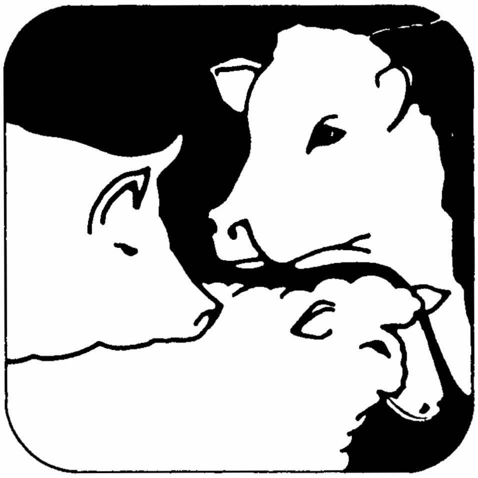
LMS 172

MARCH 1970

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT Situation



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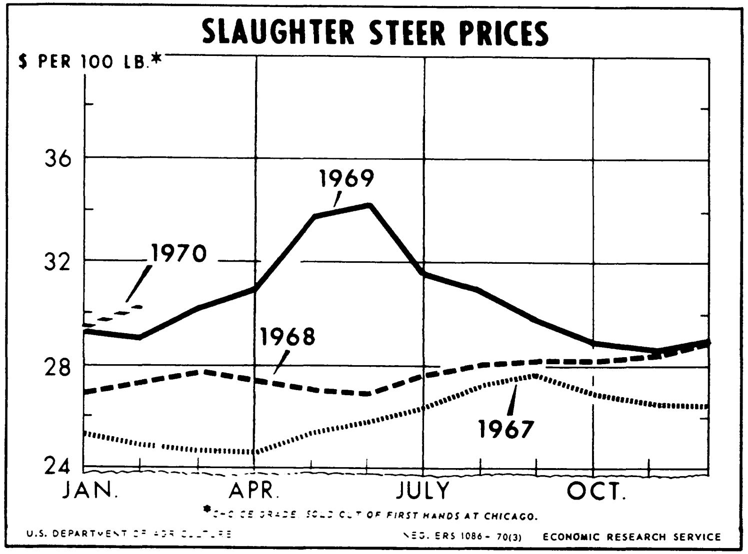
SLAUGHTER STEER PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
36
32
28
24
1969
1970
1968
1967
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS AT CHICAGO.
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NEG. ERS 1086- 70(3)
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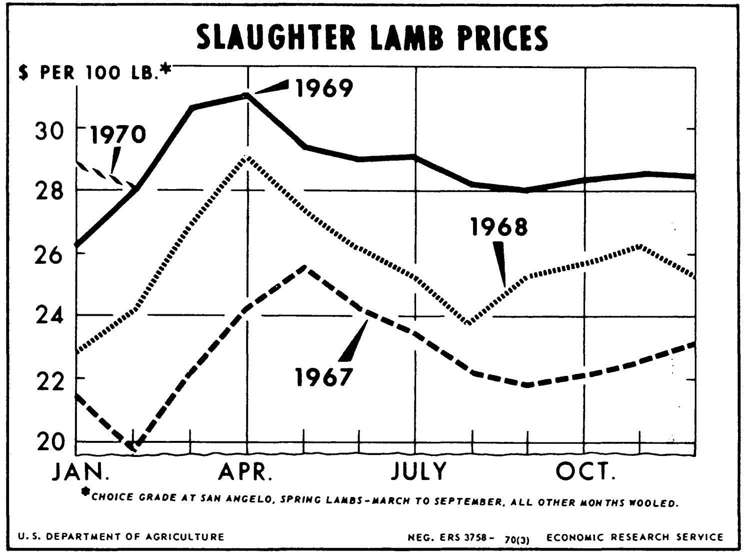
SLAUGHTER LAMB PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
30
28
26
24
22
20
1969
1970
1968
1967
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE AT SAN ANGELO, SPRING LAMBS-MARCH TO SEPTEMBER, ALL OTHER MONTHS WOOLED.
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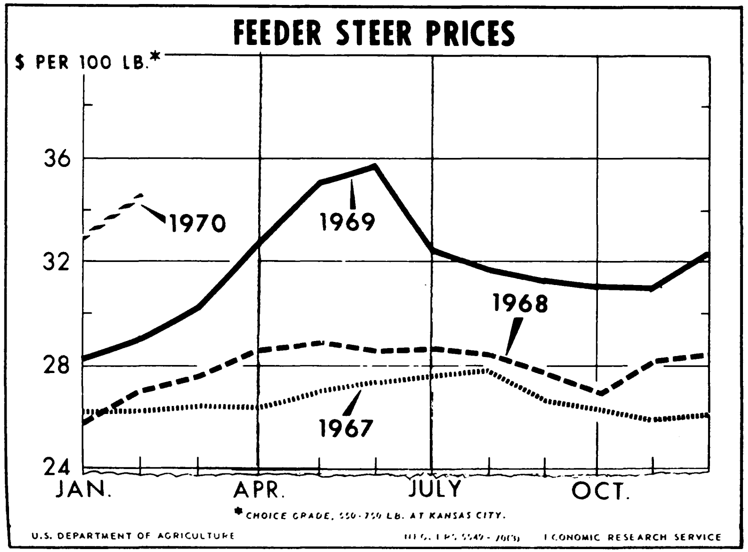
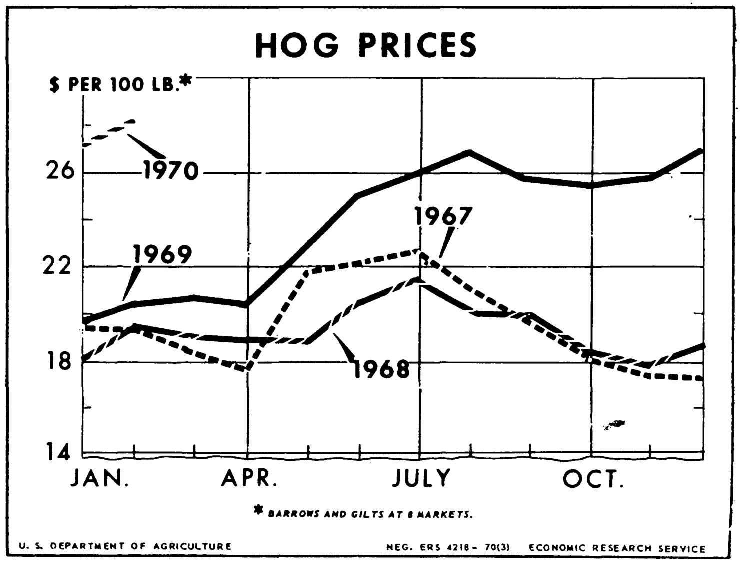

FEEDER STEER PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
36
32
28
24
1970
1969
1968
1967
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE, 550-750 LB. AT KANSAS CITY.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


HOG PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.*
26
22
18
14
1970
1967
1969
1968
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* BARROWS AND GILTS AT 8 MARKETS.
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NEG. ERS 4218- 70(3)
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

CONTENTS

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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
March 11, 1970

Principal contributors:

Donald Seaborg

John T. Larsen

George R. Rockwell

Economic and Statistical
Analysis Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

SUMMARY

A larger feeder cattle supply and the potential for larger calf crops make continued sizable expansion in cattle feeding possible during the next several years. About a million more feeder cattle were on hand at the start of this year even though fed cattle marketings last year rose 7 percent. The calf crop this year also will increase again.

Cattlemen added 2 1/2 million cattle and calves to the herd during 1969, and as 1970 began the total inventory stood at 112.3 million. The 1969 increase was much sharper than increases in other recent years because total cattle and calf slaughter in 1969 was off about 1 percent while the calf crop rose 2 percent. Feeder cattle imports were about the same as in 1968.

The beef cattle inventory has increased steadily since 1958. However, the dairy herd has declined since 1954. At the beginning of 1970, there were 91 million beef cattle on farms, nearly 8 million more than 5 years before. The dairy herd totaled 21 million, down more than 4 million in the same period.

In 1969, beef cow numbers rose 1.2 million while calf numbers increased about 1 million. Gains in beef steers and heifers exceeded 0.5 million.

Fed cattle marketings in the first half of this year are expected to continue considerably larger than in January-June 1969. Six percent more cattle were on feed on January 1 in 22 major feeding States. Cattle feeders have said they would market 7 percent more cattle this winter than last. There were 6 percent more cattle on feed in weight groups that typically reach slaughter finish in the spring.

Fed cattle prices have strengthened this winter. In November, Choice steers at Chicago averaged about $28.70 per 100 pounds, but in February were about $30.25. Prices are expected to strengthen further this spring despite large marketings. However, prices are not expected to top last year's peak; Choice steers last June averaged more than $34.

Consumer demand for beef will likely hold strong, first half pork supplies will be substantially reduced, and slaughter of cattle not feedlot fattened will continue reduced. However, slaughter cattle weights may remain heavy and be a price dampening factor this spring.

Continued expansion is in prospect for fed cattle marketings in the second half. Prices likely will run about the same as or a little above last July-December's average of $29.80 for Choice steers at Chicago.

Hog producers have said they plan to have 3 percent more sows farrow during December 1969-May 1970. This would follow a 7-percent reduction in the June-November 1969 pig crop.

Hog slaughter through midyear probably will continue considerably under a year ago, approach year-earlier levels in the summer, and then run moderately larger in the fall. Hog weights this winter have been a little heavier and likely will remain so through midyear. Thus, pork output in the first half is not declining as sharply as the cutback in slaughter.

Hog prices this winter have been $7 to $8 per 100 pounds higher than last winter. In February, barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged $28.25 per 100 pounds, but prices were weakening in early March. Renewed price strength is probable this spring and summer. The summer high may be moderately higher than the peak price last August when barrows and gilts averaged $27. If production increases as expected next fall, prices will decline and probably average below prices in October-December 1969, but well above most other recent years.

Sheep and lamb numbers declined again in 1969, continuing the downtrend. On January 1, there were 20.4 million head on farms, about 4 percent less than a year earlier. The decline was rather even throughout the country.

Sheep and lamb slaughter was off sharply in January, but weekly slaughter in February was down only moderately. This reflects the larger number of sheep and lambs on feed at the beginning of the year in weight groups that normally reach slaughter finish in late winter. Prospective spring slaughter supplies are down substantially again, however, because of 20 percent fewer new crop lambs on January 1. Slaughter later in 1970 will reflect the smaller lamb crop now in prospect.

Slaughter lamb prices likely will run near or above year-earlier levels throughout 1970. Lamb prices at San Angelo averaged about $28.50 per 100 pounds in January and February. Prices are currently about the same as a year ago. Prices are expected to rise seasonally this spring as new crop lambs reach market, but then to decline and follow the usual pattern of decline in late summer and early fall.

SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

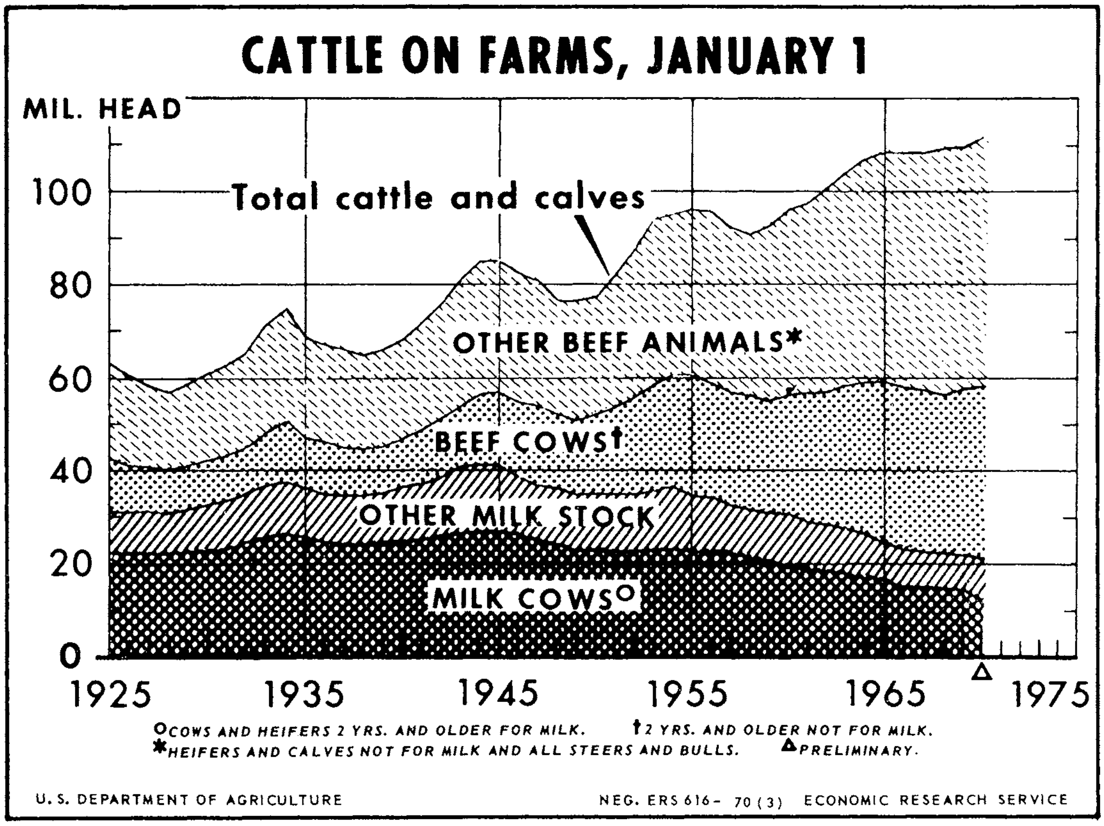
CATTLE

Biggest Number Rise In Recent Years

The inventory of cattle and calves on farms rose to more than 112 million head at the beginning of this year, 2-1/2 million more than a year earlier. The beef herd at 91 million head was nearly 3 million head larger while the dairy herd dropped 421,000 head to just over 21 million. The cattle inventory has been rising during the past 3 years after dropping slightly for 2 years following the 1965 high of 109 million.

Changes in the cattle inventory were relatively small during 1965-68 because total cattle and calf slaughter was about in balance with the calf crop and feeder cattle imports. Last year, however, a 1-percent increase in cattle slaughter was more than offset by an 11-percent decline in calf slaughter. Thus, the combined total of cattle and calf slaughter was off 1 percent. At the same time, the calf crop increased 2 percent or nearly 1 million head. This combination of events in 1969--less slaughter and a larger calf crop--brought the largest increase in cattle numbers since 1963.

The beef herd has been expanding every year since 1958, when there were 59 million beef cattle on farms. The beef herd totaled 91 million as 1970 began. Beef cows and calves have accounted for most of the increase.



Since 1965, beef cow numbers have risen more than 3 million head. In 1965 and 1966 beef cow numbers increased 195,000 and 252,000 head per year. The rate of increase jumped to 720,000 and 822,000 head in 1967 and 1968. Last year 1.2 million more beef cows were added.

The number of beef calves on farms also has increased steadily in recent years but in 1969 the increase quickened. Beef steer numbers have been relatively steady in recent years, although there was a small increase last year. Heifer numbers have been increasing rather slowly.

The feeder cattle supply is up again this year, following a small reduction last year. The number of beef calves rose about 1 million during 1969. The combined number of beef steers and heifers was up about 600,000. Since there were 6 percent more cattle on feed on January 1, 1970, the available supply of feeder cattle that could be placed on feed in 1970 is about 1 million head more than in 1969.

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

Increases in calf crops in recent years reflect growth in the cow herd and higher

Table 1 --Number of livestock on farms and ranches January 1, United States, 1957 to date 1/

Year	Number on farms January 1: All cattle and calves	All sheep and lambs	Hogs	Chickens	Index numbers, by groups (1957-59=100): Total livestock and poultry	Meat animals	Milk cattle	Poultry
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head				
1957	92,860	30,654	51,897	391,363	100	100	105	102
1958	91,176	31,217	51,517	374,281	98	98	100	97
1959	93,322	32,606	58,045	387,002	102	102	95	101
1960	96,236	33,170	59,026	369,484	104	104	93	96
1961	97,700	32,725	55,560	366,082	104	104	92	98
1962	100,369	30,969	56,619	377,392	108	108	90	99
1963	104,488	29,176	57,993	375,575	111	111	87	99
1964	107,903	27,116	56,757	382,262	114	114	83	100
1965	109,000	25,127	50,792	394,118	113	113	80	103
1966	108,862	24,734	47,414	393,019	111	111	75	104
1967	108,645	23,898	53,249	428,746	112	112	72	114
1968	109,152	22,140	2/ 58,777	425,158	113	113	69	112
1969	109,885	21,238	60,632	419,635	114	114	67	110
1970 3/	112,330	20,422	56,743	431,533	115	115	66	112

1/ Data for 50 States beginning in 1961. 2/ Beginning 1968, number on farms December 1, preceding year. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 2 .--Number of cattle and calves on farms and ranches January 1, by classes, United States, 1957 to date 1/

Year	For milk: Cows and heifers, 2 years and over	Heifers 1 to 2 years old	Heifer calves	Total	Beef Cattle and Calves: Cows and heifers, 2 years and over	Heifers 1 to 2 years old	Calves	Steers, 1 year old and over	Bulls 1 year old and over	Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1957	22,325	5,267	5,699	33,291	24,534	5,926	18,405	8,991	1,713	59,569
1958	21,265	5,126	5,571	31,962	24,165	5,903	18,275	9,252	1,619	59,214
1959	20,132	5,050	5,526	30,708	25,112	6,557	19,407	9,931	1,607	62,614
1960	19,527	5,079	5,575	30,181	26,344	7,036	20,425	10,574	1,676	66,055
1961	19,271	5,016	5,446	29,733	27,327	7,115	20,814	10,997	1,714	67,967
1962	18,963	4,887	5,264	29,114	28,691	7,446	22,300	11,103	1,715	71,255
1963	18,379	4,708	4,935	28,022	30,589	8,108	23,747	12,251	1,771	76,466
1964	17,647	4,395	4,692	26,734	32,794	8,612	25,243	12,669	1,851	81,169
1965	16,981	4,149	4,420	25,550	34,238	8,989	26,181	12,134	1,908	83,450
1966	15,987	3,860	4,151	23,998	34,433	8,925	26,879	12,749	1,878	84,864
1967	15,198	3,636	4,089	22,923	34,685	9,121	27,294	12,752	1,870	85,722
1968	14,644	3,579	4,028	22,251	35,405	9,328	27,559	12,712	1,897	86,901
1969	14,152	3,525	3,939	21,616	36,227	9,313	28,034	12,784	1,911	88,269
1970 2/	13,875	3,461	3,859	21,195	37,433	9,683	29,064	12,999	1,956	91,135

1/ Data for 50 States beginning in 1961.
2/ Preliminary.

calving rates. Last year's calf crop was up almost 1 million head, following only slight increases during 1965-68.

Larger beef calf crops more than offset declines in dairy calf crops. With 1.2 million more beef cows on farms at the beginning of this year, the 1970 beef calf crop likely will be up more than 1 million head. Therefore, the supply of feeder cattle will continue to rise.

Fed cattle marketings have risen at an average rate of 7 percent per year since 1955. This trend could continue during the next several years, since the feeder cattle supply apparently will be large enough to permit such increases. Because of a continued increase in the beef cow herd, further growth in the beef calf crop is expected and the trend toward feeding a larger proportion of the annual calf crop before slaughter will continue in the early 1970's.

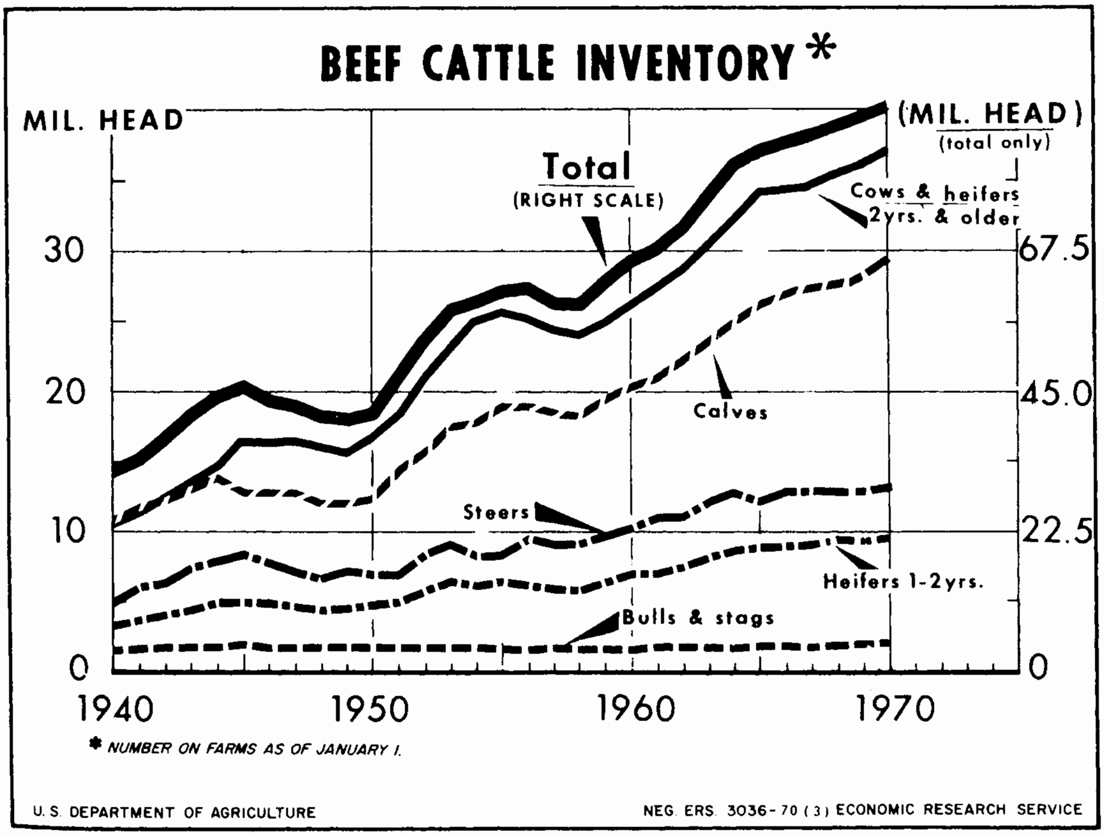
Beef Production Up In First Half

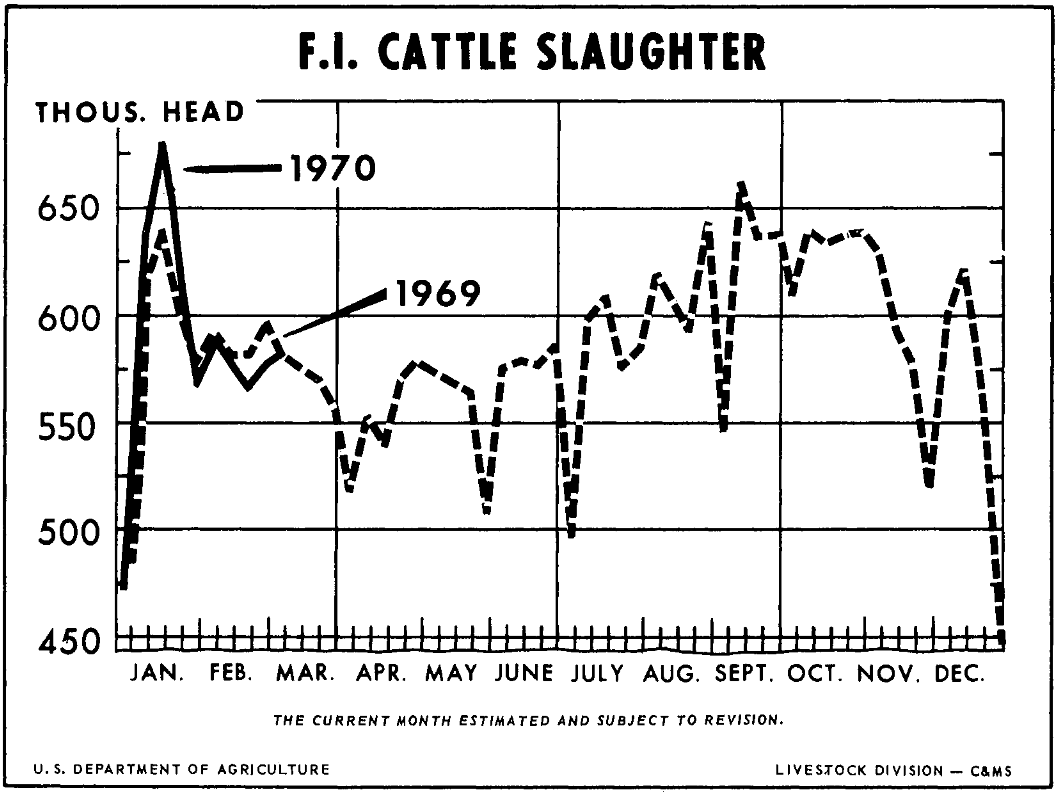
Fed cattle marketings increased 7 percent last year but beef output was up only 1 percent because slaughter of nonfed steers and heifers was sharply lower. Similarly, gains in beef output in the first half of 1970 likely will again be smaller than increases in fed cattle marketings.

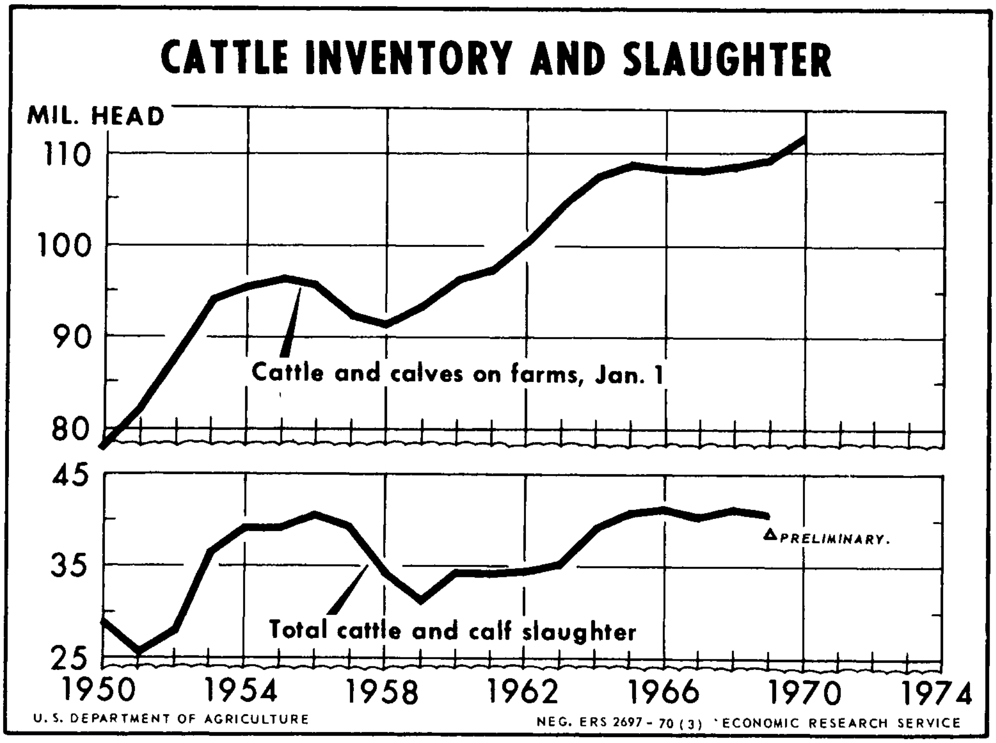
Beef production in the first half of 1970 is expected to run 2 to 4 percent larger than a year earlier. Heavier weights will probably account for part of the increase in beef output in the first half. Slaughter weights of commercially slaughtered cattle in January were up about 4 percent, and weights likely will continue above at least through midyear.

Fed Cattle Marketings Continue Up

There were 6 percent more cattle and calves on feed in 22 major feeding States on January 1, 1970, than a year earlier. At that time, cattle feeders said that they planned to market 7 percent more cattle this winter than




F.I. CATTLE SLAUGHTER
THOUS. HEAD
1970
1969
650
600
550
500
450
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


CATTLE INVENTORY AND SLAUGHTER
MIL. HEAD
110
100
90
80
Cattle and calves on farms, Jan. 1
45
35
25
Total cattle and calf slaughter
△PRELIMINARY.
1950 1954 1958 1962 1966 1970 1974
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 2697 - 70 (3) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

last. There were 6 percent more cattle on feed on January 1, in weight groups that typically reach slaughter finish in the spring. Thus, fed cattle marketings in the first half of 1970 likely will continue substantially higher.

Fed cattle marketings in January were 2 percent larger than a year earlier in the 6 States for which monthly data are available. This is somewhat less than producer intentions for these States reported a month earlier for the January-March quarter.

Western States had the sharpest increase in cattle feeding in 1969. The West probably will continue to have sharpest gains in the first half of this year--Western feeders had 13 percent more cattle on feed on January 1 while Corn Belt feeders only had 2 percent more.

Steer prices at Chicago, 1968-70

Month	Choice steers		
	1968	1969	1970
	Dollars per 100 pounds		
January	26.87	29.23	29.31
February	27.34	29.11	30.26
March	27.75	30.19	
April	27.49	30.98	
May	27.16	33.85	
June	26.89	34.22	
July	27.65	31.49	
August	28.01	30.94	
September	28.20	29.75	
October	28.21	29.02	
November	28.46	28.66	
December	28.88	28.89	
Average	27.74	30.42	

Fed cattle prices strengthened during the winter. Choice steers at Chicago averaged $28.70 per 100 pounds in November, but rose above $31 in recent weeks. This was about $2 higher than prices a year earlier. Last winter Choice steers at Chicago averaged about $29.50. In the spring, however, prices rose rapidly. In June, the average was $34.20.

Prices are expected to continue strong this spring but the rise likely will be less than last year as fed cattle marketings continue large. Also, fed cattle weights have been up 3 to 4 percent so far this year. If this situation continues, it likely will be a price dampening factor. Moreover, broiler supplies are up sharply. But sharp reductions in pork supplies are in prospect through spring and consumer demand for beef will continue strong.

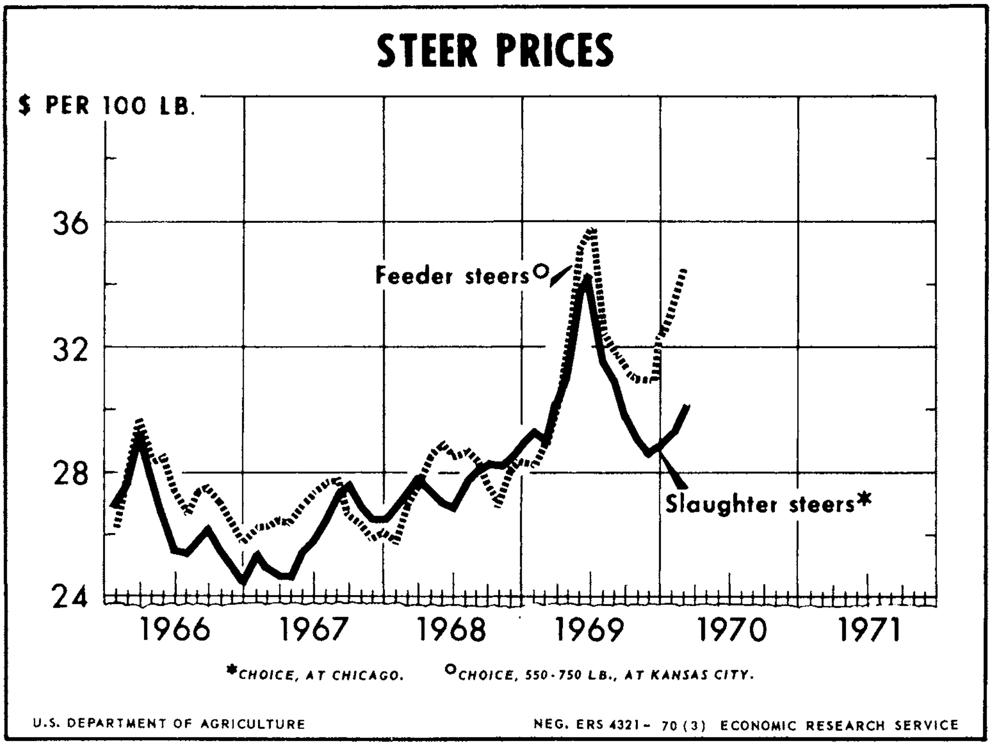
Current fed cattle prices and feeder cattle prices 5 months earlier

Year	Fed Cattle 1/	Feeder Cattle 2/	Margin
	Dollars per 100 pounds		
1969			
January	29.12	28.40	+.72
February	29.26	27.74	+1.52
March	30.38	27.09	+3.29
April	31.11	28.11	+3.00
May	33.68	28.42	+5.26
June	34.07	28.30	+5.77
July	31.54	29.04	+2.50
August	30.60	30.34	+.26
September	29.33	32.64	-3.31
October	28.79	35.18	-6.39
November	28.47	35.74	-7.27
December	28.88	32.46	-3.58
1970			
January	29.60	31.76	-2.16
February	30.69	31.29	-.60
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

1/ Choice steers at Chicago, 900-1,100 pounds.
2/ Choice steers at Kansas City, 550-750 pounds.

Fed Cattle Marketings To Continue Large In Second Half

Fed cattle marketings next summer and fall are expected to continue moderately larger than a year earlier. The feeder cattle supply is up this year and cattle feeders likely will place


STEER PRICES
$ PER 100 LB.
36
32
28
24
Feeder steers°
Slaughter steers*
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
*CHOICE, AT CHICAGO. °CHOICE, 550-750 LB., AT KANSAS CITY.
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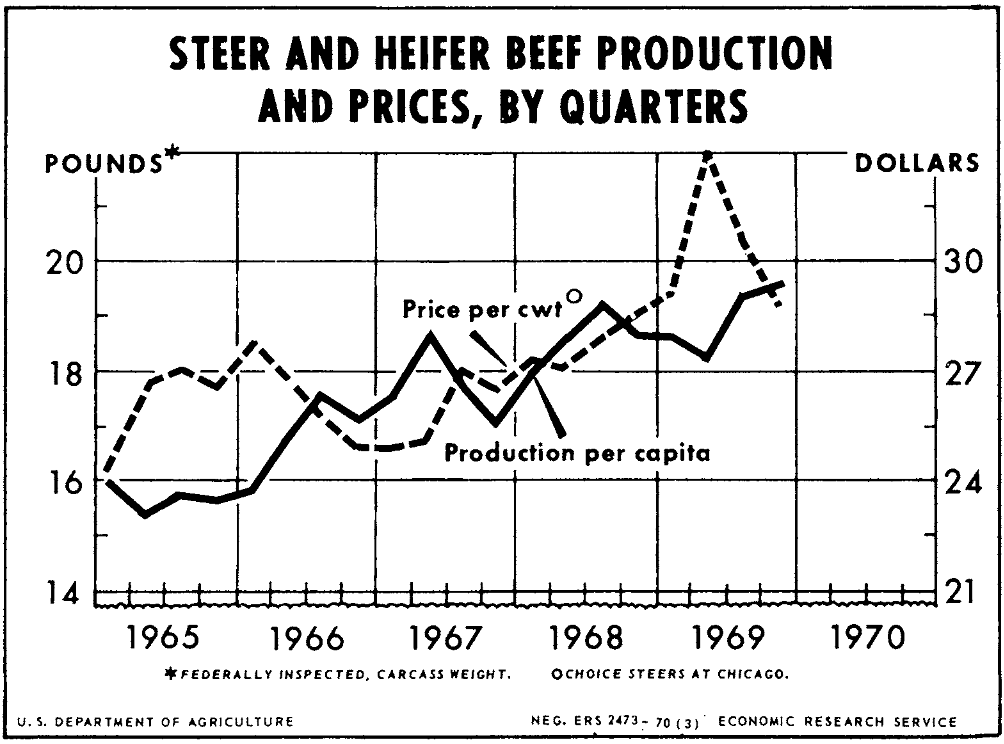

STEER AND HEIFER BEEF PRODUCTION AND PRICES, BY QUARTERS
POUNDS*
DOLLARS
20
18
16
14
30
27
24
21
Price per cwt°
Production per capita
1965
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
*FEDERALLY INSPECTED, CARCASS WEIGHT. °CHOICE STEERS AT CHICAGO.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 2473- 70 (3) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

more cattle on feed in the first half. However, there were 4 percent fewer placements in January in the 6 States for which monthly data are available. Cattle feeders placed 5 percent more cattle on feed in 1969 than a year earlier, with all of the increase in the spring and fall.

Demand for feeder cattle is expected to continue strong in the first half of 1970 because of the sharp increase in the number of large-scale feedlots and the continuing expansion in the size of smaller feedlots in line with prospective strong prices for fed cattle. However, demand for feeder cattle may be tempered somewhat because cattle coming out of feedlots are currently selling for less per 100 pounds than they cost as feeder cattle.

Feeder Cattle Prices Up

Feeder cattle prices held about steady in January but rose in February. With continued strong demand by feedlot operators for replacement cattle, feeder cattle prices are expected to rise seasonally this spring and to average close to the relatively high prices a year earlier. Last year, Choice 550-750 pounds feeder steers at Kansas City rose to $35.75 per 100 pounds in June. Prices in the second half of 1969 declined, but remained well above prices a year earlier.

Feeder cattle prices at Kansas City, 1969-70

Month	Choice feeder steers 550-750 lb.		Choice feeder steer calves	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
	Dollars per 100 pounds			
January	28.30	32.83	31.15	36.82
February	29.04	34.44	32.26	38.55
March	30.34		34.39	
April	32.64		36.74	
May	35.18		38.26	
June	35.74		38.62	
July	32.46		35.79	
August	31.76		35.66	
September	31.29		35.91	
October	31.15		35.77	
November	31.12		35.21	
December	32.38		35.60	
Average	31.78		35.45	

At the beginning of this year, the number of yearlings available for placement on feed in 1970 was about the same as the year before, but calf numbers were up nearly 1 million head. However, winter prices of yearlings and calves both showed similar strength. In February yearlings were up $5.40 from a year earlier while calves were up $6.30.

Cow Slaughter To Change Little This Year

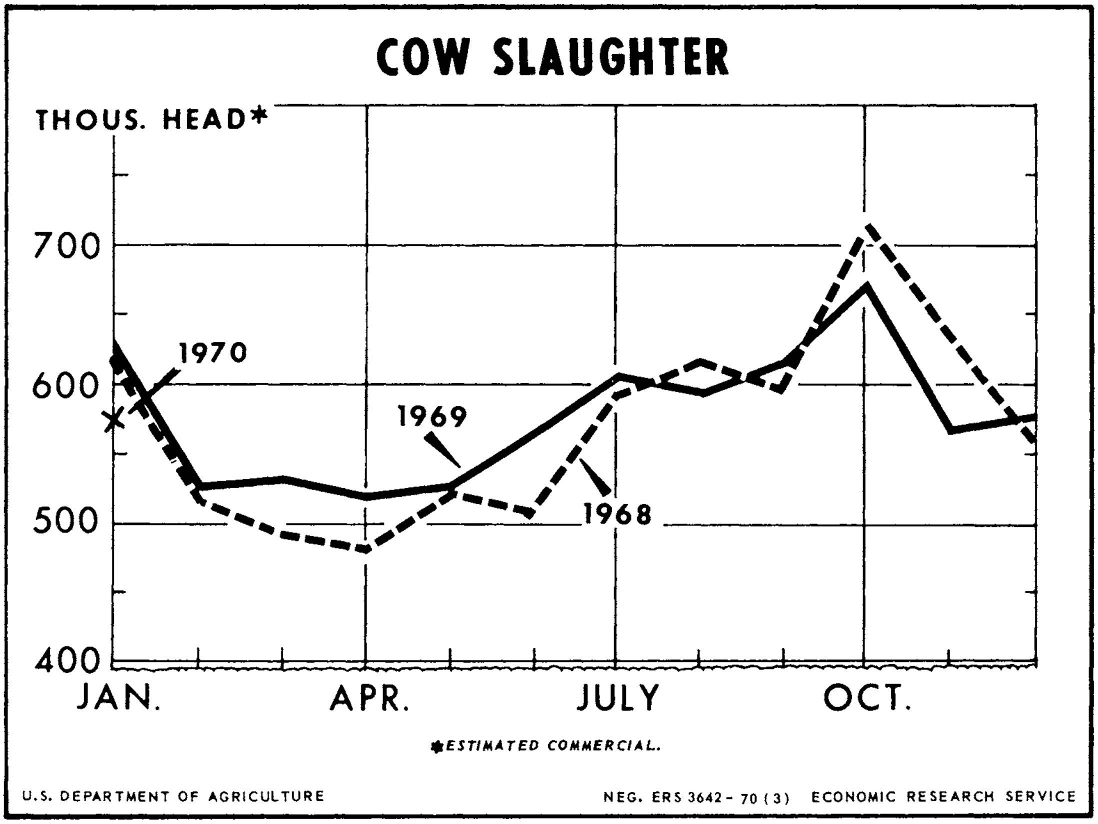
Cow slaughter (estimated commercial) in 1969 was about 1 percent larger than in 1968. Increases in the first half of the year were nearly offset by later declines. Cow slaughter so far this year likely has been down a little. For all of 1970, cow slaughter is expected to run about the same or a little less than in 1969.

Utility cow prices at Chicago, 1968-70

Month	1968	1969	1970
	Dollars per 100 pounds		
January	16.35	18.20	21.36
February	17.98	19.02	22.39
March	19.09	20.43	
April	19.88	20.70	
May	19.58	21.73	
June	19.61	22.15	
July	18.88	21.86	
August	19.04	21.18	
September	18.49	20.82	
October	18.13	20.02	
November	16.98	19.37	
December	17.36	20.34	
Average	18.45	20.48	

The number of cows on farms was up at the beginning of this year--an increase of 1.2 million beef cows more than offset a decline of 277,000 dairy cows. Culling rates of cows are expected to be held rather low this year because of higher milk prices and strong feeder cattle prices.

Cow prices were sharply higher throughout 1969 even though cow slaughter was up slightly and beef imports were 8 percent larger.



In February 1970, Utility cows at Chicago averaged $22.40 per 100 pounds, $3.40 above a year earlier. Beef imports are expected to continue large this year, but increases over 1969 likely will be small. Pork supplies will be sharply smaller in the first half, but are expected to be larger by fall. Thus, cow prices are expected to continue above a year earlier but the margin may narrow later in the year.

Calf Slaughter Down Again In 1970

Calf slaughter in January and February continued well below slaughter rates last winter. Calf slaughter was off 11 percent in 1969. Reduced calf slaughter reflects the continuing decline in the dairy herd and the increasing demand for feeder cattle.

Choice vealers at South St. Paul averaged $47 per 100 pounds in February, $9.50 above a year earlier. Prices of veal calves this spring and summer likely will continue strong. They averaged $40.70 per 100 pounds last April-June and then declined to $38.70 in July-September. For the entire year, prices were $5.15 higher than in 1968.

Strong prices in recent years reflect declining per capita veal supplies and strengthening demand for meat.

HOGS

Pork Production Sharply Lower

Commercial pork production has been below a year earlier since October. In January, it totaled 1,050 million pounds, 10 percent below January 1969. About half of the drop is accounted for by one less slaughter day in January this year, but the rest reflects the reduction in the June-November 1969 pig crop.

The number of hogs slaughtered in commercial plants in January was 11 percent smaller than a year earlier. The reduction in pork production was less because of heavier slaughter weights. Average liveweight of hogs in commercial slaughter was 241 pounds, compared with 238 pounds a year earlier and 244 pounds in December 1969.

Average liveweight of Barrows and Gilts at 8 markets, 1967-70

Month	1967	1968	1969	1970
		Pounds		
January	243	239	233	242
February	236	235	229	236
March	235	235	230	
April	238	238	234	
May	240	240	237	
June	237	238	238	
July	234	231	232	
August	229	227	226	
September	231	228	229	
October	235	234	234	
November	240	237	239	
December	240	235	241	
Year	237	235	234	

Weekly hog slaughter under Federal inspection in February averaged 12 percent below a year earlier and market weights continued to average 1 to 2 percent heavier.

From July 1969, when the smaller 1969 pig crops began to show up in slaughter, through January this year, commercial pork production was down 10 percent from a year earlier.

Reduced Pork Output Into Summer

Because of the 7-percent reduction in the June-November 1969 pig crop, hog slaughter is expected to continue reduced during the first half of 1970. The December 1, 1969, inventory of hogs on farms also is a measure of the reduction in slaughter supplies expected during the first half.

The number of market hogs and pigs weighing over 120 pounds on farms on December 1, which provide most of the slaughter supplies through the winter, was down 9 percent from a year earlier. The number of lighter weight market hogs and pigs on farms, which will be marketed mostly in the spring, was 6 percent below a year earlier.

Hog-corn price ratio, farm basis, by quarters

Year	I	II	III	IV	Average
1965	13.5	15.7	19.3	22.4	17.7
1966	22.0	18.8	17.7	15.5	18.5
1967	14.6	15.8	17.8	17.0	16.3
1968	17.4	17.5	19.6	17.5	18.0
1969	17.8	18.8	21.6	23.0	20.3
1970 1/	23.8				

1/ Partly estimated.

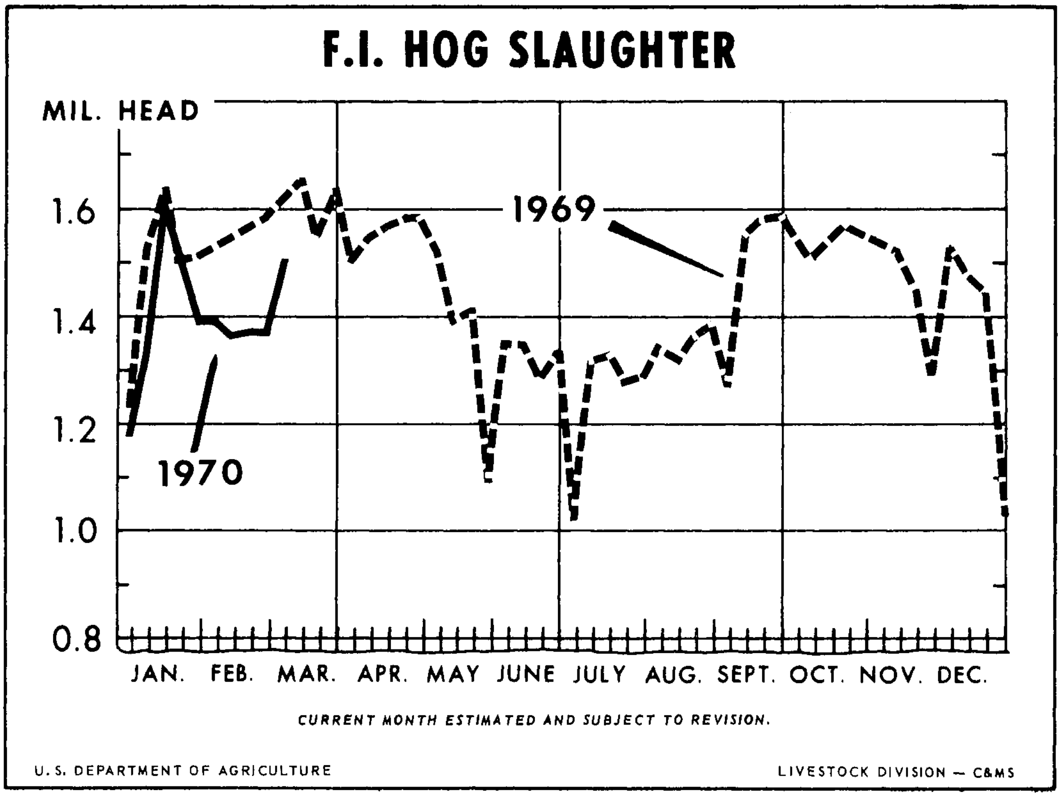
The smaller reduction in lighter weight hogs and producers' intentions to have 3 percent more sows farrow from December 1969 through May 1970 suggest that slaughter rates likely will approach year-earlier levels around midyear, and that second half slaughter likely will be larger than in 1969.

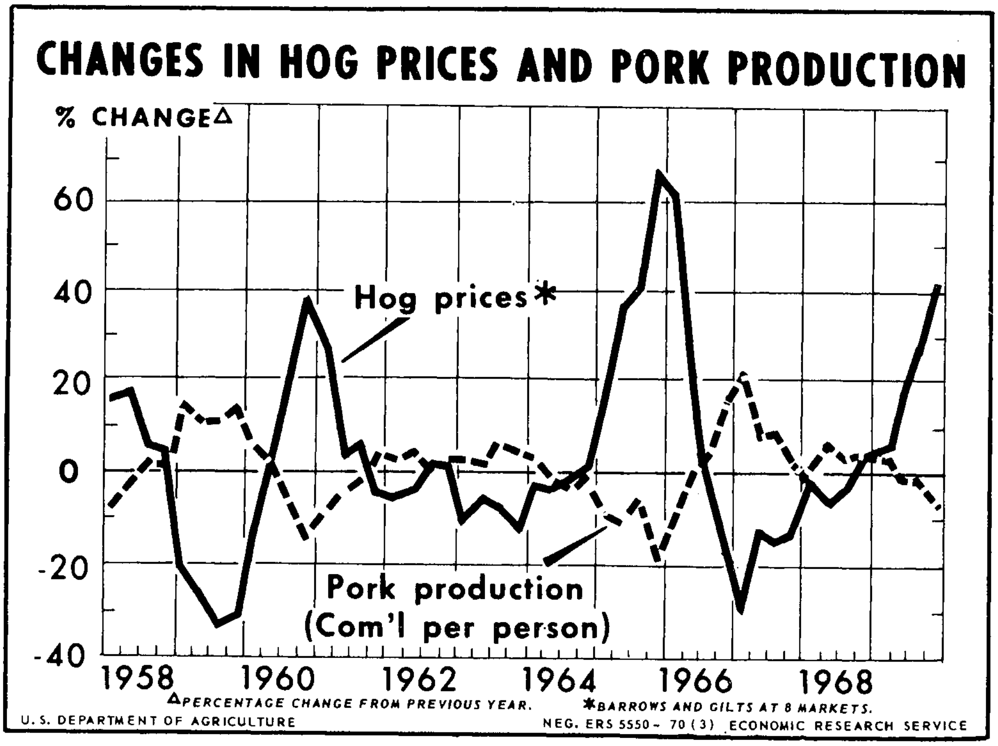
Cost-Price Relation Strongly Favors Hog Production

Hog prices in relation to feed costs in recent months have been unusually favorable to expanded hog production. The hog-corn price ratio (farm basis) in February was 24.0, a new record high. This was the fourth consecutive month in which the ratio exceeded 23.0. The ratio averaged 20.3 in 1969, 18.0 in 1968, and 16.3 in 1967. Except in December 1965, the last 2 months of 1969, and in January and February this year, the ratio has not been as high as 23.0 since records have been kept beginning with 1909. The ratio averaged 15.3 in 1961-65.

The relationship, however, is not the only thing producers go by when considering whether to get into the hog business or to expand their production. Price relationships favoring hog production in the last few years have brought forth considerably smaller and slower increases in production than they used to some years ago.

Several reasons have been advanced to explain this change. Among these are that feed costs now make up a smaller part of production


F.I. HOG SLAUGHTER
MIL. HEAD
1.6
1.4
1.2
1.0
0.8
1969
1970
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


CHANGES IN HOG PRICES AND PORK PRODUCTION
% CHANGE△
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
Hog prices*
Pork production
(Com'l per person)
1958 1960 1962 1964 1966 1968
△PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR.
*BARROWS AND GILTS AT 8 MARKETS.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 5550- 70 (3) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

costs and increasingly concentrated production among fewer but larger producers. The large producers usually cannot expand output rapidly in the short run and have to make substantial capital investments in order to expand output in the long run. More opportunity for off-farm employment also has been mentioned as a partial explanation for fewer farmers getting into hog production in a small way when hog prices are favorable to production and quitting the business when prices become less favorable. In addition, in 1969 unusually severe winter weather in the Corn Belt and disease and breeding problems apparently intervened to reduce some producers' outputs below what they previously intended.

Last December, producers again stated plans to have more sows farrow during the spring farrowing season, just as they had indicated 12 months previously. In both instances, the relationship of hog prices to corn prices clearly favored production expansion.

This winter however, weather conditions in the Corn Belt have been nearly normal. The December 1 inventory of hogs and pigs on farms indicates that producers could have as many sows farrow in December-May as they intended. Strong prices for brood sows and the reduced proportion of sows in slaughter under Federal inspection in the last several months suggest that producers probably are beginning to realize their intentions for an increase in farrowings during December-May. During November 1969-January 1970, estimated commercial sow slaughter was 18 percent smaller than a year earlier compared with a 10-percent drop in barrow and gilt slaughter.

The Hogs and Pigs report, covering 10 Corn Belt States, to be released March 20, will provide additional information on current developments in hog production in those States, which account for about three-fourths of the U.S. output.

Hog Prices To Rise Seasonally Through Spring

Hog prices are expected to continue sharply above year-earlier levels. Prices were weakening in late winter, but will rise seasonally through the spring and early summer to reach a high for the year in July or August when hog slaughter will be smaller. At that time, however, pork production likely will be a little larger than a year earlier and the beef supplies also will be larger. Demand for meat is expected to continue strong in the summer though gains in consumer income will likely be slower than last summer. The summer peak of prices therefore is expected to exceed last July's peak of $27.40 per 100 pounds (barrows and gilts at 8 markets) but not by nearly as much as the current margin over year-earlier prices.

Hog prices at 8 markets, 1969-70

Month	Barrows and gilts 1/		Sows 1/	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
	Dollars per 100 pounds			
January	19.77	27.40	15.93	23.25
February	20.41	28.25	17.56	24.94
March	20.69		18.28	
April	20.38		18.20	
May	23.14		20.13	
June	25.16		21.44	
July	26.05		22.58	
August	26.91		23.99	
September	25.94		23.42	
October	25.53		23.13	
November	25.77		22.23	
December	26.93		21.68	
Average	23.71		20.71	

1/ Average for all weights at Midwest Markets.

Second Half Hog Slaughter To Rise; Prices To Moderate

Second half hog slaughter will be somewhat larger than in July-December 1969, if December farrowing intentions are carried out. Based on the farrowing pattern indicated by Corn Belt producers, most of the increase will come in the last 3 months of the year. Thus, a sharper than usual seasonal rise in slaughter supplies in in prospect for next fall.

Barrows and gilts at 8 markets in July-December 1969 averaged $26.20 per 100 pounds. Prices declined about $1.50 in early fall follow- the summer high, but then regained the loss before the end of the year. This fall, prices likely will decline and drop below the unusually high prices in October-December 1969 as pork supplies increase, but prices are expected to remain well above prices in most other recent years.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Fewer Sheep On Farms

The number of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches declined to 20.4 million head at the beginning of this year, 4 percent less than a year earlier. Numbers have been dropping steadily since 1960 when the inventory totaled more than 33 million. The decline continued in 1969 even though sheep and lamb slaughter was off about 10 percent. All areas of the country shared in the decline.

The leading sheep States--Texas, Wyoming California, Colorado, and South Dakota--accounted for 47 percent of the total on January 1, 1970. This compares with 43 percent 10 years earlier. Sheepmen in these States cut inventories 3 percent during 1969 while producers in all other States reduced numbers 4 percent.

Stock sheep numbers dropped to 17.6 million head on January 1, 1970, down 4 percent from a year earlier. The total included 2 percent fewer lambs and 5 percent fewer sheep 1 year old and older.

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	13,686	-5.2	93

Declining stock sheep numbers have led to smaller lamb crops. Last year's lamb crop totaled 13.7 million, down 5 percent from a year earlier and the smallest on record. With 4 percent fewer ewes 1 year old and older on farms this year, the 1970 lamb crop is expected to be smaller again this year. This, of course, will help pull sheep and lamb slaughter to lower levels again this year. In 1969, slaughter was down 10 percent. Another reduction of this size this year would about stabilize the inventory.

First Half Slaughter Down

Sheep and lamb slaughter in January was 15 percent smaller than a year ago. However, about a third of this reduction reflects one less slaughter day this January than last. Slaughter rates under Federal inspection in February briefly rose above year-earlier rates, reflecting the 4 percent increase in the number of lambs on feed weighing less than 80 pounds on January 1 in 7 major feeding States. Slaughter is expected to continue below a year earlier for the next several months.

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, 1970 there were 1.4 million lambs on farms that had been born during October-December 1969, about 21 percent fewer than a year earlier. Thus, lamb slaughter this spring may be down considerably.

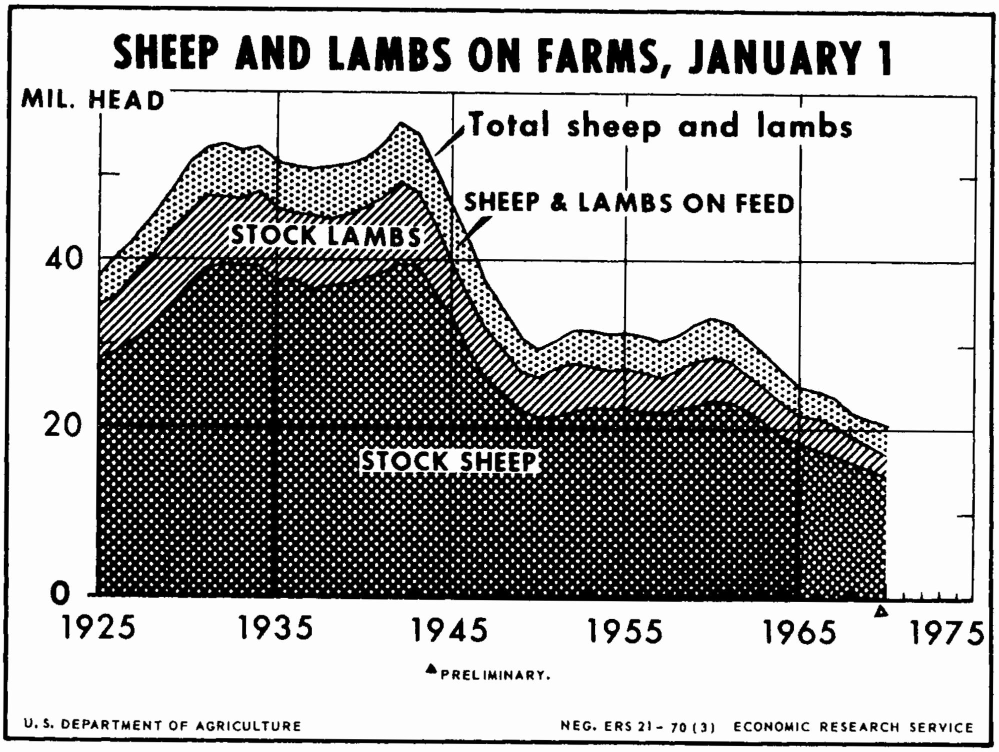
Lamb prices were running $2 to $3 above a year earlier in January. When slaughter ran closer to year-ago levels in February, lamb prices at San Angelo dropped to year-earlier levels. However, prices at other markets in February continued higher than in 1969. Lamb prices have been averaging above prices a year earlier for more than 3 years.

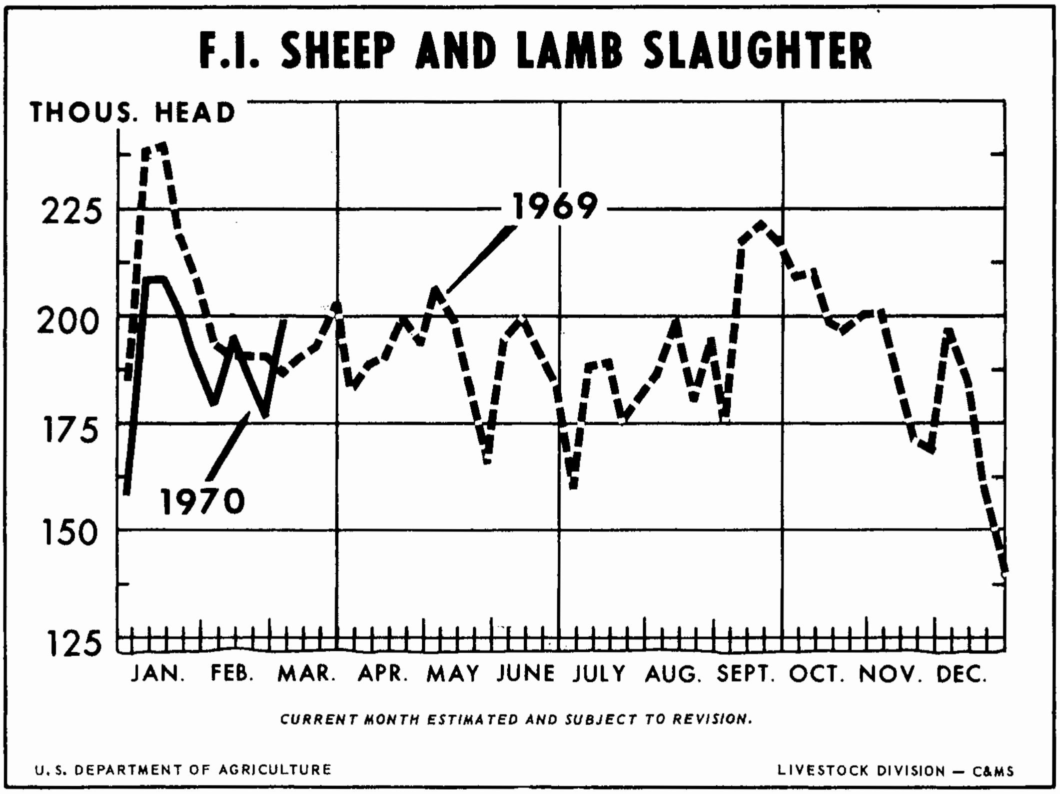
Lamb prices are expected to rise seasonally as large numbers of spring lambs reach the market and to run near or above 1969 prices in the coming months. Last spring, Choice slaughter lambs at San Angelo averaged nearly $30 per 100 pounds.

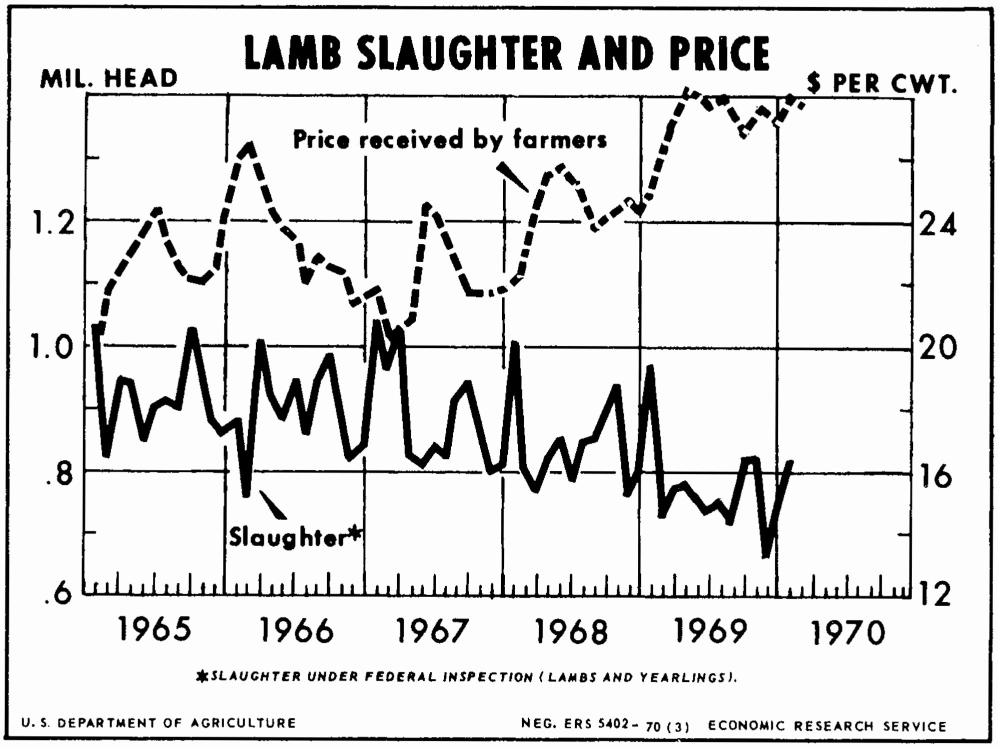
Table 3.--Balance sheet for sheep and lambs,
United States, 1956 to date

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	12,120	3,392	+141	21,111
1969	21,238	13,686	+83	10,905	3,200	-314	20,422
1970	20,422	13,150	+100	10,000	3,100		20.0-20.5

1/ Beginning 1961, 50-State total.




F.I. SHEEP AND LAMB SLAUGHTER
THOUS. HEAD
225
200
175
150
125
1969
1970
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


LAMB SLAUGHTER AND PRICE
MIL. HEAD
$ PER CWT.
Price received by farmers
Slaughter*
1.2
1.0
.8
.6
24
20
16
12
1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970
*SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION (LAMBS AND YEARLINGS).
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 5402-70 (3) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Choice lamb prices at San Angelo, 1969-70

Month	Slaughter lambs		Feeder lambs	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
	Dollars per 100 pounds			
January	26.56	28.81	26.19	29.81
February	28.00	28.06	27.62	29.50
March	30.69		30.69	
April	31.05		29.55	
May	29.44		26.88	
June	29.00		25.81	
July	29.05		26.57	
August	28.19		26.56	
September	28.00		29.00	
October	28.35		28.70	
November	28.62		29.81	
December	28.50		29.00	
Average	28.79		28.03	

Second Half Slaughter To Continue Reduced

July-December slaughter likely will be moderately smaller than a year earlier. There were 4 percent fewer ewes 1 year old and older on farms at the beginning of this year, which means a similar reduction in the lamb crop this year. This will help pull slaughter to lower levels later this year. Also, some lamb producers may withhold extra ewe lambs to rebuild their flocks following several years of rising prices. In this event, slaughter supplies would be further restricted.

Lamb prices did not vary much during the second half of 1969 and remained well above prices in other recent years. Choice grade slaughter lambs at San Angelo ranged between $28 and $29 per 100 pounds during July-December last year. Second half prices this year are expected to run lower than the seasonally high spring prices in prospect, but generally to average near or above prices a year earlier. Supplies of competing meats will be larger late this year and this may temper strength in lamb prices at that time.

1969 Lamb Imports Up Sharply

Lamb imports nearly doubled in 1969, rising from about 23 million pounds in 1968 to nearly 44 million pounds. Lamb imports ranged between 10 and 19 million pounds during 1963-67. With the increase in imports and a drop in domestic production, lamb imports last year were equal to about 9 percent of estimated U.S. commercial production. This compares with 4 percent a year earlier and 2 percent during 1963-67.

Most of the increase in lamb imports in 1969 came during the first 3 quarters of the year. Imports last fall were about a million pounds larger than a year earlier.

Imports of mutton typically are several times as large as lamb imports. Mutton imports in 1969, however, dropped to 108 million pounds, down 13 percent from 1968. In 1969, imports of lamb and mutton combined were up 4 percent.

Lamb Imports

Quarters	1968	1969
	Mil. lb. carcass wt.	
I	3.4	6.2
II	4.3	13.3
III	5.5	13.6
IV	9.7	10.8
Year	22.9	43.9

Table 4 .--Average retail price of meat per pound, United States, by months, 1965 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
	Cents												
	Beef, Choice grade												
1965	76.9	76.2	75.5	77.5	79.3	82.9	83.8	82.9	81.7	81.2	81.9	81.6	80.1
1966	81.0	83.1	84.1	84.6	83.8	81.7	81.5	81.7	82.2	81.3	80.3	83.6	82.4
1967	80.4	80.9	80.8	80.4	79.6	81.9	83.3	84.0	85.5	85.3	84.4	85.3	82.6
1968	84.3	85.1	85.6	85.6	85.8	85.8	87.1	87.0	88.4	87.7	88.1	88.5	86.6
1969	89.6	89.7	91.0	93.5	98.1	102.1	102.5	101.2	99.2	95.3	96.5	97.0	96.3
1970	97.3												
	Veal, retail cuts												
1965	82.9	84.2	82.6	82.4	82.9	81.9	84.3	84.5	83.4	85.1	82.6	82.8	83.3
1966	85.1	89.2	89.4	90.3	88.5	90.7	91.1	90.6	91.3	91.3	90.5	91.4	90.0
1967	92.0	90.1	91.4	92.8	93.3	93.7	93.9	96.1	96.7	97.3	98.3	98.3	94.5
1968	100.2	99.7	100.5	102.5	100.6	103.2	102.5	102.2	102.7	102.0	102.9	101.9	101.7
1969	103.6	104.7	105.5	108.2	109.2	113.0	114.3	115.3	115.2	115.2	114.4	116.0	111.2
1970	116.9												
	Pork												
1965	57.4	56.6	57.3	57.0	60.7	66.6	70.4	71.7	72.4	71.3	71.1	77.3	65.8
1966	80.0	80.2	77.5	72.6	71.1	73.5	74.1	75.8	74.4	71.8	69.4	68.1	74.0
1967	67.5	66.2	64.5	63.2	66.0	70.0	71.0	70.2	69.3	66.6	66.6	64.9	67.2
1968	65.4	66.7	67.1	66.3	66.7	67.8	69.4	69.0	68.8	67.8	67.1	67.0	67.4
1969	67.9	68.6	68.9	69.1	71.6	75.0	76.7	78.2	78.8	78.7	78.3	79.7	74.3
1970	82.0												
	Lamb, Choice grade												
1965	75.4	74.4	76.4	77.5	78.3	81.4	83.8	82.5	81.5	80.5	80.2	79.1	79.2
1966	81.8	85.8	87.6	86.4	85.6	86.6	86.8	86.3	85.2	84.9	86.1	84.5	85.6
1967	84.6	83.4	83.3	82.9	84.6	88.8	89.5	89.5	90.7	90.1	90.8	90.6	87.4
1968	90.2	90.8	92.5	93.0	94.0	94.4	95.3	94.4	94.0	95.4	95.1	94.5	93.6
1969	95.5	97.0	97.5	98.2	101.2	103.0	105.5	104.0	104.5	105.0	104.8	105.9	101.8
1970	105.9												

1/ Revised prices. An article concerning revisions in retail meat prices was published in the November 1969 issue of the Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Table 5.--Meat subject to U.S. import quota restriction: Product weight of imports by months, average 1959-63, 1964-70

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	Million pounds												
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	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	124.5												

1/ Rejections for calendar year 1969 totaled 13.5 million pounds.

Table 6.--U.S. meat imports and exports and percentage comparisons (carcass weight), 1969 and 1970

Month	Imports											
	Beef and veal			Lamb, mutton and goat			Pork			Total meat		
	1969	1970	Change	1969	1970	Change	1969	1970	Change	1969	1970	Change
	-- Mil. lb.--		- Pct. -	-- Mil. lb.--		- Pct. -	-- Mil. lb.--		- Pct. -	-- Mil. lb. --		- Pct. -
January	70	187	+166	1	17	+1,402	12	25	+98	83	229	+173
February	80			6			28			114		
March	191			20			51			262		
April	135			15			43			193		
May	118			15			42			175		
June	134			10			36			180		
July	163			13			38			214		
August	206			23			27			256		
September	182			17			32			231		
October	165			16			35			216		
November	86			8			30			124		
December	111			8			35			154		
Total	1,641			152			409			2,202		
	Exports											
	Beef and veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork			Total meat		
	1969	1970	Change	1969	1970	Change	1969	1970	Change	1969	1970	Change
	-- Mil. lb.--		- Pct.-	-- Mil. lb. --		- Pct.-	-- Mil. lb.--		- Pct. -	-- Mil. lb.--		- Pct. -
January	2.83	3.57	+26	0.18	0.16	-10	14.01	4.83	-66	17.02	8.56	-50
February	2.80			.32			16.10			19.22		
March	3.89			.30			11.67			15.86		
April	3.09			.23			10.74			14.06		
May	3.80			.20			23.32			27.32		
June	2.76			.11			13.07			15.94		
July	2.94			.21			8.22			11.37		
August	3.17			.19			6.59			9.95		
September	2.76			.15			11.05			13.95		
October	3.12			.20			20.36			23.68		
November	2.85			.09			13.25			16.19		
December	2.67			.11			5.44			8.22		
Total	36.68			2.29			153.82			192.78		

Table 7.--Rank of States in number of cattle and calves on farms, January 1, 1970

Rank	All cattle and calves		Beef cattle and calves (cattle not for milk)			
			Total		Beef cows 2 years and over	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		1,000 head		1,000 head		1,000 head
1	Texas	12,212	Texas	11,636	Texas	5,737
2	Iowa	7,478	Iowa	6,573	Oklahoma	2,174
3	Nebraska	6,330	Nebraska	6,023	Missouri	1,929
4	Kansas	6,016	Kansas	5,694	Nebraska	1,888
5	Oklahoma	4,985	Oklahoma	4,727	Kansas	1,839
6	Missouri	4,940	Missouri	4,307	South Dakota	1,719
7	California	4,861	South Dakota	4,116	Montana	1,589
8	South Dakota	4,410	California	3,562	Iowa	1,443
9	Wisconsin	4,076	Colorado	3,102	Mississippi	1,273
10	Minnesota	3,958	Montana	2,943	Kentucky	1,087
11	Colorado	3,299	Illinois	2,721	Colorado	1,082
12	Illinois	3,278	Minnesota	2,254	North Dakota	964
13	Montana	3,014	Kentucky	2,227	Tennessee	954
14	Kentucky	2,803	Mississippi	2,131	California	946
15	Mississippi	2,487	North Dakota	1,835	Arkansas	939
16	Tennessee	2,308	Tennessee	1,796	Alabama	929
17	Ohio	2,136	Alabama	1,722	Florida	909
18	North Dakota	2,066	Georgia	1,655	Louisiana	903
19	Alabama	1,953	Arkansas	1,648	Georgia	830
20	Indiana	1,918	Florida	1,577	Illinois	744
21	Georgia	1,889	Indiana	1,506	Wyoming	737
22	New York	1,867	Wyoming	1,448	New Mexico	708
23	Florida	1,827	Louisiana	1,419	Oregon	685
24	Arkansas	1,805	Idaho	1,415	Idaho	588
25	Pennsylvania	1,781	Ohio	1,399	Minnesota	545
26	Louisiana	1,705	Oregon	1,393	Virginia	499
27	Idaho	1,701	New Mexico	1,331	Indiana	439
28	Oregon	1,593	Arizona	1,224	Arizona	376
29	Wyoming	1,476	Virginia	1,054	Washington	373
30	Michigan	1,468	Washington	962	North Carolina	371
31	Virginia	1,432	Wisconsin	902	Ohio	360
32	New Mexico	1,386	North Carolina	763	Utah	351
33	Arizona	1,302	Utah	689	Nevada	336
34	Washington	1,260	Michigan	673	South Carolina	266
35	North Carolina	1,081	Nevada	600	Wisconsin	239
36	Utah	824	South Carolina	537	West Virginia	207
37	South Carolina	642	Pennsylvania	512	Michigan	123
38	Nevada	626	West Virginia	382	Pennsylvania	100
39	West Virginia	475	Hawaii	223	Hawaii	92
40	Maryland	426	New York	178	New York	62
41	Vermont	348	Maryland	163	Maryland	58
42	Hawaii	246	Maine	23	Maine	9
43	Maine	147	New Jersey	22	New Jersey	8
44	New Jersey	132	Vermont	17	Vermont	5
45	Connecticut	122	Massachusetts	13	Delaware	5
46	Massachusetts	114	Connecticut	12	Massachusetts	4
47	New Hampshire	73	Delaware	11	Connecticut	4
48	Delaware	32	New Hampshire	7	Alaska	2
49	Rhode Island	13	Alaska	6	New Hampshire	2
50	Alaska	9	Rhode Island	2	Rhode Island	1
	United States	112,330	United States	91,135	United States	37,433

Table 8.--Rank of States in number of milk cows and sheep on farms, January 1, 1970 and pigs saved 1969

Rank	Milk cows 2 year and over		All sheep and lambs		Number of pigs saved 1/	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		1,000 head		1,000 head		1,000 head
1	Wisconsin	2,062	Texas	3,860	Iowa	11,094
2	New York	1,127	Wyoming	1,934	Illinois	5,080
3	Minnesota	1,089	California	1,317	Missouri	3,419
4	California	840	Colorado	1,243	Indiana	3,322
5	Pennsylvania	807	South Dakota	1,155	Minnesota	2,879
6	Iowa	568	Montana	1,146	Nebraska	2,786
7	Michigan	509	Utah	1,014	Ohio	1,904
8	Ohio	493	Iowa	869	South Dakota	1,783
9	Missouri	400	New Mexico	834	North Carolina	1,755
10	Kentucky	388	Idaho	785	Wisconsin	1,696
11	Texas	381	Ohio	719	Kansas	1,399
12	Illinois	359	Minnesota	554	Georgia	1,372
13	Tennessee	345	Oregon	530	Kentucky	1,252
14	Indiana	270	Arizona	508	Tennessee	882
15	Virginia	245	Illinois	389	Alabama	803
16	Vermont	230	Kansas	378	Texas	712
17	Kansas	224	North Dakota	377	Michigan	514
18	Mississippi	224	Nebraska	374	Pennsylvania	456
19	Nebraska	211	Missouri	288	Virginia	407
20	North Carolina	207	Indiana	266	Mississippi	400
21	South Dakota	200	Michigan	248	South Carolina	387
22	Washington	200	Nevada	239	North Dakota	308
23	Florida	199	Virginia	189	Oklahoma	307
24	Louisiana	196	Wisconsin	167	Florida	256
25	Maryland	182	Pennsylvania	165	Arkansas	244
26	Idaho	169	West Virginia	163	Colorado	218
27	North Dakota	163	Washington	141	Louisiana	143
28	Oklahoma	161	Oklahoma	138	Montana	133
29	Georgia	152	New York	100	Maryland	124
30	Alabama	151	Kentucky	100	Idaho	95
31	Oregon	118	Tennessee	45	California	94
32	Colorado	112	Alaska	27	Oregon	90
33	Arkansas	106	Louisana	24	New York	85
34	Utah	82	Maryland	20	Washington	70
35	New Jersey	80	North Carolina	18	Arizona	54
36	Maine	77	Mississippi	17	West Virginia	52
37	Connecticut	74	Maine	16	New Jersey	50
38	South Carolina	74	Massachusetts	10	Massachusetts	46
39	Massachusetts	72	Arkansas	8	New Mexico	46
40	West Virginia	69	New Jersey	8	Hawaii	38
41	Arizona	54	Alabama	6	Utah	37
42	Montana	47	Vermont	6	Delaware	26
43	New Hampshire	43	Florida	6	Wyoming	22
44	New Mexico	39	Georgia	5	New Hampshire	9
45	Wyoming	20	New Hampshire	5	Connecticut	7
46	Delaware	16	Connecticut	5	Maine	6
47	Nevada	15	Delaware	2	Rhode Island	6
48	Hawaii	15	Rhode Island	2	Nevada	5
49	Rhode Island	8	South Carolina	2	Vermont	4
50	Alaska	2	Hawaii	---	Alaska	---
	United States	13,875		20,422		46,877

1/ Total pigs saved from December-May and June-November pig crops.

Supply and distribution of meat, by months, July 1969 to date

Meat and Period	Commercially produced							
	Supply			Distribution				
	Production	Beginning stocks	Imports	Exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Military	Civilian Consumption: Total	Civilian Consumption: Per person 1/
	Million pounds							Pounds
Beef:								
July	1,765	231	162	6	239	33	1,880	9.4
August	1,734	239	205	7	267	34	1,870	9.4
September	1,854	267	180	7	304	43	1,947	9.8
3rd quarter	5,353	231	547	20	304	110	5,697	28.6
October	1,995	304	163	6	335	44	2,077	10.3
November	1,640	335	82	7	333	39	1,678	8.4
December	1,803	333	108	7	353	38	1,846	9.2
4th quarter	5,438	304	353	20	353	121	5,601	27.9
Year	20,953	296	1,614	82	353	539	21,889	109.9
Veal:								
July	53	7	1	1	7	1	52	0.3
August	52	7	1	3/	6	2	52	.3
September	57	6	1	3/	7	3	54	.2
3rd quarter	162	7	3	1	7	6	158	.8
October	61	7	2	1	7	3	59	.3
November	49	7	4	3/	10	2	48	.2
December	49	10	3	3/	10	1	51	.3
4th quarter	159	7	9	1	10	6	158	.8
Year	640	7	26	5	10	31	627	3.1
Lamb and mutton:								
July	42	13	13	3/	12	1	55	0.3
August	41	12	23	3/	15	1	60	.3
September	47	15	17	1	16	1	61	.3
3rd quarter	130	13	53	1	16	3	176	.9
October	49	16	16	1	17	1	62	.3
November	40	17	8	1	17	1	46	.2
December	44	17	8	3/	16	3/	53	.3
4th quarter	133	16	32	2	16	2	161	.8
Year	539	14	153	6	16	8	676	3.5
Pork:								
July	971	246	38	13	196	16	1,030	5.2
August	944	196	27	14	168	15	970	4.9
September	1,073	168	32	18	174	17	1,064	5.3
3rd quarter	2,988	246	97	45	174	48	3,064	15.4
October	1,189	174	35	28	202	17	1,151	5.7
November	1,004	202	30	20	221	16	979	4.9
December	1,111	221	35	14	211	11	1,131	5.6
4th quarter	3,304	174	100	62	211	44	3,261	16.2
Year	12,783	256	409	236	211	219	12,782	64.1
All meat:								
July	2,831	497	214	20	454	51	3,017	15.2
August	2,771	454	256	21	456	52	2,952	14.8
September	3,031	456	230	26	501	64	3,126	15.7
3rd quarter	8,633	497	700	67	501	167	9,095	45.7
October	3,294	501	216	36	561	65	3,349	16.6
November	2,733	561	124	28	581	58	2,751	13.7
December	3,007	581	154	21	590	50	3,081	15.4
4th quarter	9,034	501	494	85	590	173	9,181	45.7
Year	34,915	573	2,202	329	590	797	35,974	180.6

1/ Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1969 Year average	1969 January	1969 February	1970 January	1970 February
CATTLE AND CALVES:						
Beef steers, slaughter, Chicago	Dollars per					
Prime	100 pounds	32.25	31.08	31.08	29.70	31.15
Choice	do.	30.42	29.23	29.11	29.31	30.26
Good	do.	28.64	27.14	27.18	27.88	28.67
Standard	do.	26.49	24.17	24.32	26.00	26.31
Utility	do.	23.65	22.24	21.6	---	25.21
All grades	do.	30.48	29.10	28.97	29.25	30.25
Omaha, all grades	do.	29.24	27.30	27.14	27.96	29.02
Cows, Chicago						
Commercial	do.	20.07	16.77	18.67	20.88	21.92
Utility	do.	20.48	18.20	19.02	21.36	22.39
Cutter	do.	19.44	17.42	18.30	20.10	20.92
Canner	do.	18.23	16.41	17.15	18.66	19.40
Vealers, Choice, S. St. Paul	do.	38.90	32.12	37.39	43.88	46.92
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	do.	29.30	26.60	27.22	29.44	31.31
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	26.20	23.60	24.20	26.20	27.20
Cows	do.	19.12	16.60	17.70	19.70	21.00
Steers and heifers	do.	28.36	26.10	26.30	28.40	29.10
Calves	do.	31.55	28.30	29.70	33.60	35.10
Beef steer-corn price ratio 2/	do.	25.2	24.7	25.0	23.9	24.6
HOGS:						
Barrows and gilts, U.S. No. 1 and 2 Chicago						
180-200 pounds	do.	24.35	20.44	20.48	28.68	29.08
200-220 pounds	do.	25.26	21.09	21.59	29.08	29.55
220-240 pounds	do.	25.10	20.98	21.50	28.83	29.32
Barrows and gilts, 8 markets 3/	do.	23.71	19.77	20.41	27.40	28.25
Sows, 8 markets 3/	do.	20.76	15.93	17.56	23.25	24.94
Price received by farmers	do.	22.92	18.60	19.60	26.30	27.40
Hog-corn price ratio 4/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts		20.0	17.1	17.8	23.0	22.9
Price received by farmers, all hogs		20.3	17.2	18.0	23.5	24.0
SHEEP AND LAMBS:	Dollars per					
Sheep	100 pounds					
Slaughter ewes, Good, San Angelo	do.	10.37	10.50	11.56	10.31	11.25
Price received by farmers	do.	7.86	6.96	7.41	8.20	8.39
Lambs						
Slaughter, Choice, San Angelo	do.	28.79	26.56	28.00	28.81	28.06
Feeder, Choice, San Angelo	do.	28.03	26.12	27.62	29.81	29.50
Price received by farmers	do.	27.28	25.10	26.50	28.00	27.80
ALL MEAT ANIMALS:						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		399	349	362	420	436
MEAT:						
Wholesale, Chicago, Carlot,	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 600-700	100 pounds	47.73	45.85	45.02	46.89	46.74
Heifer beef, Choice, 500-600 pounds	do.	46.62	44.79	44.15	45.81	46.18
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter	do.	41.59	37.40	39.16	43.56	45.56
Lamb carcass, Choice, 45-55 pounds	do.	60.47	57.40	58.97	60.64	59.60
Fresh pork loins, 8-14 pounds	do.	53.88	49.23	47.30	61.89	59.46
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	96.3	89.6	89.7	97.3	
Pork, retail cuts and sausage	do.	74.3	67.9	68.6	82.0	
Lamb, Choice grade	do.	101.8	95.5	97.0	105.9	
Index number all meats (BLS)						
Wholesale (1957-59=100)		118.6	101.1	109.8	124.9	
Retail (1957-59=100)		126.8	118.6	119.0	132.9	
Beef and veal		129.5	121.1	121.3	132.2	
Pork		125.2	115.7	116.6	135.6	

1/ Average all weights and grades.
2/ Bushels of No. 3 Yellow Corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of slaughter steers sold out of first hands, Chicago, all grades.
3/ Chicago, 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.

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

Item	Unit	1969 Year average or total	1969 January	1969 February	1970 January	1970 February
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1957-59=100)						
6-State Cattle on Feed Report						
Number on feed	1,000	78,621	6,839	6,820	7,443	7,338
Placed on feed	head	15,911	1,300	792	1,242	919
Marketings	do.	15,307	1,319	1,231	1,347	1,224
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	30,537	2,676	2,356	2,653	
Steers	do.	15,754	1,394	1,239	1,414	
Heifers	do.	8,286	714	634	698	
Cows	do.	5,998	533	452	501	
Bulls and stags	do.	499	35	31	40	
Calves	do.	3,637	364	317	290	
Sheep and lambs	do.	10,067	1,007	769	855	
Hogs	do.	75,690	6,814	13,059	6,170	
Percentage sows	Percent	7	6	5	5	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	1,030	1,041	1,034	1,068	
Calves	do.	197	193	195	195	
Sheep and lambs	do.	104	107	108	108	
Hogs	do.	240	239	233	242	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	607	607	607	629	
Veal, per head	do.	111	107	109	109	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	50	52	53	53	
Pork, per head	do.	153	153	149	154	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	64	64	63	64	
Lard, per head	do.	23	24	22	23	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	10	10	9	10	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	18,475	1,620	1,427	1,665	
Veal	do.	400	39	34	32	
Lamb and mutton	do.	510	52	40	45	
Pork	do.	11,565	1,033	938	951	
Lard	do.	1,755	160	138	144	
Commercial slaughter 1/						
Number slaughtered	1,000					
Cattle	head	35,224	3,129	2,736	3,033	
Calves	do.	4,858	479	416	389	
Sheep and lambs	do.	10,688	1,055	808	896	
Hogs	do.	83,888	7,705	7,004	6,824	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	20,953	1,858	1,630	1,873	
Veal	do.	640	60	53	50	
Lamb and mutton	do.	539	55	42	45	
Pork	do.	12,783	1,170	1,051	1,050	
Lard	do.	1,880	173	149	154	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	---	296	281	353	358
Veal	do.	---	7	7	10	9
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	14	10	16	15
Pork	do.	---	256	249	211	203
Total meat and meat products 2/	do.	---	625	595	637	636

1/ Federally inspected, and other commercial.
2/ Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the four meats listed.

LIST OF TABLES

STANDARD SUMMARY TABLES

The next issue of the Livestock and Meat Situation is scheduled to be available May 12, 1970.

The summary is scheduled to be released to the press immediately after the Outlook and Situation Board meeting May 5, 1970.

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