., April, June, Aug.

Meats:

Canned meat, supply and distribution - April
 Cold storage - Feb.
 Consumption - Feb., May, June, Sept., Oct., Dec.
 Edible offals, supply and distribution - May
 Federal meat grading - May
 Foreign trade - Feb., Mar., Sept.
 Marketing margins - Jan.
 Outlook - Oct.
 Price - Feb.
 Retail value - Jan., Feb.
 World meat production - Sept.

Goats and Bucks**Sheep and Lambs:**

Cash receipts - Feb, April
 Deaths - Feb.
 Feeding - Jan, Feb.
 Grades - Feb., April
 Liveweight of production - Feb., April
 Marketings - Feb., April
 Market receipts by regions - June
 Numbers Jan. 1 - Feb.
 Outlook - Oct.
 Price live animals - Feb., May, Aug.
 Price margins from feeding - April
 Production and prices of mohair - Mar.
 Production and prices of wool - Mar., Aug.
 Slaughter - Feb., Mar., May, June
 Slaughter by regions - June
 Slaughter of breeding stock - July
 Slaughter quotas - Aug.
 World numbers - April

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov.		1951			
		1950	1951	1950	1951	1951	
		1950	1951	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per:						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	32.49	38.66	33.10	38.77	38.78	38.17
Choice	do.	29.28	36.09	31.24	36.68	36.31	36.09
Good	do.	26.67	33.36	28.15	33.73	33.25	33.03
Commercial	do.	23.15	30.80	23.90	30.82	30.29	30.18
Utility	do.	28.80	28.07	31.41	27.68	27.06	26.90
All grades	do.	27.53	35.83	30.06	36.99	36.75	36.29
Omaha, all grades	do.	27.53	34.35	30.06	35.59	34.78	34.45
Sioux City, all grades	do.	27.74	34.41	30.47	35.39	34.88	34.12
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	21.43	27.99	22.67	28.97	28.36	27.22
Utility	do.	18.86	24.65	20.46	24.63	24.31	22.96
Canner and Cutter	do.	16.31	21.05	17.82	20.98	20.40	18.63
Vealers, Choice and Prime	do.	30.93	37.30	32.30	36.25	37.16	35.90
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	26.32	33.08	28.46	31.90	31.97	31.63
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	22.92	29.05	24.60	29.50	29.00	28.10
Veal calves	do.	25.84	32.75	27.60	32.80	32.70	31.60
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	18.89	20.89	18.23	20.02	20.16	18.43
180-200 pounds	do.	19.47	21.58	18.47	20.69	20.57	18.72
200-220 pounds	do.	19.62	21.71	18.42	20.94	20.67	18.72
220-240 pounds	do.	19.55	21.63	18.33	20.99	20.68	18.70
240-270 pounds	do.	19.27	21.41	18.23	20.97	20.68	18.64
270-300 pounds	do.	18.85	20.96	18.16	20.52	20.46	18.43
All weights	do.	19.17	21.36	18.21	20.84	20.59	18.69
Seven markets 3/	do.	19.13	21.05	18.05	20.59	20.32	18.38
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.71	18.63	17.08	17.86	18.58	16.61
Price received by farmers	do.	18.25	20.48	17.80	19.70	20.30	18.00
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	13.1	12.0	11.5	11.6	11.5	10.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.8	12.6	13.0	11.9	12.4	11.1
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	12.37	17.84	15.47	14.71	15.15	13.67
Price received by farmers	do.	11.19	16.19	13.30	14.90	15.20	14.10
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.92	34.63	29.41	31.44	31.29	30.80
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	27.06	32.18	29.22	32.64	32.00	31.31
Price received by farmers	do.	24.59	31.41	26.80	29.80	29.80	29.00
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		338	414	357	411	410	387
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago							
Dollars per:							
Steer beef carcasses, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	46.52	56.43	50.32	56.90	57.50	57.25
Lamb carcasses, Choice, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.33	57.21	52.64	58.00	58.00	60.35
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.46	23.16	19.68	22.74	21.96	20.16
Average per 100 pounds	do.	28.09	31.80	27.02	31.22	30.15	27.68
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	23.75	26.20	23.18	26.86	26.45	23.63
Average per 100 pounds	do.	33.30	36.74	32.50	37.66	37.09	32.99
Retail, United States average							
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	73.0	---	76.4	84.9	88.6	---
Lamb	do.	69.2	---	71.2	78.1	78.6	---
Pork, including lard	do.	40.6	---	41.2	45.6	45.5	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		235.2	---	240.5	280.2	283.5	---
Retail (1935-39=100)		241.0	---	249.6	277.6	281.0	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
 2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
 3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
 4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
 5/ Average of prices for January, February, March, August, September, October, and November.
 6/ Average of prices for January, August, September, October, November.
 7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov.		1950	1951		
		1950	1951	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		146	149	184	162	203	190
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	:1,000						
Cattle and calves	:head	2,891	3,156	485	515	893	460
Sheep and lambs	:do.	2,663	3,390	238	703	822	305
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	:do.	11,993	10,881	1,151	956	1,140	1,122
Calves	:do.	5,404	4,641	505	374	500	457
Sheep and lambs	:do.	10,821	9,246	969	827	1,084	922
Hogs	:do.	50,187	55,142	6,144	4,398	5,651	6,531
Percentage sows	:Percent	16	---	9	14	8	7
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	:Pounds	986	991	998	970	973	990
Calves	:do.	206	210	214	247	246	231
Sheep and lambs	:do.	96	98	95	95	96	100
Hogs	:do.	244	246	237	236	231	236
Average production							
Beef, per head	:do.	540	544	534	528	513	528
Veal, per head	:do.	115	118	117	138	136	126
Lamb and mutton, per head	:do.	46	46	45	45	44	47
Pork, per head 2/	:do.	136	136	134	132	127	131
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	:do.	56	55	56	56	55	55
Lard, per head	:do.	35	36	33	34	33	34
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	:do.	14	15	14	14	14	14
Total production	:Million:						
Beef	:pounds	6,448	5,885	611	502	581	588
Veal	:do.	618	544	58	51	68	57
Lamb and mutton	:do.	492	427	43	37	47	43
Pork 2/	:do.	6,864	7,501	821	579	719	851
Lard	:do.	1,767	1,978	201	150	185	221
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	:1,000						
Cattle	:head	16,420		1,556	1,375	1,602	
Calves	:do.	9,228		844	666	836	
Sheep and lambs	:do.	11,862		1,058	938	1,203	
Hogs	:do.	60,542		7,249	5,368	6,824	
Total production	:Million:						
Beef	:pounds	8,475		794	698	790	
Veal	:do.	1,055		98	87	106	
Lamb and mutton	:do.	536		47	41	52	
Pork 2/	:do.	8,189		966	701	870	
Lard	:do.	2,024		227	174	212	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	:do.	---	---	95	94	95	125
Veal	:do.	---	---	9	8	7	11
Lamb and mutton	:do.	---	---	8	6	7	10
Pork	:do.	---	---	220	402	326	276
Total meat and meat products 4/	:do.	---	---	405	605	522	499

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.

2/ Excludes lard.

3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.

4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
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