

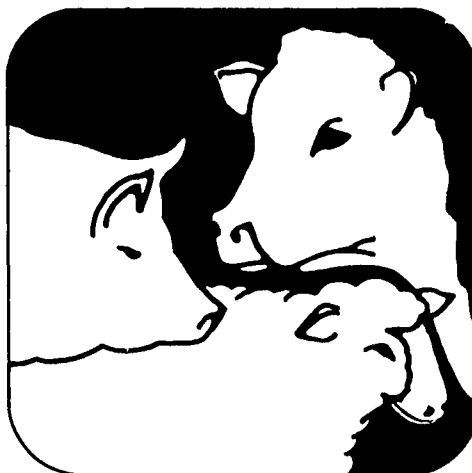
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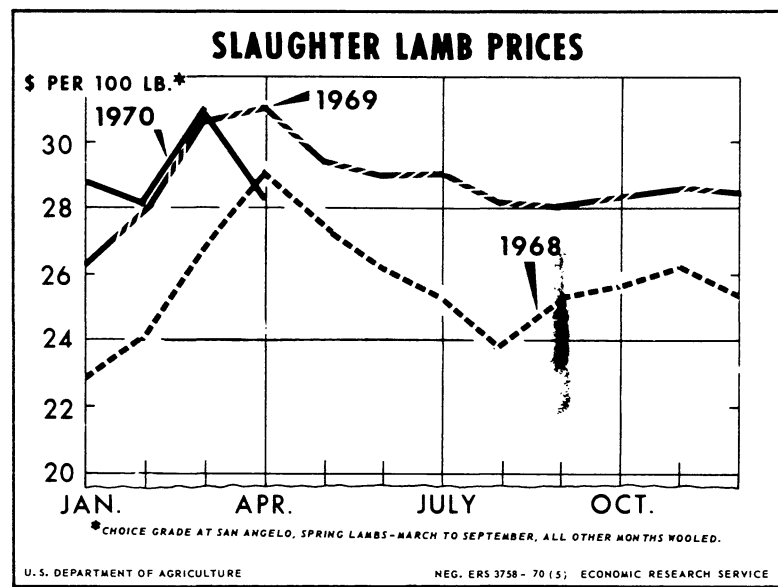
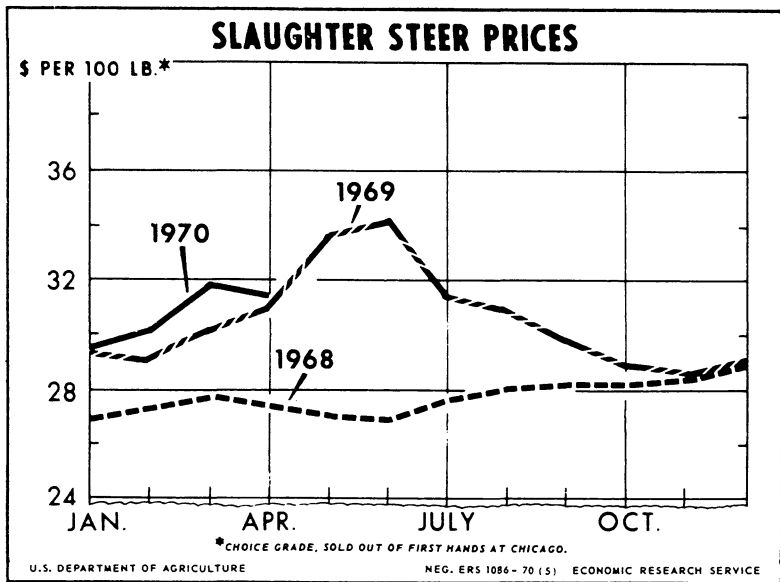
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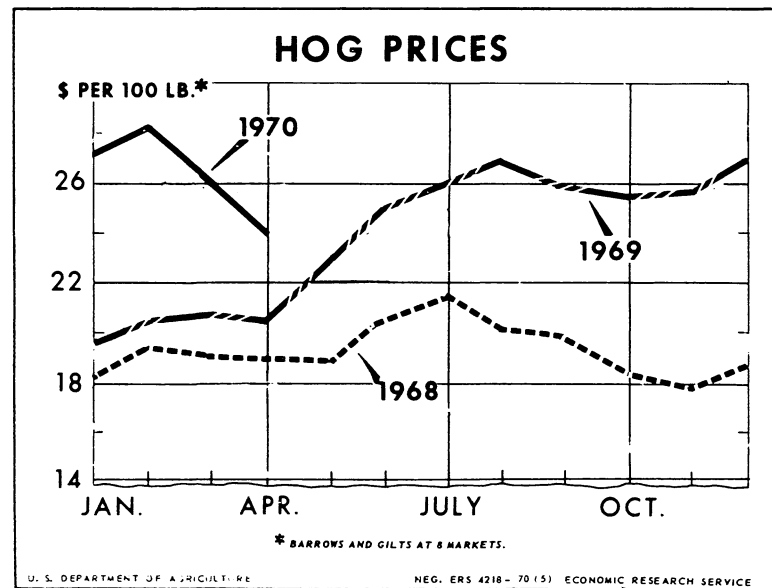
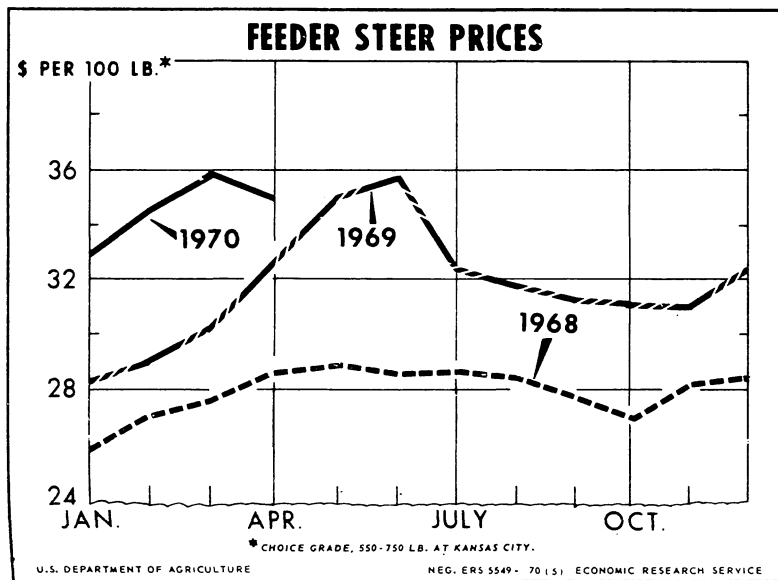
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# LIVESTOCK AND MEAT Situation





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# LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

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Approved by  
The Outlook and Situation Board  
and Summary released  
May 5, 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

Spring and summer prospects for livestock indicate a steady to strong market situation. Fed cattle prices may strengthen some into summer, but remain below last year's May-June peak. The hog market will advance seasonally. Lamb prices will probably recover some and exceed year-ago levels again by summer.

Cattle feeders plan to market 6 percent more fed cattle this spring than a year ago. This level of shipments would be about the same as in the winter. Western feeders will supply the bulk of the spring increase as they intend to up marketings 12 percent. Corn Belt feeders plan only a 3 percent increase.

Fed cattle prices in the winter averaged about \$1 higher than a year earlier. Demand for beef continued strong as output of other meats except poultry declined. Fed beef production rose more than the number of fed cattle marketed because fed cattle weights were up sharply--averaging 4 percent heavier than last winter. Fed cattle prices are expected to strengthen into the summer, but a repeat of last year's sharp April-May rise is unlikely.

Choice grade 550-750 pound feeder steers at Kansas City were near \$35 in late April, up about \$2.50 from a year earlier. Prices are expected to continue steady to strong into the summer although most of the seasonal advance is probably past.

Cow slaughter, down 10 percent in the winter, is expected to run moderately smaller this spring, but in the second half may be near last year's levels. Cow prices at Chicago advanced sharply during January-March and then steadied, averaging \$23.40 in April. Prices are expected to hold mostly steady this spring and to trend seasonally lower in the second half.

Farmers are increasing hog output this year following the 6 percent cutback in the 1969 pig crop. Farrowings in 10 Corn Belt

States rose 5 percent in December-February and producers intend to have 7 percent more sows farrow in March-May and 8 percent more during June-August.

The March 1 inventory of market hogs and pigs was 1 percent smaller than a year earlier. This included 6 percent fewer hogs in weight groups that will provide spring slaughter supplies but between 1 and 2 percent more that will go to slaughter in the summer.

Hog slaughter last winter was 10 percent smaller than the winter of 1969 and prices of barrows and gilts averaged \$27.20 per 100 pounds at 8 markets, up \$6.90. By late April, prices were running around \$24, about \$3.25 above a year earlier but \$5 below mid-February. Hog prices are expected to advance seasonally this spring into summer, but at a slower pace than last year's April-August run-up of \$7.

As hog slaughter approaches year-earlier rates around midyear and exceeds them in the summer and fall, prices are expected to drop below a year earlier, perhaps by midsummer. There will also be a seasonal decline in hog prices this fall, in contrast to the unusual \$1.50 rise last October-December.

Lamb prices are expected to recover some of the sharp loss of recent weeks, then hold generally steady, exceeding 1969 levels in the summer. In recent weeks prices for early spring lambs dropped from the \$31.75 high in March. In April Choice grade lambs at San Angelo averaged \$28.35 per 100 pounds, down \$2.70 from a year earlier.

Sheep and lamb slaughter in January-February was down 10 percent from a year earlier but rose above in March. It likely will fall later this spring and continue reduced the balance of the year.

## SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

### CATTLE

Commercial cattle slaughter in January-March totaled 8.5 million head, 2 percent less than in the first quarter last year. Cow slaughter was down 10 percent while steer and heifer slaughter was about the same. However, slaughter in April rose above last year. Increases for steers and heifers more than offset a small reduction for cows.

#### Gains In Fed Cattle Marketings To Continue

On April 1 there 11.6 million cattle and calves on feed in 22 major feeding States, more than half a million head increase, or 5 percent, over a year earlier. Corn Belt feeders had 2 percent more cattle on feed, while Western feeders had 9 percent more. Six Corn Belt States had larger numbers on feed than last year, 5 States showed declines, and Missouri had no change. All Western States had more except Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Texas showed the largest gain, more than 200,000 head. Kansas feedlot supplies increased more than 100,000 head.

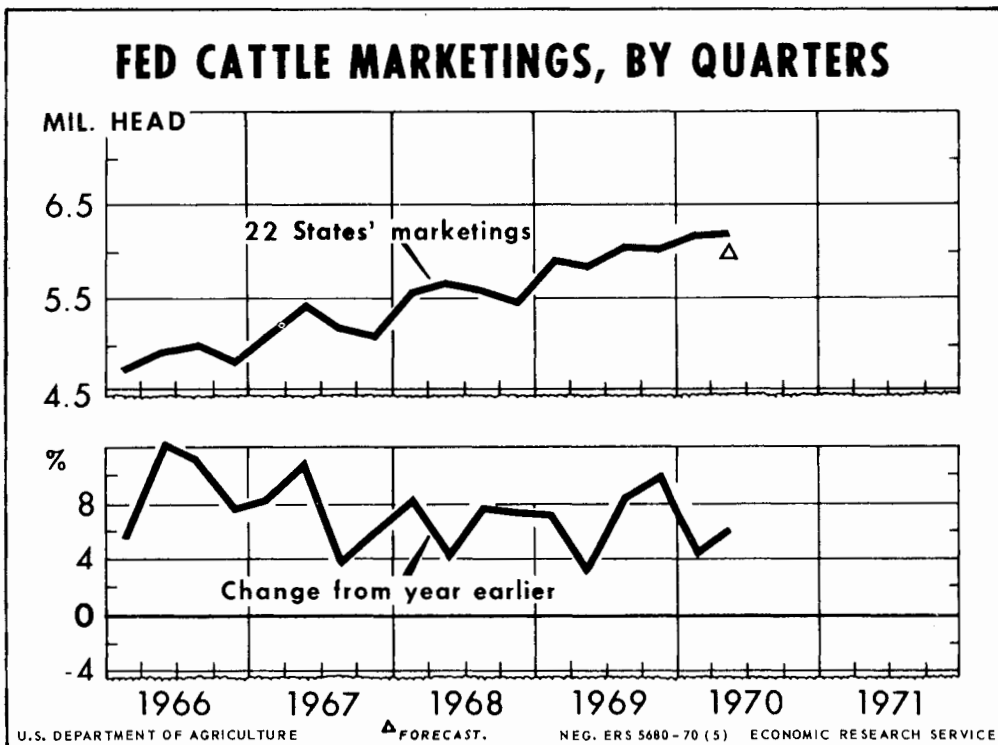
Cattle feeders marketed 4 percent more cattle during January-March than a year earlier. On April 1 they reported intentions to market 6 percent more cattle out of feedlots during April-June than in the second quarter of 1969. This level of marketings would be about the same as in the winter. The bulk of the spring increase will come from the West where feeders intend to up shipments by a quarter of a million head, or 12 percent. Corn Belt feeders plan to market 150,000 more, a 3 percent increase over a year earlier.

Fed cattle prices strengthened during the first quarter, following more than 6 months of general decline. Choice grade steers at Chicago rose from \$29 per 100 pounds in early January to over \$32 by early March and then steadied. In April they averaged \$31.56.

Fed cattle prices are expected to rise later this spring and summer. Strengthening factors include little change in supplies of fed cattle from winter levels, seasonally reduced pork output, and some spark from seasonally

Table 1.--Cattle and calves on feed April 1, 22 States by regions; percent change from previous year, 1964 to date

Year	North Central States			Texas	Western States	Total
	East North Central	West North Central	Total	and Oklahoma		
	<u>1,000 head</u>					
1964	1,609	4,417	6,026	442	2,087	8,555
1965	1,617	4,432	6,049	466	2,025	8,540
Percent change from 1964	+0.5	+0.3	+0.4	+5.4	-3.0	-0.2
1966	1,795	5,023	6,818	662	2,276	9,756
Percent change from 1965	+11.0	+13.3	+12.7	+42.1	+12.4	+14.2
1967	1,764	5,198	6,962	803	2,308	10,073
Percent change from 1966	-1.7	+3.5	+2.1	+21.3	+1.4	+3.2
1968	1,723	5,386	7,109	902	2,257	10,268
Percent change from 1967	-2.3	+3.6	+2.1	+12.3	-2.2	+1.9
1969	1,787	5,505	7,292	1,190	2,564	11,041
Percent change from 1968	+3.7	+2.2	+2.6	+31.9	+13.6	+7.6
1970	1,799	5,660	7,459	1,435	2,671	11,565
Percent change from 1969	+0.7	+2.8	+2.3	+20.6	+4.2	+4.7



stronger consumer demand. Prices in early spring were higher than a year ago but they are not likely to rise as sharply as they did last spring.

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	31.93
April	27.49	30.98	31.56
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	

#### Weights To Continue Above Year Earlier

Fed beef production in the winter increased more than the 4 percent increase in the number of fed cattle shipped because heavier weights of cattle marketed added to the beef supply. During the winter, market weights of steers sold on 7 markets averaged 1,160 pounds, up 48 pounds from a year earlier and well above other recent years.

Average slaughter weights will remain significant in beef output and cattle prices during coming months. Steers shipped to 7 markets in April continued 4-5 percent heavier than a year earlier.

If cattle feeders carry out their spring marketing plans to market 6 percent more fed cattle this spring, the average weight of fed cattle will continue relatively heavy and well above a year earlier. The combined total of steers weighing over 900 pounds and heifers weighing over 700 pounds on April 1 was up

13 percent from a year earlier. Cattle in these weight groups will supply the bulk of spring marketings. Thus, unless feeders move more fed cattle this spring than they intended on April 1, some cattle will be held in feedlots beyond their normal marketing time and weights will remain heavy. This would, of course, add downward pressure on fed cattle prices.

A negative price margin (prices received for fed cattle lower than when they were bought as feeders) developed late last summer and became most severe last fall. Average weights began to rise as some feeders started holding cattle a bit longer than usual, hoping for some price recovery. As fed cattle prices strengthened during the winter and the margin

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	31.86	31.15	+ .71
April	31.48	31.12	+ .36
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.

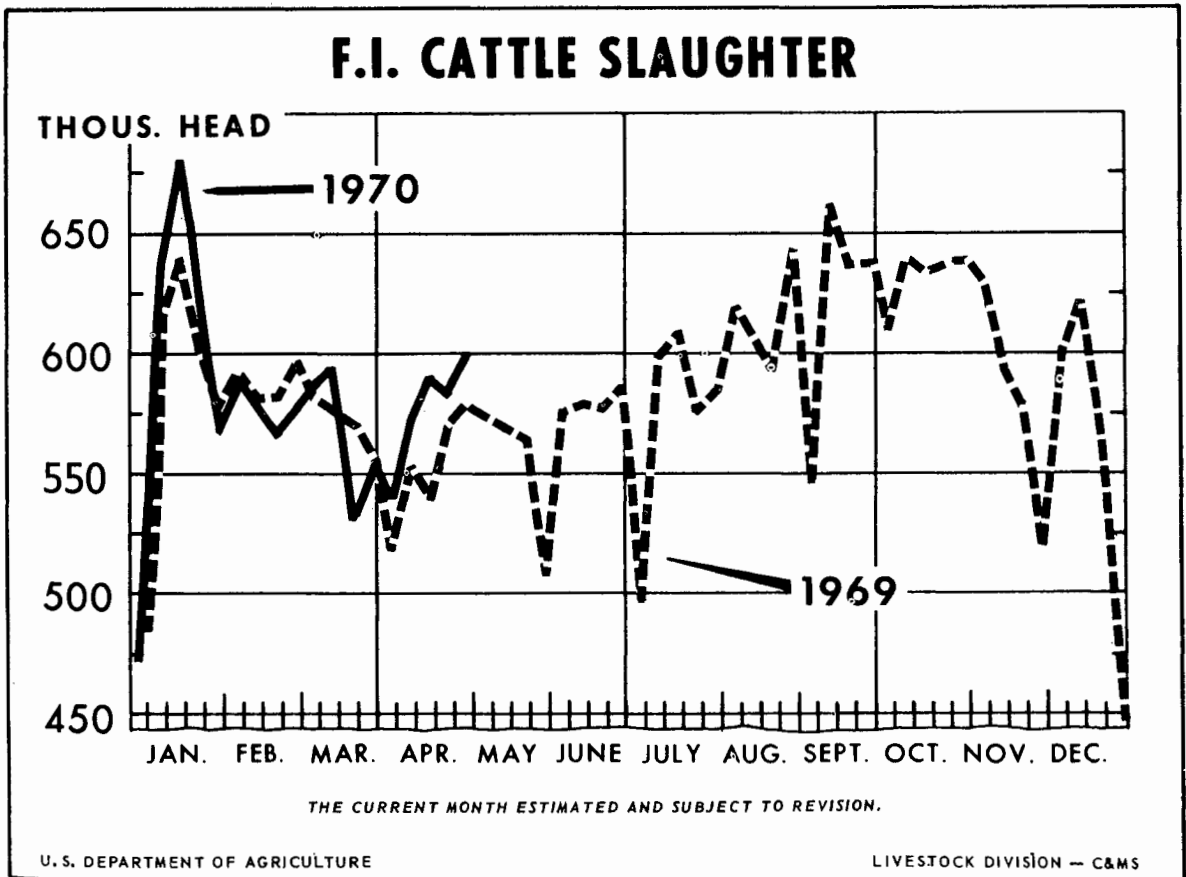
pressure eased. Also, fed cattle sold in that period were from cheaper fall-purchased feeder cattle. A tightening situation will develop again by summer as feeder cattle bought on the higher late winter-spring market reach slaughter finish.

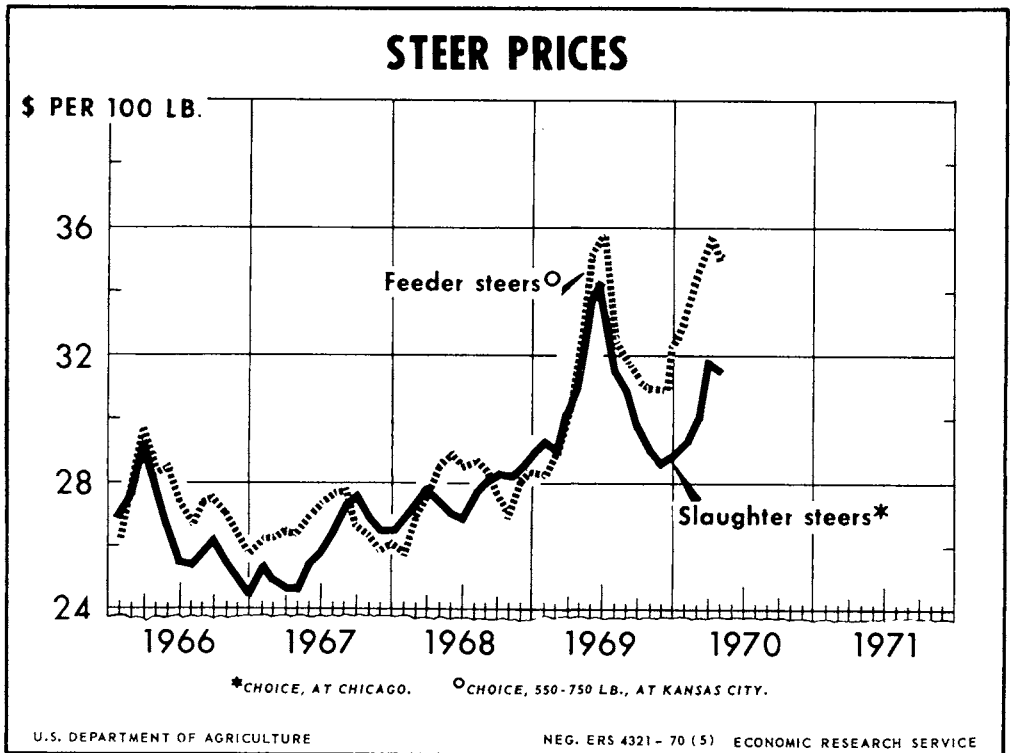
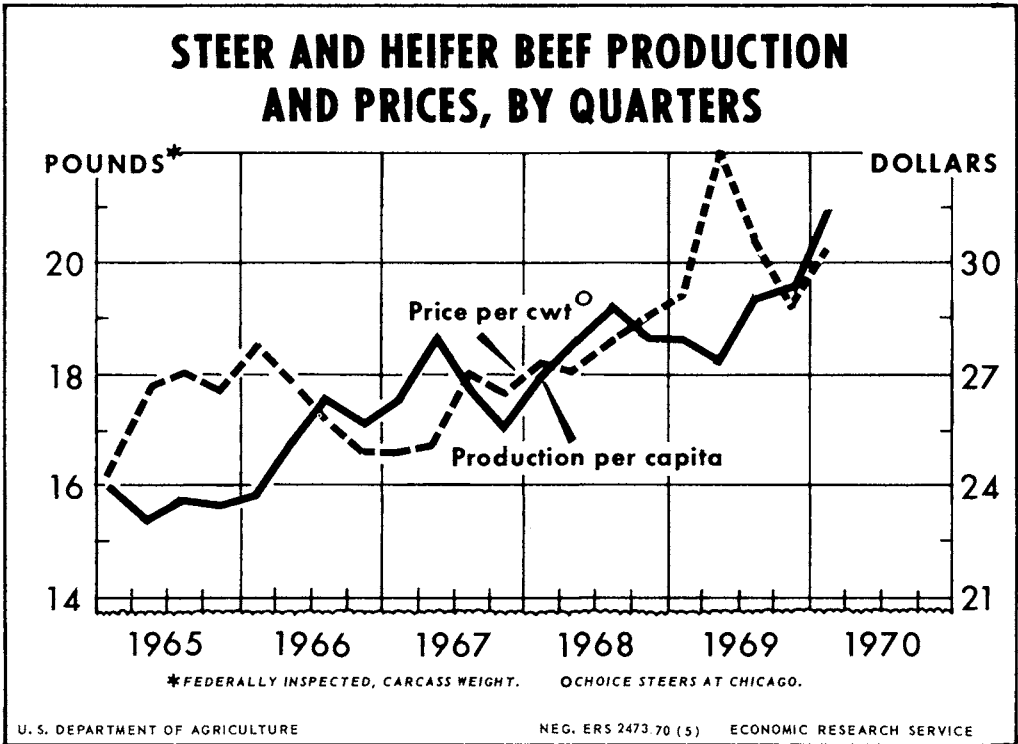
Summer Marketings May Differ Little

Summer shipments of fed cattle to slaughter may continue above a year earlier but by a smaller margin than in the winter or spring. About the same number of cattle were on feed on April 1 as a year earlier in the combined total of steers under 900 pounds and heifers under 700 pounds. A sharp increase of 19 percent in the number of steer calves in feedlots about offset declines in other weight classes. While cattle in these lighter weight groups do not precisely reflect fed cattle marketings 3 to 6 months hence, they provide a rough measure of prospective summer marketings.

Spring placements of heavier feeder cattle also have a bearing on summer marketings, particularly in late summer. A significant increase in placements of cattle weighing 600-700 pounds early this spring would increase summer fed cattle marketings. However, no marked increase in such placements is in prospect. The number of feeder cattle heavy enough to reach market weight by summer is probably smaller than a year ago. On balance, summer marketings likely will be somewhat larger than last summer, but not significantly different from winter and spring marketings.

If fed cattle marketings develop as anticipated, price strength will probably continue into the summer and the July-September average may exceed last year's third quarter average of \$30.73 (Choice steers at Chicago). Also, seasonally reduced pork output, smaller supplies of veal and lamb, and continued strong consumer demand will sustain cattle price strength.







### Feeder Cattle Prices Continue Strong

Feeder cattle supplies early this year were estimated to be somewhat larger than a year earlier, with most of the increase in calves. Placements in January-March were up only 2 percent from last year. Thus, based on the inventory report and cattle on feed reports, there is still a good supply of feeder cattle. They are, however, generally younger and lighter weight than a year ago. Also, feeder cattle placements were up a sharp 17 percent last spring. Placements this spring may be about the same as a year ago.

Feeder cattle prices typically rise in the winter and spring and decline through summer and fall. The rise this year has been more typical than last year's unusually sharp March-May rise. Rapidly advancing fed cattle prices last spring added unusual momentum to the seasonal upswing in feeder cattle prices.

\* 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	35.85	34.39	39.74
April	32.64	35.01	36.74	39.40
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	

Starting from a higher price level in the winter and early spring Choice grade 550-750 pound feeder steers at Kansas City averaged \$35 in April, about \$2.50 above a year ago. Strong demand for feeder cattle will likely

persist this spring. Prices are expected to continue steady to strong into the summer although most of the seasonal advance is probably past.

Favorable range conditions were reported in most of the 17 Western States in mid-April. Continued good feed this spring and summer would help maintain a stable feeder cattle market. Seasonal price weakness may be both delayed and milder than last year unless ranges deteriorate sharply or significant declines in fed cattle prices develop.

The relationship between feeder cattle prices and fed cattle prices shifted about a year ago. In the first quarter 1969 yearling feeder steers sold under Choice grade slaughter steers. But since April 1969, yearling feeder steers, Choice grade 550-750 pounds (Kansas City) have ranged up to \$4 per 100 pounds above 900-1,100 pound Choice steers in Chicago. In late April feeder cattle were about \$3.25 higher and likely will continue higher than slaughter cattle at least through midyear 1970.

### Cow Slaughter Down; Prices Higher

Cow slaughter continued reduced last winter. Commercial cow slaughter totaled 1.5 million head during January-March--10 percent below these months last year. The decline likely reflects a significant drop in slaughter of dairy cows, which make up the bulk of cow slaughter in the winter and spring. Slaughter of dairy cows likely will continue downward but culling of beef cows is expected to be near 1969 levels.

Cow prices have advanced sharply. Utility grade cows at Chicago rose from around \$21 in mid-January to nearly \$23.75 in late April, about \$2.60 above a year earlier. Most of the seasonal advance may be past. Prices are likely to hold mostly steady in the spring and then trend downward after midyear. However, they will likely continue well above a year earlier for the balance of 1970.

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	23.42
April	19.88	20.70	23.41
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	

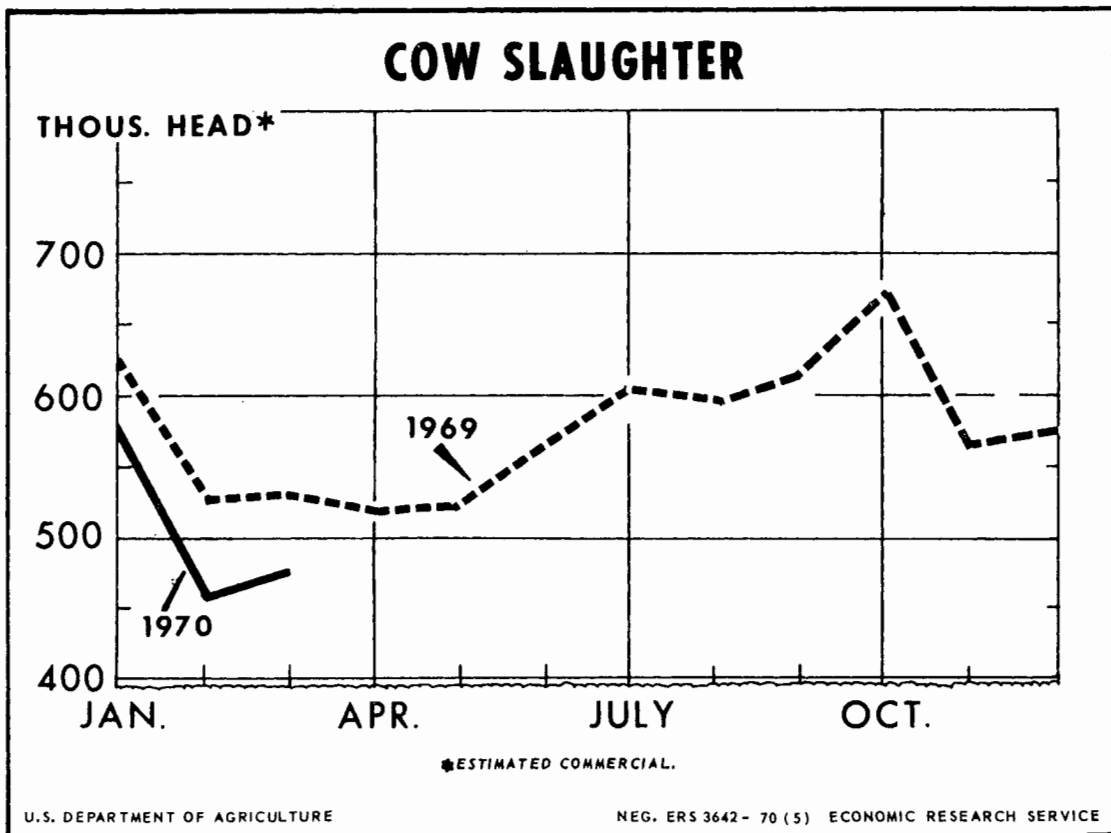
The role of heifers in cattle feeding has changed relatively little in recent years, their numbers averaging 29 or 30 percent of total

steers and heifers. Also, the price spread between feeder heifers and feeder steers this spring at most terminal markets is about the same as a year ago. Yearling steers at Kansas City in late April brought about \$35 per 100 pounds, \$3 more than yearling heifers. Thus, it does not appear that cow-calf operators are holding back an unusually large number of replacement heifers.

#### Calf Slaughter Continues Lower

Calf slaughter dropped 11 percent in 1969. A smaller dairy calf crop and strong demands for more feeder cattle continue to limit the slaughter calf supply. Commercial calf slaughter in the first quarter was 19 percent smaller than a year earlier.

Farmers have been getting record prices for veal calves so far this year. Choice vealers at South St. Paul in late April brought \$47 per 100 pounds, \$5 above a year ago and nearly \$5 above early January. Calf slaughter will continue below a year earlier and prices well above for the balance of 1970.



## HOGS

Hog producers are stepping up production following a cutback in 1969. The increase seems general--all 10 Corn Belt States are increasing production.

Barrows and gilts at 8 markets last year averaged \$23.70 per 100 pounds, \$4.50 higher than in 1968 and the highest annual average since the record high of \$25.24 in 1947. However, because of weather and disease problems early in 1969 and rising production costs, production did not respond to the higher prices until late in the year.

Corn Belt hog producers have reported plans to increase December 1969-May 1970 farrowings 5 to 7 percent this year. In addition, producers say they will raise June-August farrowings 8 percent. Therefore, slaughter supplies in the second half this year are expected to run larger than a year earlier and then to continue larger next winter. Hog slaughter was down only slightly in 1969, although second half slaughter dropped 5 percent.

### Winter Slaughter Down Sharply, Prices Up

Commercial hog slaughter during January-March was down 10 percent from a year earlier, reflecting the 9 percent cutback by Corn Belt producers in June-August 1969 farrowings.

Barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged about \$27 per 100 pounds in early January but rose to about \$28.50 in late February. However, as hog slaughter in late winter increased somewhat, prices dropped. The average was \$27.80 in January-February. Prices dropped during March but steadied in April at about \$24. Hog prices are expected to strengthen this spring as slaughter begins its seasonal decline to a summer low.

Hog slaughter this spring will continue considerably reduced, but toward midyear, it will approach 1969 levels. The number of market hogs weighing more than 120 pounds on March 1 was 6 percent fewer than a year earlier,

but lighter pigs were up 1 to 2 percent. The heavier hogs will reach slaughter weights in the spring, lighter hogs in the summer.

Hog prices at 8 markets, 1969-70

Month	Barrows and gilts		Sows <sup>1/</sup>	
	Dollars per 100 pounds			
	1969	1970	1969	1970
January	19.77	27.40	15.93	23.25
February	20.41	28.25	17.56	24.94
March	20.69	25.97	18.28	23.73
April	20.38	24.05	18.20	21.58
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	

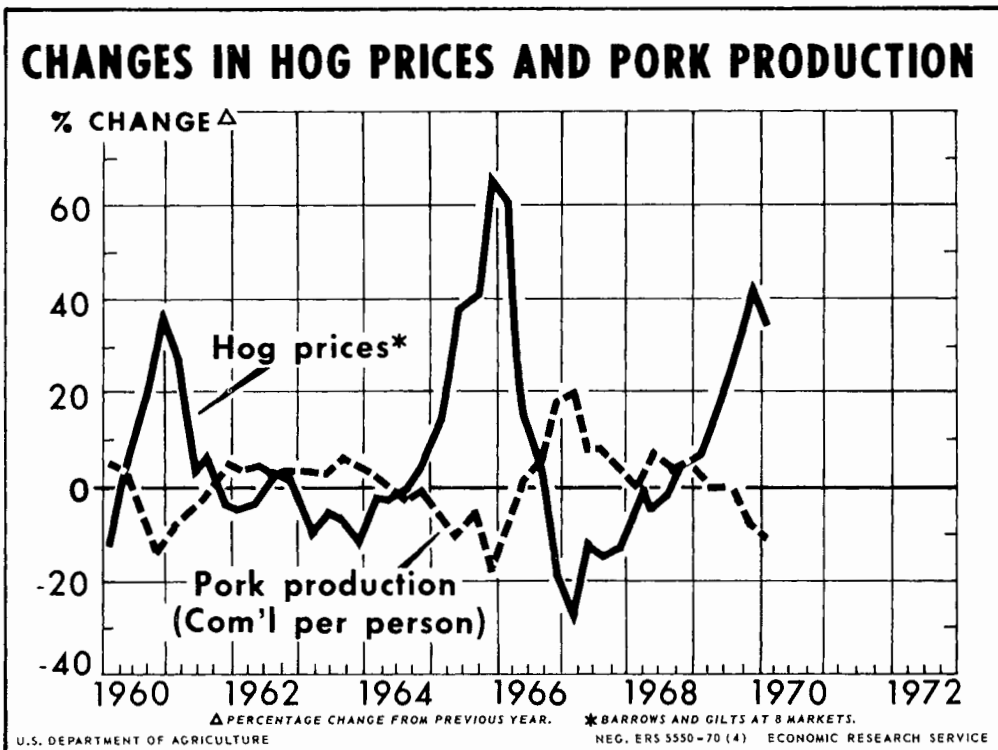
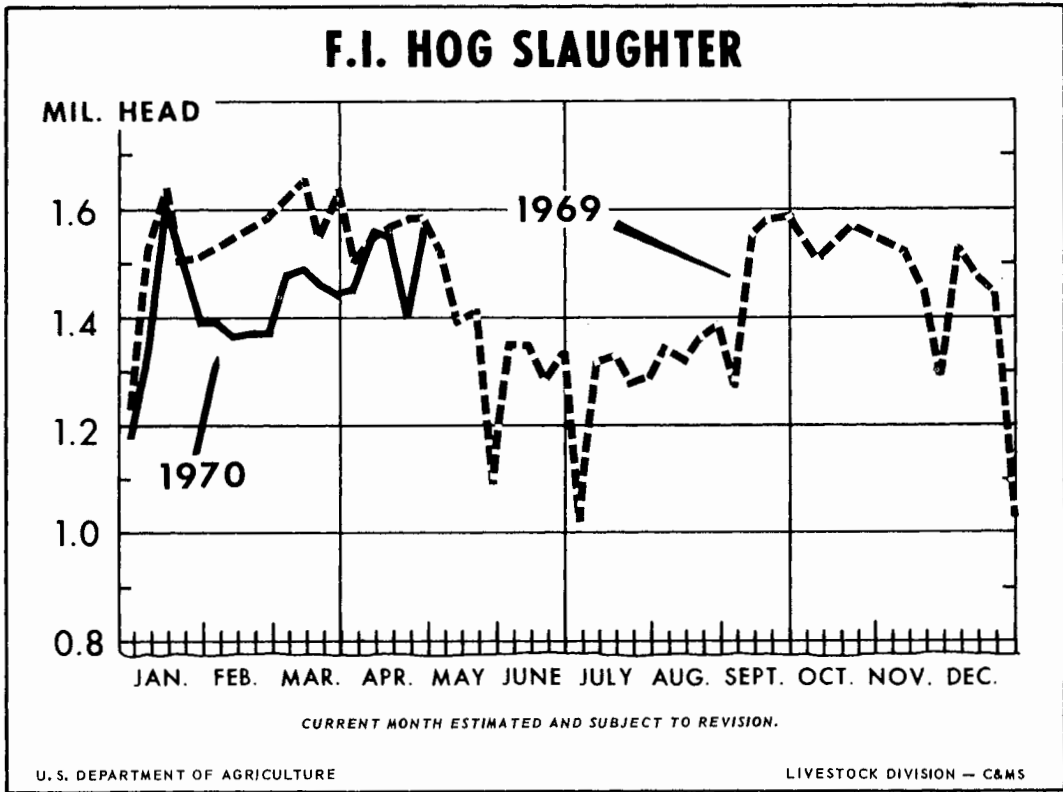
<sup>1/</sup> Average for all weights at Midwest Markets.

Hog prices during the winter were about \$7 above 1969 levels. Prices dropped in March and the margin narrowed to just over \$5. A further narrowing is likely this spring; prices are not expected to rise as fast as late spring. Last year, barrows and gilts at 8 markets rose \$5 from mid-April to the end of May and then continued to rise at a slower pace to a \$27.40 peak in August.

### Market Weight Up

Barrows and gilts at 8 Midwest markets averaged 238 pounds per head in March. This was about 8 pounds heavier than last spring when weights were lighter than usual, and the heaviest for any March since 1949.

Farmers have been feeding hogs to heavier weights since late last fall because hog prices have been high in relation to corn prices. Heavier weights, of course, have added to the pork supply--but not nearly enough to offset the sharp reduction in the number slaughtered. Hog producers are expected to continue marketing hogs this spring and summer at heavier weights.



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	238
April	238	238	234	243
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	

The increase in hog weights has widened the price spread between various weight groups of slaughter hogs. For example, in April U.S. 2's and 3's, 200-220 pound hogs sold at Chicago, averaged 72 cents per 100 pounds higher than similar quality hogs weighing 240-270 pounds. This compares with a 32 cent spread a year earlier.

#### Summer Slaughter Up A Little Fall Slaughter Up Substantially

Corn Belt hog producers had 5 percent more sows farrow during December 1969-February 1970 and March-May farrowings are estimated to be up about 7 percent. Hogs born in the first half of 1970 will reach market weights in the summer and fall. Summer hog slaughter, however, is not expected to be up as much as indicated by the increase in sows farrowing during December-February. There were slightly fewer market hogs on farms in the Corn Belt on March 1 weighing 60 to 119 pounds and only 3 percent more weighing less than 60 pounds.

July-September hog slaughter will be seasonally smaller than currently, even though it may be a little larger than last summer. However, the situation will change significantly next

fall when hog slaughter rises seasonally and runs larger than a year ago. Late this year, hog slaughter rates will considerably exceed summer lows.

Market hogs and pigs by weight groups,  
March 1, 1969-70 <sup>1/</sup>

Weight group	1969	1970	1970 as percent of 1969
	1,000 head		Percent
Under 60 lbs.	12,283	12,625	+3
60-119 lbs.	7,169	7,105	-1
120-179 lbs.	8,138	7,683	-6
180-219 lbs.	4,652	4,422	-5
220 lbs. & over	1,020	931	-9
Total market hogs & pigs	33,262	32,766	-1

<sup>1/10</sup> Corn Belt States.

Winter hog slaughter will continue well above this past winter since Corn Belt hog producers plan to have 8 percent more sows farrow during June-August this year than last. Even though the indicated expansion in the number of sows farrowing during December 1969-August 1970 is substantial, the number of sows that has farrowed or is expected to farrow in the Corn Belt through August is still smaller than in the same months of 1968. In addition, population growth has expanded the market for pork. Thus, while market supplies will increase substantially, per capita pork supplies are not expected to be excessive next fall and winter.

Barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged \$26.30 per 100 pounds during July-September 1969. Last year, following the summer peak in late August of \$27.40 per 100 pounds, prices declined to a November low of about \$25.25, but then rose steadily through the end of the year. This was an unusual price pattern for the late fall and reflected the sharp contraseasonal cut-back in hog slaughter late last year.

Hog prices this summer are expected to average about the same as last summer, but the peak may come somewhat earlier. Hog prices by late summer will be declining seasonally be-

cause slaughter will be increasing--both seasonally and above year-earlier rates. Fall prices probably will drop considerably below the October-December 1969 average of \$26 for barrows and gilts at 8 markets. However, prices in late 1970 likely will continue to run above prices for most other recent falls.

Next winter, hog prices will be under pressure from the increase in slaughter supplies. However, consumer demand likely will remain strong and increases in other red meats will not be excessive.

#### Expansion To Continue In Second Half Of 1970

The decline in sow slaughter under Federal inspection during January-March was about twice as sharp as the reduction in barrow and gilt slaughter. This is one indication that producers are taking steps to carry out their plans for expansion.

Hog producers may be encouraged to continue to step up output in the second half because hog prices are running considerably higher than a year earlier. Also, the hog-corn price ratio in April was about 20.7, up from an average of 18.8 in the second quarter of 1969. Hog prices will decline in the fall and feeding ratios will become less favorable to hog producers. However, hog prices are expected to continue high in relation to corn prices through the rest of the year.

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	23.4				

## SHEEP AND LAMBS

### Supplies Down Again This Year

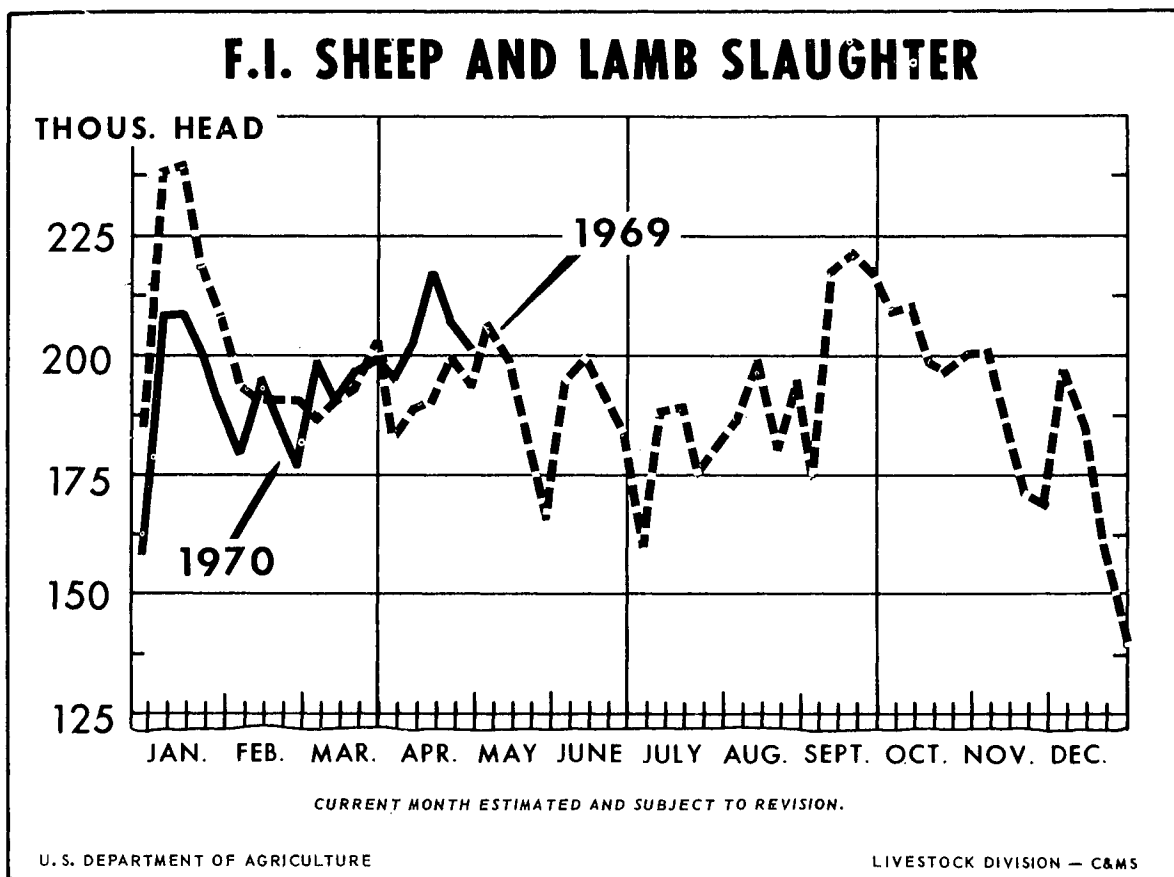
There were 17.6 million stock sheep and lambs on farms at the beginning of the year, 4 percent fewer than on January 1, 1969. This was the 10th consecutive year of decline.

Farmers had 4 percent fewer breeding ewes at the beginning of 1970. This points to a smaller lamb crop again this year. Thus, slaughter supplies will be smaller than last year.

Some further liquidation is expected in 1970, but any decline will be smaller than in other recent years. Although sheepmen in the Western States may hold their inventories steady or increase them slightly, producers in other States probably will continue to reduce numbers. The trend to larger, more specialized operations will probably continue to cause reductions in sheep inventories where sheep are a relatively small part of individual farm enterprises.

Despite an expected reduction in numbers in 1970, the inventory may stabilize. The key to inventory changes in 1970 will be the rate at which lambs from the 1970 crop are slaughtered. If slaughter rates are down at least 10 percent from 1969 the inventory likely will show little change at next count. Any smaller reduction in slaughter rates likely will result in some further decline in the sheep inventory this year.

Sheep and lamb slaughter in 1969 fell 10 percent. In January and February 1970, slaughter rates continued about 10 percent below early 1969. In March, however, slaughter rates were above a year earlier for the first time since October 1968. Total first quarter slaughter was about 5 percent smaller than January-March 1969. Slaughter rates continued above a year earlier in April.



Most of the March-April bulge in slaughter was apparently the result of an unusually large number of fed lambs going on feed later than usual and were later coming off. Also, early shipments of spring lambs overlapped with late fed marketings and slaughter rates jumped sharply.

Slaughter rates are expected to drop below last year's levels by late spring and to continue below through the balance of the year as slaughter supplies again reflect reduced numbers of lambs on farms.

#### Prices To Recover Partially

A weak market dominated the price picture in March and most of April this year, reflecting larger slaughter supplies and record heavy market weights.

In early January, Choice grade fed lambs were running near \$29.00 per 100 pounds at San Angelo, \$3 above a year earlier. Prices

dropped \$1 into February and were near year-earlier levels. Early spring lambs reached \$31.75 at San Angelo in early March--up \$1.25 from a year ago--but dropped sharply to \$27 by late April--\$3.50 below last year.

The bunched movement of slaughter lambs the past several weeks resulted in a sharp drop in prices. Some price recovery is expected later this spring as slaughter drops below a year earlier. Prices then should rise again over year-earlier levels, and continue generally above through the balance of the year. Most of the normal seasonal loss has already occurred and further price change will be on the up side.

Although the lamb market has passed through a weak period, a strong demand for red meat and smaller supplies of lamb will continue to yield a generally favorable price situation for lamb producers.

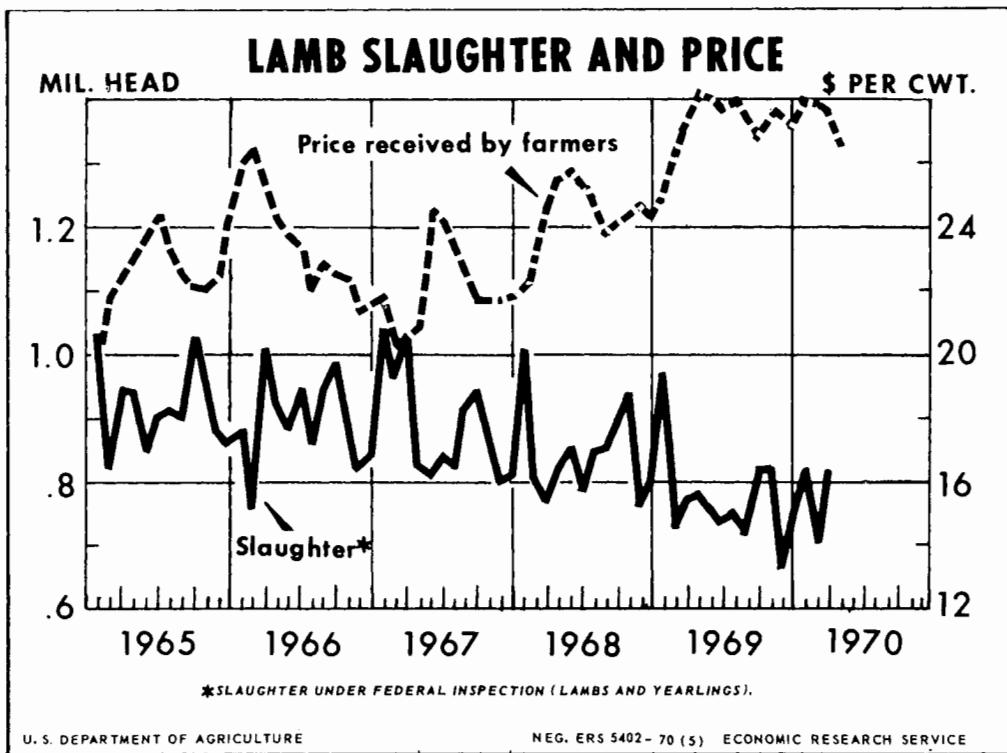
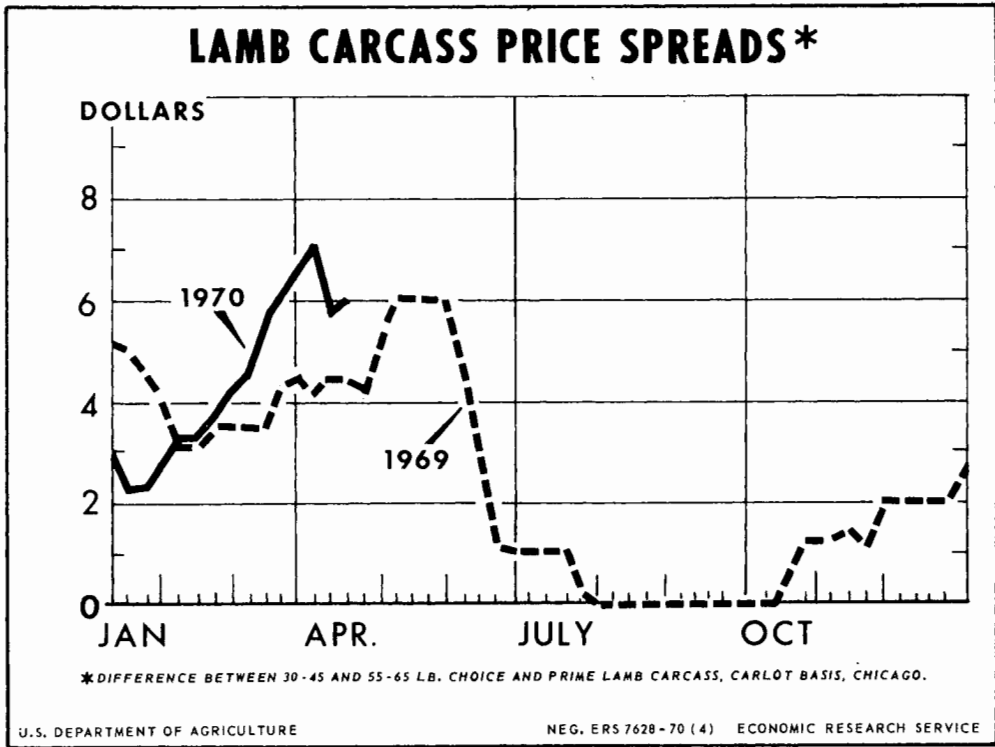




Table 2.--Production, prices and income from wool,  
United States, 1959-69

Year	Shorn wool					Pulled wool production
	Number sheep shorn 1/ 1,000 head	Weight per fleece Pounds	Production pounds	Price per pound 2/ Cents	Value dollars	
1959	30,763	8.45	259,939	43.3	112,328	34,500
1960	31,081	8.54	265,277	42.0	111,412	33,600
1961	30,454	8.51	259,161	42.9	111,445	34,500
1962	29,193	8.45	246,636	47.7	117,579	29,900
1963	27,264	8.53	232,446	48.5	112,426	28,800
1964	25,455	8.34	212,333	53.2	112,877	25,100
1965	23,756	8.48	201,463	47.1	94,999	23,300
1966	22,923	8.51	195,053	52.1	101,204	24,100
1967	22,022	8.58	188,919	39.8	75,163	22,400
1968	20,761	8.55	177,591	40.5	71,867	20,500
1969 3/	19,587	8.47	165,825	41.8	69,580	17,100

1/ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. 2/ For the years 1959 through 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. Beginning in 1964 the marketing year is January through December. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 3.--Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1959-69 1/

Year	Number goats clipped 2/ 1,000 head	Average clip per goat Pounds	Production of mohair pounds	Price per pound 3/ Cents	Value dollars
1960	3,888	6.3	24,467	89.7	21,937
1961	4,021	6.6	26,411	85.6	22,615
1962	4,236	6.4	27,215	71.4	19,430
1963	4,363	6.6	29,007	88.1	25,562
1964	4,568	6.5	29,736	94.3	28,053
1965	4,803	6.7	32,420	65.5	21,251
1966	4,659	6.3	29,576	53.7	15,896
1967	4,113	6.6	27,127	40.9	11,100
1968	3,966	6.6	26,022	45.2	11,754
1969 4/	3,220	6.6	21,203	65.1	13,808

1/ States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California.

2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall.

3/ For the years 1959 through 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. Beginning in 1964 marketing year is January through December.

4/ Preliminary.

## 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	31.06	30.69	30.88
April	31.05	28.35	29.55	28.50
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	

### Heavy Weights Affect Price Spread

Early in the year the average weight of slaughter lambs was about the same as a year earlier, but in March and April slaughter weights substantially exceeded year-ago levels. In January-March commercially slaughtered lambs averaged 108 pounds, slightly above a year earlier and a record high.

As slaughter weight increased and lamb slaughter rose in February and March, the price spread between 35-45 pound carcasses and 55-65 pound carcasses increased rapidly. In mid-January 35-45 pound lamb carlot basis, Chicago averaged \$60.94, \$2.25 above 55-65 pound carcasses. In mid-April the lighter weights were \$56, \$6 higher than heavier weight carcasses. This spread will trend downward and disappear again by early summer.

### 1969 Wool Production Down, Prices Up

Shorn wool production in 1969 totaled 166 million pounds (grease basis)--down 7 percent from 1968. Pulled wool output totaled 17 million pounds, down 17 percent. Wool production will decline further in 1970 because there were fewer sheep and lambs on hand at the beginning of the year.

Wool market prices paid to ranchers and farmers were 41.8 cents per pound, up nearly a cent and a half from 1968. Smaller production and the minor change in the market prices resulted in a \$2.3 million drop in value of 1969 wool production compared with the 1968 clip. The Federal incentive payment to producers under the National Wool Act was 65.1 percent of returns from the sale of wool in 1969. This was slightly lower than the 65.4 percent rate in 1968. The 1969 average price of 41.8 cents per pound received was supplemented by an average Federal payment of 27.2 cents per pound.

Mohair production in 7 leading States (Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Missouri, Oregon, California, and Utah) totaled 21.2 million pounds in 1969. This was 19 percent less than in 1968 and 35 percent below the 1965 output.

The average price received by farmers and ranchers for mohair in 1969 was 65.1 cents per pound compared with 45.2 cents in 1968. Thus, while output fell substantially, sharply higher prices resulted in a 17 percent increase in market value of the 1969 clip to \$13.8 million. This was further supplemented by a Federal payment averaging 12.3 cents per pound for the 1969 clip.

## FOREIGN TRADE IN MEATS

U.S. meat production set another record in 1969. Increases in beef more than offset moderate decreases for other meats. Meat prices, however, rose considerably. This strong market situation drew more meat to the United States from exporting countries. The increases in meat production and imports together provided the largest volume of meat supplies ever in this country. Meat supplies increased about as much as the increase in population. Meat consumption per person in 1969, therefore, at 182.3 pounds, almost equaled the 1968 record of 182.7 pounds.

### Total Meat Imports

Meat imports in 1969 totaled 1,639 million pounds (product weight). This was equivalent to 2,202 million pounds on a carcass weight basis, and was equal to 6.2 percent of U.S. production. This was an increase over 1968

when imports of 2,082 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) were equal to 5.9 percent of U.S. production.

Beef accounted for most of the increase in the 1969 meat import total. Imports of lamb and mutton also were larger, but imports of pork were smaller.

The value of U.S. imports of meat animals, meat, and meat products in 1969 was \$1,152 million, up from \$1,067 million in 1968.

#### U.S. Meat And Byproduct Exports

U.S. exports of meat animals, meat and meat products were valued at \$511 million in 1969.

U.S. meat exports typically are small because of generally higher wholesale meat prices in the United States than elsewhere. Exports in 1969 were equal to about 0.5 percent of U.S. production and valued at \$94 million. There are, however, large markets abroad for byproducts of the meatpacking industry.

The United States is a leading exporter of tallow, greases, and lard (nearly \$164 million in 1969), hides and skins (\$152 million), and variety meats (\$62 million).

#### Beef Imports

Beef imports totaled 1,615 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) in 1969. This was almost 8 percent more than in 1968 but a little below the 1963 record. Veal imports, at 25 million pounds, also were larger than in 1968. Beef and veal imports combined were equal to 7.5 percent of U.S. beef and veal production in 1969, the largest proportion since 1963 when they were equal to 9.7 percent of production.

The increase in beef imports was due almost entirely to larger imports of boneless fresh or frozen beef. This product is similar to domestic cow beef and is used similarly, mainly in hamburger and processed meat products. Australia and New Zealand are the largest suppliers. Boneless beef imports amounted to 1,349 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent), 84 percent of beef imports, and more than three-fifths of total red meat imports. Imports of fresh or frozen bone-in beef totaled 19.6 million pounds, only a little

over 1 percent of total beef imports. Canned beef was 10 percent; pickled, cured and other processed beef was 5 percent.

#### Pork Imports

Pork imports totaled 409 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) in 1969, down from 416 million pounds in 1968. Imports of canned hams and shoulders, however, rose to 315 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) from 306 million pounds in 1968. Canned hams and shoulders accounted for over three-fourths of total pork imports in 1969. Imports are chiefly from Denmark, the Netherlands, and Poland, in that order. Pork imports in 1969 were equal to 3.2 percent of U.S. production, about the same as in other recent years.

#### Lamb And Mutton Imports

Imports of lamb were 43.9 million pounds, up from 22.9 million pounds in 1968. Mutton imports at 108 million pounds were down from 124 million pounds in 1968. Lamb imports were equal to 8.6 percent of U.S. estimated production of lamb; mutton imports were almost two and three-quarters times as large as U.S. estimated mutton production. Mutton production in the United States is very small; in recent years sheep have accounted for only 6 to 7 percent of the total number of sheep and lambs slaughtered under Federal inspection. Imports of lamb and mutton combined were equal to 27.7 percent of U.S. lamb and mutton production in 1969.

#### Live Animal Imports

Imports of dutiable cattle (those not for breeding) totaled 1,021,054 head in 1969, slightly less than the 1,024,235 imported in 1968. Most of the live cattle imports were feeder cattle and calves. There were only 46,637 dutiable cattle weighing 700 pounds and over imported in 1969. Of these, 22,876 were dairy cows. In addition, there were 20,855 head of breeding cattle imported in 1969. Virtually all live cattle imports come from Mexico and Canada.

There were 13,430 head of hogs imported in 1969, down from 21,678 head in 1968. Imports of sheep and lambs were 22,805 head, down from 26,579 head in 1968.

### Meat Subject To Import Quota Restriction

Imports of meat subject to restriction by quota totaled 1,084.1 million pounds (product weight) in 1969. This was 8 percent more than in 1968.

Public Law 88-482, enacted in August 1964, outlines procedures for reviewing the meat import situation and specifies conditions for proclaiming import quotas for certain meat--primarily fresh or frozen beef and mutton. The import quota level is related to the level of domestic production of these meats. The law provides that if estimated imports of fresh, chilled, or frozen cattle meat and meat of goats and sheep, other than lamb, equal or exceed 110 percent of the adjusted base quota for that year, the President is required to invoke a quota on imports of these meats. The adjusted base quota for 1970 is 998.8 million pounds (product weight). The amount of estimated imports which would trigger its imposition is 110 percent of the adjusted base quota, or 1,098.7 million pounds.

The adjusted base quota for a year is derived from adjusting the base of 725.4 million pounds specified in the law (approximately the 1959-63 average annual imports of these meats) by the percentage increase or decrease since 1959-63 in domestic commercial production of these meats. The law defines the level of domestic production as a 3-year average--an average of the estimated commercial production for the year in which the quota may be applied and commercial production in the 2 preceding years. Average annual production for 1968-70 was estimated at 21.6 billion pounds, an increase of 37.7 percent over the 1959-63 base period. This required for 1970 an increase in the adjusted base quota level to 998.8 million pounds.

In compliance with the law, the Secretary of Agriculture estimates annual imports and makes quarterly reports to the President on the meat import situation to advise him of any changes that may develop during the year. The second quarterly estimate of 1970 meat imports subject to restriction by quota was 1,061.5 million pounds.

In January-March 1970, imports of meat subject to restriction by quota totaled 337 million pounds, 48 percent more than in the

first quarter of 1969. Imports in January and February were up sharply, but imports in March were 18 percent below a year earlier.

### Total Meat Imports Larger And Exports Smaller

Total meat imports amounted to 660 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) in January-March 1970, up 44 percent from a year earlier. Beef accounted for most of the increase. Lamb imports, at 12 million pounds, were twice those of a year earlier. Imports of mutton (and goat), at 33 million pounds, were 58 percent larger. Pork imports, at 111 million pounds, were up 22 percent.

Meat exports totaled 23 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) in January-March, 56 percent less than a year earlier.

## USDA MEAT PURCHASES

In the first quarter of 1970 the Department of Agriculture purchased 53 million pounds (product weight) of meat and meat products for distribution to schools and other food help programs at an f.o.b. cost of about \$30 million.

Purchases for use in the food help programs included \$16.5 million for 30.6 million pounds of canned chopped meat. About 22.4 million pounds of frozen ground beef was purchased for schools at an f.o.b. cost of \$13.2 million.

Funds used for these purchases were provided under Section 32 of Public Law 320.

## MEAT CONSUMPTION AND RETAIL PRICES

Red meat consumption during the winter averaged about a half pound per person less than the 46 pounds consumed in January-March

1969. Beef consumption was up, but declines in pork, veal and lamb were more than offsetting. This spring and summer, consumption of red meat is expected to run about the same as a year earlier, but to rise above 1969 next fall.

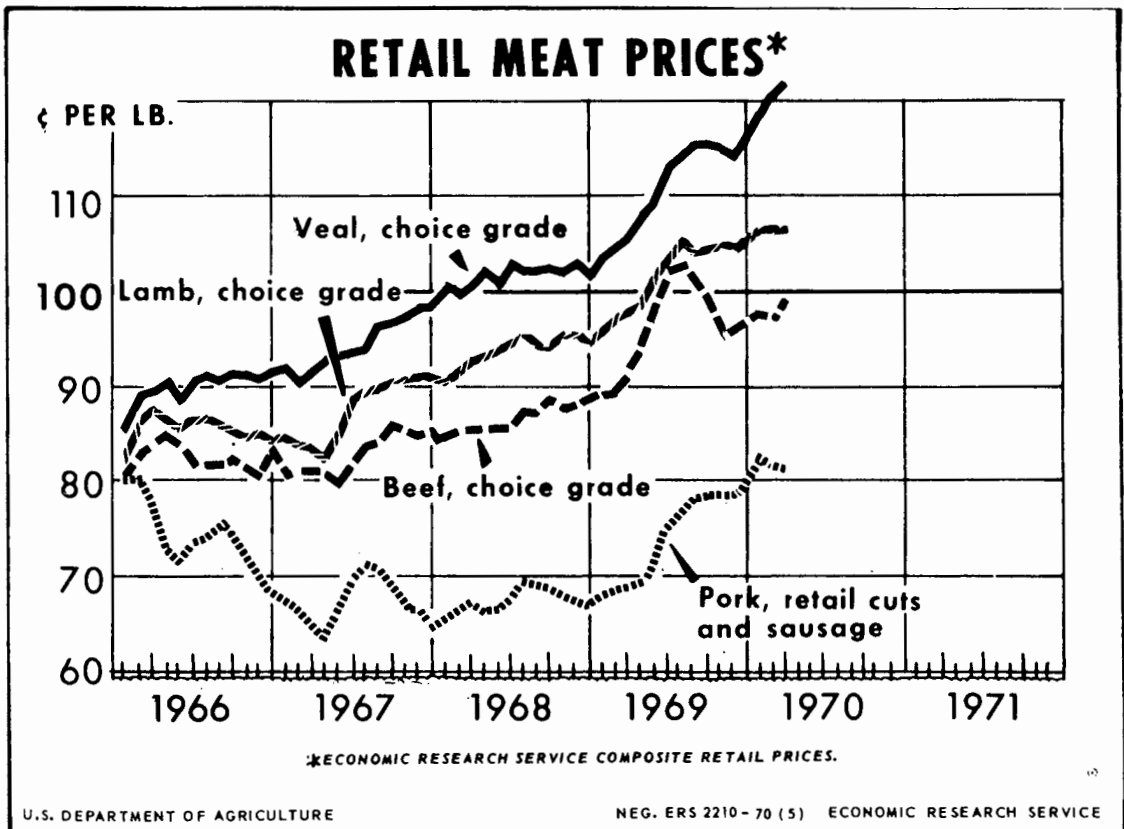
Somewhat smaller supplies of meat, coupled with continued strong consumer demand led to further rises in retail meat prices in early 1970. Meat prices may rise this spring and summer, but increases are expected to be much smaller than they were in these months last year.

Beef consumption during the first quarter averaged about a pound per person more than the 27.1 pounds consumed in January-March 1969. Increased production of fed beef and beef imports accounted for all the gain in consumption. Production of lower quality beef was considerably smaller than a year earlier. Beef consumption this spring is expected to run moderately larger than last spring, but only a small increase is in prospect for the second half of 1970.

Meat consumption per person

Item	1967	1968	1969
<u>Pounds per person</u>			
Beef	106.2	109.4	110.7
Veal	3.8	3.6	3.4
Pork	63.9	66.0	64.8
Lamb and mutton	3.9	3.7	3.4
Total meat	177.8	182.7	182.3

Retail beef prices rose sharply last spring and continued to a high of 102.5 cents per pound in July 1969 (ERS series). Prices declined about 5 cents in the fall. March prices were about 99 cents per pound. Later this spring and summer retail beef prices are expected to average a little higher than current levels.



Veal consumption in 1969 totaled about 3.4 pounds per person, down 0.2 pound from a year earlier. Veal consumption likely will continue declining this year, reflecting the steady reduction in dairy cow numbers and a strong demand by feedlot operators for feeder cattle. Retail veal prices have risen as veal production has dropped and as prices of other red meats have gone up. Veal prices this spring and summer are expected to continue well above a year earlier.

Pork consumption in 1969 averaged 64.8 pounds per person, down from 66 pounds in 1968. All of the decrease came in the second half of the year. Pork consumption in 1970 has continued below a year earlier. Consumption during the winter ran about 1-3/4 pounds below the 17.0 pounds consumed during January-March 1969. With reduced numbers of market hogs on farms, consumption of pork this spring is expected to continue below year-earlier levels, but not by as much as in the winter months. Pork consumption will be seasonally low in the summer, about matching last summer's rate.

Hog slaughter by the end of the summer likely will run larger than a year earlier because hog producers are stepping up production this spring. Consumption of pork next fall will rise seasonally and be moderately larger than a year earlier.

Retail pork prices also rose rapidly last spring, and by early summer were about 77 to 78 cents a pound. Pork prices held near this level through the end of 1969, but rose somewhat in January and February. Further increases in retail pork prices are in prospect through the summer when hog slaughter supplies are seasonally low. However, in the fall, retail pork prices probably will weaken as pork output rises.

Consumption of lamb and mutton has dropped in recent years because of declining production. A further small drop in consumption is likely this year from the 3.4 pounds consumed per person in 1969. Retail lamb prices also rose sharply in the first half of 1969 but have continued near those levels since. Little change in retail lamb prices is expected during the rest of the spring and summer.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
<u>Cents</u>													
<u>Beef, Choice grade</u>													
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	97.6	97.4	99.4										
<u>Veal, retail cuts</u>													
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	119.0	121.0	122.3										
<u>Pork</u>													
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	82.1	81.8	81.4										
<u>Lamb, Choice grade</u>													
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	106.6	106.7	106.6										

<sup>1/</sup> 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 animals, meat and meat products: Value of United States imports and exports, 1967-69

Commodity	Imports for consumption			Exports		
	1967	1968	1969 <u>1/</u>	1967	1968	1969 <u>1/</u>
	<u>Million dollars</u>					
Live animals:						
Cattle and calves	64.1	97.4	103.0	21.2	15.4	16.7
Hogs	.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.7
Sheep and lambs	.2	.5	.6	1.6	1.1	1.0
Meat:						
Beef and veal	403.9	485.5	568.7	20.2	19.9	21.7
Pork	203.3	216.1	238.8	17.8	31.6	61.8
Lamb, mutton and goat	18.0	23.4	31.6	1.0	1.2	1.0
Processed meats <u>2/</u>	3.4	4.2	4.9	8.7	9.2	9.4
Tallow, greases, and lard	.8	.8	1.2	175.9	148.6	164.4
Variety meats	1.2	1.1	1.7	57.1	54.9	61.7
Casings	19.7	20.8	23.9	6.9	7.3	10.3
Hides and skins	53.9	70.6	57.6	127.4	120.8	151.7
Wool and mohair	129.6	145.3	119.1	7.2	11.8	9.8
Total	899.0	1,066.7	1,152.1	446.0	422.8	511.2

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Imports are other sausage. Exports include sausage, canned meats, and canned specialties.



Table 6.--U.S. imports of livestock products, 1964-69

Item	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969 <sup>1/</sup>
<u>Million pounds</u>						
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)						
Beef						
Boneless, fresh or frozen	919.2	734.3	986.7	1,116.0	1,224.7	1,348.9
Fresh or frozen	17.2	29.3	20.7	11.7	26.8	19.6
Total fresh or frozen	936.4	763.6	1,007.4	1,127.7	1,251.5	1,368.5
Canned	110.2	126.8	126.6	136.7	165.2	164.4
Pickled or cured	.4	.4	.6	1.8	1.3	1.6
Other processed	20.7	32.2	47.6	47.3	81.7	80.3
Total	1,067.7	923.0	1,182.2	1,313.5	1,499.7	1,614.8
Veal						
Fresh or frozen	17.5	18.8	22.0	14.2	18.3	25.7
Pork						
Fresh or frozen	39.2	47.9	42.0	47.4	48.4	42.9
Hams and shoulders, not cooked	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.2
Hams and shoulders, canned	189.7	236.7	267.6	284.6	306.5	314.7
Other	36.8	46.5	69.9	58.6	58.8	49.0
Total	267.4	333.0	381.3	392.5	416.1	408.8
Lamb	10.4	12.5	14.9	12.3	22.9	43.9
Mutton and Goat	68.6	60.0	121.1	108.6	124.0	108.4
Total red meat	1,431.6	1,347.3	1,721.5	1,841.1	2,081.0	2,201.6
Variety Meats (product weight)	1.2	2.2	3.3	3.5	3.8	5.6
Wool (clean basis)						
Dutiable	98.4	162.7	162.5	109.1	129.8	93.5
Duty-free	113.9	108.9	114.6	78.2	119.6	95.7
Total wool	212.3	271.6	277.2	187.3	249.4	189.2
<u>1,000 pieces</u>						
Hides and Skins						
Cattle	315	302	221	233	494	276
Calf	926	458	242	481	508	358
Kip	1,084	607	438	357	286	334
Sheep and lamb	29,621	29,821	27,893	20,300	30,822	20,715
<u>Number</u>						
Cattle <sup>2/</sup>	528,872	1,110,631	1,081,474	740,448	1,024,235	1,021,054
Hogs <sup>3/</sup>	5,094	14,453	22,698	34,926	21,678	13,430
Sheep and Lambs	12,680	19,073	8,310	12,403	26,579	22,805

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2/</sup> Dutiable; not for breeding. <sup>3/</sup> For years 1964-66 imports reported in pounds; pounds converted to 200-pound hog equivalent. Beginning 1967 reported in numbers.

Table 7.--U.S. exports of livestock products, 1964-69

Commodity	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
						<u>1/</u>
	<u>Million pounds</u>					
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)						
Beef						
Fresh or frozen	31.8	32.4	17.5	17.1	15.2	16.2
Canned	2.6	2.4	3.0	2.8	2.2	2.0
Pickled or cured	22.8	11.8	12.8	15.9	13.3	10.5
Other Processed	3.8	5.5	4.9	5.2	6.3	6.7
Total	61.0	52.1	38.2	41.0	37.0	35.4
Veal						
Fresh or frozen	3.5	1.3	.5	.7	.5	.6
Total (includes canned)	3.8	1.8	.9	1.2	1.2	1.3
Pork						
Fresh or frozen	96.2	17.1	17.1	19.2	47.9	98.6
Hams and shoulders, not cooked	10.1	10.5	13.6	12.4	15.5	23.7
Hams and shoulders, canned	1.9	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.0	2.5
Other canned	2.2	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.8	3.8
Other	27.9	21.1	21.3	19.7	23.1	25.2
Total	138.3	55.3	58.4	57.9	93.3	153.8
Lamb and mutton	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.3
Total red meat	205.0	111.2	99.8	102.7	134.3	192.8
Variety Meats (product weight)	229.4	223.1	213.3	222.3	225.2	239.9
Animal Fats						
Lard	682.0	250.9	157.6	188.6	175.3	261.5
Inedible tallow and greases <u>2/</u>	2,399.0	2,111.0	1,972.0	2,220.7	2,234.0	1,894.7
Edible tallow and greases <u>3/</u>	12.8	17.0	16.4	17.1	11.2	13.4
Mohair (Clean content)	2.7	8.5	10.7	10.3	15.9	12.9
	<u>1,000 pieces</u>					
Hides and Skins						
Cattle	11,502	13,309	14,307	<u>4/</u> 11,817	<u>4/</u> 12,879	<u>4/</u> 14,801
Calf	2,111	1,985	2,066	1,906	1,818	1,240
Kip	280	474	516	477	390	414
Sheep and lamb	3,065	2,876	2,422	3,758	3,344	3,931
	<u>Number</u>					
Cattle	61,631	54,171	35,317	55,322	35,745	39,186
Hogs	16,567	12,180	9,649	12,932	13,714	18,620
Sheep, Lambs, and Goats <u>5/</u>	22,809	25,315	59,054	120,733	117,677	106,237

1/ Preliminary

2/ Includes inedible animal oils, greases, fats, and tallow.

3/ Includes oleo oil and oleo stearin, oleo stock, and edible tallow.

4/ Excludes pieces that are reported in pounds, which were reported in pieces in previous years.

5/ Sheep only for 1964. Sheep, lambs, and goats for 1965 forward.

Table 8.--Meat imports: United States, by countries, 1962 to date

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Product and year	Imports, by country of origin, product weight												Total imports	
	Canada	Mexico	Argentina	Brazil	Denmark	West Germany	Poland	Netherlands	Ireland	Australia	New Zealand	All other	Product weight	Carcass weight equivalent
<u>Million pounds</u>														
Beef and veal:														
1962 1/.....	19.4	59.3	55.9	17.2	7.7	0.4	0.4	0.1	70.7	441.6	213.6	81.1	967.4	1,440
1963 1/.....	17.2	73.0	87.4	10.6	6.1	.2	1.1	.1	72.9	517.0	235.7	100.3	1,121.6	1,677
1964 .....	28.8	48.9	54.4	10.4	.1	2/	.1	2/	20.1	377.1	168.3	92.2	800.4	1,085
1965 .....	71.4	46.3	54.8	24.5	.2	.1	.1	.1	7.8	307.5	103.6	84.6	701.0	942
1966 .....	57.2	57.1	80.6	18.3	.1	2/	.1	.1	38.4	404.1	145.0	92.3	893.3	1,204
1967 .....	26.7	47.8	108.1	9.6	.1	2/	2/	2/	80.6	425.6	170.9	109.6	979.0	1,328
1968 .....	46.7	65.6	132.6	31.6	.1	2/	.1	2/	56.7	444.2	203.1	147.3	1,128.0	1,518
1969 3/.....	44.0	66.5	130.0	34.3	.2	2/	2/	2/	66.0	491.1	223.7	160.8	1,216.6	1,640
Lamb and mutton:														
1962 .....	0.5	---	.1	---	---	---	---	---	0.2	65.9	11.1	0.4	78.2	143
1963 .....	.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2/	65.8	14.8	.5	81.8	145
1964 .....	.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	34.4	8.8	.8	44.7	79
1965 .....	.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	30.3	11.4	.4	42.6	72
1966 .....	.3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	63.8	11.1	.2	75.4	136
1967 .....	.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	56.8	9.4	.2	66.6	121
1968 .....	2/	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	62.2	.7	.1	84.9	147
1969 3/.....	.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	73.9	23.4	.1	98.1	153
Pork:														
1962 .....	46.8	2/	---	---	63.8	1.3	39.8	43.4	2.0	2/	.1	6.6	203.8	216
1963 .....	45.9	2/	---	---	71.0	.9	40.0	42.9	1.3	2/	.1	8.4	210.5	225
1964 .....	50.7	---	2/	---	66.4	.7	43.9	38.2	.2	2/	2/	10.5	210.6	268
1965 .....	57.0	2/	---	---	85.2	.9	52.9	46.2	2.2	---	2/	20.9	262.3	333
1966 .....	47.5	---	---	---	116.9	1.8	51.6	65.0	1.6	2/	2/	13.9	298.3	381
1967 .....	54.8	2/	.3	---	102.3	1.4	57.2	74.6	.2	.1	2/	16.0	306.9	392
1968 .....	55.5	2/	2/	.1	111.9	1.4	55.1	82.2	.3	2/	2/	17.6	324.1	416
1969 3/.....	49.9	2/	.1	---	108.6	1.8	53.6	85.6	.2	.2	2/	15.6	315.6	409
Total:														
1962 1/.....	66.7	59.3	56.0	17.2	71.5	1.7	40.2	43.5	72.9	507.6	224.8	88.1	1,249.5	1,799
1963 1/.....	63.8	73.0	87.4	10.9	77.1	1.1	41.1	43.0	74.2	582.8	250.6	109.9	1,414.7	2,047
1964 .....	80.1	48.9	54.4	10.4	66.5	.7	44.0	38.2	20.3	411.5	176.9	103.8	1,055.7	1,432
1965 .....	125.9	46.3	54.8	24.7	85.4	1.0	53.0	46.3	10.0	337.7	115.0	105.9	1,006.0	1,347
1966 .....	105.0	57.1	80.5	18.3	117.0	1.8	51.7	65.1	40.0	467.9	156.1	106.5	1,267.0	1,721
1967 .....	81.7	47.8	108.6	9.6	102.4	1.4	57.2	74.6	80.8	482.5	180.3	125.6	1,352.5	1,841
1968 .....	102.2	65.6	132.6	31.7	112.1	1.4	55.2	82.2	56.9	506.4	203.8	165.0	1,544.6	2,081
1969 3/.....	94.6	66.5	130.1	34.3	108.8	1.8	53.6	85.6	66.2	565.2	247.1	176.5	1,639.1	2,202

1/ Includes quantities of other canned, prepared or preserved meat n.e.s., assumed to be mostly beef. 2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

3/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

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Table 9.--Meat exports: United States exports and shipments by countries, 1965 to date

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Product and year	Exports, by destination, product weight											Shipments to territories <sup>1/</sup>		Total exports and shipments	
	Canada	Mexico	France	Bahamas	West Germany	Jamaica	Japan	Netherlands	Venezuela	All other	Total		Product weight	Carcass weight equivalent	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	
<b>Beef and veal:</b>															
1965.....	9.9	.2	1.3	3.0	.3	1.3	.1	.8	.1	26.8	43.8	27.6	71.4	97	
1966.....	13.1	.2	.5	4.0	.2	1.0	.1	.3	<u>2/</u>	9.4	28.8	32.2	61.0	87	
1967.....	17.5	.2	.3	5.8	.1	1.2	.4	.2	<u>2/</u>	5.6	31.3	36.4	67.6	94	
1968.....	11.9	.4	.4	7.1	.1	1.1	.4	.1	<u>2/</u>	5.5	27.0	37.5	64.5	94	
1969 <u>4/</u> .....	10.2	.4	.1	7.7	<u>2/</u>	1.0	.6	.1	<u>2/</u>	5.5	25.7	33.6	59.3	87	
<b>Lamb and mutton:</b>															
1965.....	.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	.4	---	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	---	<u>2/</u>	.5	1.2	1.0	2.2	4	
1966.....	.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	.4	---	<u>2/</u>	---	---	<u>2/</u>	.6	1.6	1.1	2.7	5	
1967.....	.2	.1	<u>2/</u>	.5	---	<u>2/</u>	---	---	<u>2/</u>	1.0	1.8	1.7	3.5	6	
1968.....	.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	.7	---	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	---	<u>2/</u>	.9	1.9	1.9	3.8	7	
1969 <u>4/</u> .....	.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	.8	---	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	---	<u>2/</u>	.5	1.4	1.6	3.0	6	
<b>Pork:</b>															
1965.....	27.1	2.0	<u>2/</u>	2.5	.2	2.9	.3	.2	3.2	9.3	47.7	61.1	108.8	130	
1966.....	28.4	2.2	<u>2/</u>	2.6	.3	2.6	.1	.3	3.3	8.7	50.9	67.2	118.1	140	
1967.....	27.3	1.9	.3	3.5	.2	2.9	.6	.2	2.9	10.8	50.6	74.4	125.0	146	
1968.....	36.4	2.9	.2	4.0	.1	3.2	25.1	.2	1.6	11.4	85.1	78.7	163.8	187	
1969 <u>4/</u> .....	64.4	3.9	.2	4.1	.4	2.2	57.4	.1	.8	11.6	145.1	63.4	208.5	236	
<b>Total: <u>3/</u></b>															
1965.....	39.7	3.1	1.5	6.8	1.5	5.0	.8	1.2	3.4	45.4	108.4	118.7	227.1	231	
1966.....	44.2	2.8	3.2	7.6	.9	4.4	.6	.8	3.3	28.8	96.6	130.9	227.5	232	
1967.....	47.8	2.7	.8	11.6	.6	5.0	1.4	.5	3.0	26.6	100.0	142.6	242.6	246	
1968.....	50.9	4.2	.8	13.7	.5	5.0	26.1	.4	1.6	27.9	131.1	153.6	284.7	288	
1969 <u>4/</u> .....	78.1	6.2	.7	14.5	.6	3.7	58.6	.3	1.0	26.3	190.0	138.3	328.3	329	

<sup>1/</sup> Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands and Guam. Starting 1965 includes Wake. <sup>2/</sup> Less than 50,000 pounds. <sup>3/</sup> Including sausage, bologna and frankfurters canned and not canned, sausage ingredients, meat and meat products n.e.c. <sup>4/</sup> Preliminary.

Source: Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Census.

Table 10.--U.S. imports, exports, and net imports of beef and veal, pork, lamb and mutton, and total meat in relation to domestic production 1963-69 1/

Beef and veal							
Year	Production	Imports	Exports	Net imports	Percentage of U.S. production		
					Imports	Exports	Net imports
	Million pounds				Percent		
1963	17,357	1,677.5	32.6	1,644.9	9.7	.2	9.5
1964	19,442	1,085.2	64.8	1,020.4	5.6	.3	5.2
1965	19,719	941.8	53.9	887.9	4.8	.3	4.5
1966	20,604	1,204.2	39.1	1,165.1	5.8	.2	5.7
1967	20,977	1,327.7	42.2	1,285.5	6.3	.2	6.1
1968	21,580	1,518.0	38.2	1,479.8	7.0	.2	6.9
1969 <u>2/</u>	21,799	1,640.5	36.7	1,603.8	7.5	.2	7.4
Pork							
1963	12,419	225.0	141.7	83.3	1.8	1.1	.7
1964	12,503	267.4	138.3	129.1	2.1	1.1	1.0
1965	11,132	333.0	55.3	277.7	3.0	.5	2.5
1966	11,328	381.3	58.4	322.9	3.4	.5	2.9
1967	12,572	392.5	57.9	334.6	3.1	.5	2.7
1968	13,055	416.1	93.3	322.8	3.2	.7	2.5
1969 <u>2/</u>	12,946	408.8	153.8	255.0	3.2	1.2	2.0
Lamb and mutton							
1963	770	144.7	1.5	143.2	18.8	.2	18.6
1964	715	79.0	1.9	77.1	11.0	.3	10.8
1965	651	72.5	2.0	70.5	11.1	.3	10.8
1966	650	136.0	2.3	133.7	20.9	.4	20.6
1967	646	120.9	2.6	118.3	18.7	.4	18.3
1968	602	146.9	2.8	144.1	24.4	.5	23.9
1969 <u>2/</u>	550	152.3	2.3	150.0	27.7	.4	27.3
Total meat							
1963	30,546	2,047.2	175.8	1,871.4	6.7	.6	6.1
1964	32,660	1,431.6	205.0	1,226.6	4.4	.6	3.8
1965	31,502	1,347.3	111.2	1,236.1	4.3	.4	3.9
1966	32,582	1,721.5	99.8	1,621.7	5.3	.3	5.0
1967	34,195	1,841.1	102.7	1,738.4	5.4	.3	5.1
1968	35,237	2,081.0	134.3	1,946.7	5.9	.4	5.5
1969 <u>2/</u>	35,295	2,201.6	192.8	2,008.8	6.2	.5	5.7

1/ Carcass weight equivalent.

2/ Preliminary.

Table 11.--U.S. Imports of cattle from specified countries, excluding breeding animals and cows for dairy purposes, 1960-69

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Year	700 pounds and over				Under 200 pounds			
	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total
	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head
1960	60,865	19,631	0	80,496	32,079	1,773	0	33,852
1961	88,660	36,410	0	125,070	28,605	8,655	0	37,260
1962	72,205	36,732	0	108,937	41,315	24,925	0	66,240
1963	51,018	18,123	22	69,163	36,618	27,120	1	63,739
1964	45,880	1,777	0	47,657	50,714	13,162	0	63,876
1965	136,549	14,054	0	150,603	64,070	16,921	0	80,991
1966	90,872	14,505	3	105,380	104,196	22,293	5	126,494
1967	17,958	3,936	26	21,920	87,184	10,553	1	97,738
1968	57,145	1,344	20	58,509	134,344	13,052	0	147,396
1969 1/	42,482	4,099	56	46,637	126,683	32,459	1	159,143
	200 to 699 pounds				Total			
	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total
1960	140,471	369,113	0	509,584	233,415	390,517	0	623,932
1961	337,452	497,999	0	835,451	454,717	543,064	0	997,781
1962	351,336	690,228	0	1,041,564	464,856	751,885	0	1,216,741
1963	148,486	540,099	353	688,938	236,122	585,342	376	821,840
1964	86,713	315,962	700	403,375	183,307	330,901	700	514,908
1965	359,486	504,285	0	863,771	560,105	535,260	0	1,095,365
1966	280,522	547,287	319	828,128	475,587	584,085	327	1,060,002
1967	121,900	485,929	13	607,842	227,042	500,418	40	727,500
1968	114,628	687,912	7	802,547	306,117	702,308	27	1,008,452
1969 1/	18,522	773,829	5	792,356	187,687	810,387	62	998,136

1/ Preliminary

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Table 12.--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	100.7	112.0										

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

Table 13.--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	186	+166	1	17	+1,402	12	25	+98	83	229	+173
February	80	149	+86	6	13	+140	28	43	+56	114	205	+81
March	191	168	-12	20	15	-25	51	43	-16	262	226	-14
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		
Month	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	4.47	-68	17.02	8.21	-52
February	2.80	2.77	-0.9	.32	.12	-64	16.10	4.37	-73	19.22	7.25	-62
March	3.89	3.11	-20	.30	.14	-54	11.67	4.05	-65	15.86	7.30	-54
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		

## BEEF CATTLE: THE NEXT 10 YEARS

by

Donald Seaborg

Agricultural Economist,

Economic Research Service

**ABSTRACT:** Further but slower growth is projected in the cattle population, in cattle feeding, and in beef consumption for the early 1970's than rates of the past decade. Later in the 1970's, gains in cattle feeding will further decelerate unless breeding herds are built up in the meantime, in which case consumption of beef initially would rise very little, then more sharply later.

**KEY WORDS:** Beef consumption, cattle feeding, beef cows.

Beef output in the 1970's will continue to increase. Just how much and how fast, however, will depend on many market forces. Beef production rose about 5 percent per year in the 1960's. However, such a strong rate of increase during the 1970's does not appear likely. Today's beef production potential differs considerably from that of a decade ago.

In 1960, fed cattle marketings accounted for about half of all cattle marketed. This year, perhaps 72 to 73 percent will come out of feedlots. While fed cattle marketings will continue to increase, they probably will not exceed much more than 80 to 83 percent of total cattle marketings because of the continuous supply of aged cows culled from beef and dairy herds.

Reduced calf slaughter also has contributed to the rapid increase in beef output in recent years calves have been saved for feedlot finishing. In 1960, about 8.6 million calves were slaughtered. In 1970, the total will drop to around 4.5 million. By 1980, calf slaughter will be further reduced, perhaps by about half of this year's kill.

In the 1950's and early 1960's a large number of slaughter cattle came off grass. Few grass-fed cattle are slaughtered now because of the growing demand for fed beef.

Fed Cattle Marketings

Year	39 States	Marketings as a percent of cattle slaughter	
		Million head	Percent
1960		13.6	52
1961		14.6	55
1962		15.4	57
1963		16.8	60
1964		18.3	58
1965		18.9	57
1966		20.6	60
1967		22.0	64
1968		23.0	66
1969		24.9	70
1970 <sup>1/</sup>		25.9-26.2	72-73

<sup>1/</sup> Estimated.



The demand for feeder cattle will remain very strong. At the same time that stockmen will be trying to satisfy the needs of cattle feeders, they will be holding back extra heifers to build their breeding herds. But feedlot demand for replacements may be strong enough to temper additions to the beef cow herd.

Fed cattle marketings rose 8 percent per year during 1961-64 even though stockmen were simultaneously adding substantial numbers of beef heifers to their herds. Beef cow numbers increased an average of 5 to 6 percent annually during those years. If stockmen make similar increases in the beef cow herd during the next several years, the number of beef heifers available for feedlot feeding will be somewhat reduced because today there is no substantial pool of nonfed slaughter heifers that would permit increases in feeder numbers while breeder herds are increased.

These developments reflect the structural change due to growth in cattle feeding. Before discussing projections for 1975 and 1980 some of the building blocks of the analysis need to be mentioned.

#### Some Basic Assumptions

The current inventory of cattle and calves on farms is used as a starting point. It is also assumed that enough feed will be available to support substantial gains in cattle numbers and cattle feeding, and that cattle prices will continue favorable relative to feed prices.

A continued rise in consumer demand for beef is expected to encourage cattlemen to expand beef herds. This is likely because population will increase a little more than 1 percent per year, incomes will increase along with expansion in the general economy, and consumers probably will continue to prefer beef over other foods.

Meat substitutes now offer little competition to beef and this situation is not likely to change much during the next several years. However, by the end of the decade, new technological developments could lead to considerably expanded use of meat substitutes, especially as meat extenders.

The following projections were built up year by year--they are not goals or targets. An attempt was made to reflect likely developments in production and consumption of beef.

#### Beef Consumption To Rise Moderately By 1975

A moderate rise in beef consumption is expected during the next few years. Larger beef production and a rise in beef imports approximately paralleling growth in domestic production will push consumption to new record highs. However, consumption gains are expected to be somewhat slower than the 3-pound per person average annual increase during the past decade when beef consumption rose from about 81 pounds per person in 1959 to nearly 111 pounds last year.

An uptrend in beef production will come primarily from continued growth in cattle feeding. More beef cows will be needed to produce feeder calves to make increases in cattle feeding possible.

Ten years ago there were about 66 million beef cattle on farms and beef cattle accounted for 69 percent of the total cattle inventory. At the beginning of this year, beef cattle numbers had risen to 91 million, but since dairy cattle inventories continued to decline, beef cattle now account for 81 percent of all cattle.

Cattle and Calves on Farms January 1

Year	Beef Cattle	Total cattle and calves
		Million head
1960	66.1	96.2
1961	68.0	97.7
1962	71.3	100.4
1963	76.5	104.5
1964	81.2	107.9
1965	83.4	109.0
1966	84.9	108.9
1967	85.7	108.6
1968	86.9	109.2
1969	88.3	109.9
1970	91.1	112.3

Beef herds have been built up to supply the increasing demand for beef. During the next several years, cattlemen are expected to increase beef cow numbers, but perhaps only about half as rapidly as the 4 percent per year increase during the 1960's. Therefore, beef calf crops are not expected to increase fast enough in the early 1970's to supply both larger numbers of heifers for expansion of breeding herds and at the same time to support sizable increases in the feeder cattle supply. Thus, growth in cattle feeding is expected to rise considerably less than the 7 percent annual increase from 1959 to 1969.

The larger beef herd projected for 1975 will probably contain more beef cows, beef heifers and beef calves, but about the same number of steers. With a moderate annual average increase in beef cows, the beef herd is projected to rise around 10 percent by 1975 from 91 million in 1970. After allowing for some further reduction in the number of dairy cattle, the total inventory of cattle and calves on farms may exceed 120 million head, up from 112 million this year.

Cows on Farms and Calf Crops

Year	Beef cows	Dairy cows	Calf crop
Million head			
1960	26.3	19.5	39.4
1961	27.3	19.3	40.2
1962	28.7	19.0	41.4
1963	30.6	18.4	42.3
1964	32.8	17.6	43.8
1965	34.2	17.0	43.9
1966	34.4	16.0	43.5
1967	34.7	15.2	43.8
1968	35.4	14.6	44.2
1969	36.2	14.2	45.2
1970	37.4	13.9	46.1 <sup>1/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Estimated.

As cattle numbers rise, the slaughter potential also rises. Last year, cattle slaughter totaled 35.6 million head and a 1 to 3 percent increase is expected in 1970.

Increasing slaughter supplies in the next few years and a continued moderate rise in beef imports would boost supplies enough to provide an increase in per capita beef consumption of possibly 1 to 3 percent a year. This would push per capita use by 1975 to a level approximately 8 to 10 pounds above the 111 pounds consumed in 1969.

### More Beef By 1980

In the late 1970's, beef consumption probably will continue to increase as consumer buying power expands. Per capita use may increase another 8 to 10 pounds if price and income conditions encourage further growth in beef production.

Increases in the number of cattle fed during the late 1970's are expected to be smaller than they have been in recent years and smaller than gains in the early 1970's. By then, expansion in cattle feeding will be closely tied to increases in the beef calf crop because cattle feeders will be feeding every suitable animal. By comparison, a substantial part of the increase in beef production in the past decade has reflected the trend toward feeding an increasing percentage of the available feeder cattle supply each year. Also, to provide for the level of demand projected for 1980, the cattle inventory probably would have to total around 125 to 130 million head, compared with 112 million on farms at the beginning of 1970.

Per Capita Beef and Veal Consumption

Year	Beef	Veal
Pounds		
1960	85.0	6.1
1961	87.7	5.6
1962	88.8	5.5
1963	94.3	4.9
1964	99.8	5.2
1965	99.3	5.2
1966	104.0	4.5
1967	106.2	3.8
1968	109.4	3.6
1969	110.7	3.4
1970 <sup>1/</sup>	113-114	2.9-3.0

<sup>1/</sup> Estimated.

Beef Cow Numbers Could  
Vary From Rates Projected

Beef production and consumption over the next few years could rise somewhat faster than here projected if cattlemen hold back larger numbers of heifers for herd expansion than now seems likely. For example, the beef cow herd could be increased as much as 3 to 4 percent per year during the early 1970's. If such large numbers of heifers were added to beef cow herds, there would be only limited gains in beef consumption. However, once the best cow herd was built up, beef consumption would rise faster than the 1 to 3 percent projected above for 1970-75. Similarly, a large beef calf crop likely would result in larger increases in cattle feeding during the mid-1970's.

On the other hand, stability in the beef herd would result in much larger near-term gains in beef production and use, but considerably less expansion later in the decade.

Per capita consumption of beef in 1980 likely will not be affected much if beef cow herds are built up a little faster or a bit slower than projected for the next several years. If near-term beef output were to increase more rapidly, returns to stockmen in the late 1970's could weaken and cattlemen would not likely continue rapid expansion in the late 1970's.

Veal Consumption  
To Decline Further

Veal consumption has been dropping for many years and further declines are likely through 1980. The dairy herd is smaller and fewer veal calves have been available for slaughter in recent years. The downtrend in calf slaughter also reflects a tendency for more dairy calves to be fed out in feedlots.

Veal consumption averaged 3.4 pounds per person last year--the smallest on record. Veal consumption probably will fall to around 2 pounds per person in 1975 and perhaps to about a pound and a half per person by 1980.

## Supply and distribution of meat, by months, January 1970 to date

Meat and period	Commercially produced								
	Supply				Distribution				
	Production 1/	Beginning stocks	Imports	Exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Military	Civilian consumption		
							Total	Per person 2/	
	----- Million pounds -----							Pound	
<b>Beef:</b>									
January	1,873	353	184	9	367	41	1,993	10.0	
February	1,643	367	147	7	389	41	1,720	8.6	
March	1,759	389	166	8	373				
1st quarter	5,275	353	497	24	373				
April									
May									
June									
2nd quarter									
<b>Veal:</b>									
January	50	10	3	3/	11	2	50	0.2	
February	44	11	2	3/	11	3	43	.2	
March	49	11	2	3/	11				
1st quarter	143	10	7	3/	11				
April									
May									
June									
2nd quarter									
<b>Lamb and mutton:</b>									
January	47	16	17	1	17	3/	62	0.3	
February	41	17	13	3/	18	1	52	.2	
March	49	18	15	3/	23				
1st quarter	137	16	45	1	23				
April									
May									
June									
2nd quarter									
<b>Pork:</b>									
January	1,050	211	25	13	210	14	1,049	5.2	
February	928	210	43	12	237	16	916	4.6	
March	1,074	237	43	11	266				
1st quarter	3,052	211	111	36	266				
April									
May									
June									
2nd quarter									
<b>All meat:</b>									
January	3,020	590	229	23	605	57	3,154	15.7	
February	2,656	605	205	19	655	61	2,731	13.6	
March	2,931	655	226	19	673				
1st quarter	8,607	590	660	61	673				
April									
May									
June									
2nd quarter									

1/ Excludes production from farm slaughter.

2/ Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies.

3/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

## Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1969		1970		
		March	April	February	March	April
<b>CATTLE AND CALVES:</b>						
Beef steers, slaughter, Chicago	Dollars per:					
Prime.....	100 pounds:	32.99	33.34	31.15	33.43	32.93
Choice.....	do.	30.19	30.98	30.26	31.93	31.56
Good.....	do.	28.00	29.04	28.67	29.94	29.71
Standard.....	do.	25.26	26.35	26.31	27.50	27.59
Utility.....	do.	23.53	24.92	25.21	---	---
All grades.....	do.	30.20	30.98	30.25	31.92	31.53
Omaha, all grades.....	do.	28.49	29.96	29.02	30.72	30.61
Cows, Chicago						
Commercial.....	do.	19.98	20.47	21.92	22.93	23.09
Utility.....	do.	20.43	20.70	22.39	23.42	23.41
Cutter.....	do.	19.58	19.2	20.92	21.82	22.01
Canner.....	do.	18.33	18.58	19.40	20.12	20.37
Vealers, Choice, S. St. Paul.....	do.	41.00	40.72	46.92	47.90	46.36
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City <u>1/</u> .....	do.	28.69	30.28	31.31	33.36	32.40
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle.....	do.	25.20	26.40	27.20	28.80	28.60
Cows.....	do.	18.70	19.20	21.00	22.10	21.90
Steers and heifers.....	do.	27.20	28.50	29.10	30.70	30.40
Calves.....	do.	30.70	32.10	35.10	36.50	35.60
Beef steer-corn price ratio <u>2/</u> .....	do.	25.9	25.8	24.6	26.2	25.0
<b>HOGS:</b>						
Barrows and gilts, U.S. No. 1 and 2, Chicago						
180-200 pounds.....	do.	20.89	20.96	29.08	26.99	25.04
200-220 pounds.....	do.	21.94	21.76	29.55	27.76	25.62
220-240 pounds.....	do.	21.78	21.51	29.32	27.31	25.41
Barrows and gilts, 8 markets <u>3/</u> .....	do.	20.69	20.38	28.25	25.97	24.05
Sows, 8 markets <u>3/</u> .....	do.	18.28	18.20	24.94	23.73	21.58
Price received by farmers.....	do.	20.00	19.60	27.40	25.60	23.80
Hog-corn price ratio <u>4/</u>						
Chicago, barrows and gilts.....	do.	18.1	17.4	22.9	21.3	19.6
Price received by farmers, all hogs.....	do.	18.3	17.5	24.0	22.7	20.7
<b>SHEEP AND LAMBS:</b>						
Sheep	Dollars per:					
Slaughter ewes, Good, San Angelo.....	100 pounds:	11.50	11.45	11.25	11.17	10.40
Price received by farmers.....	do.	7.99	8.16	8.39	8.57	8.24
Lambs						
Slaughter, Choice, San Angelo.....	do.	30.69	31.05	28.6	31.06	28.35
Feeder, Choice, San Angelo.....	do.	30.69	29.55	30.88		28.50
Price received by farmers.....	do.	27.40	28.10	27.80	27.60	26.50
<b>ALL MEAT ANIMALS:</b>						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100).....		375	385	436	442	429
<b>MEAT:</b>						
Wholesale, Chicago, Carlot,	Dollars per:					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 600-700.....	100 pounds:	47.00	48.63	46.74	49.34	48.78
Heifer beef, Choice, 500-600 pounds.....	do.	45.86	48.08	46.18	48.22	48.31
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter.....	do.	40.76	41.58	45.56	47.04	47.46
Lamb carcass, Choice, 45-55 pounds.....	do.	60.97	64.54	59.10	58.52	57.95
Fresh pork loins, 8-14 pounds.....	do.	43.85	46.06	59.46	54.01	52.54
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade.....	per pound	91.0	93.5	97.4	99.4	
Pork, retail cuts and sausage.....	do.	68.9	69.1	81.8	81.4	
Lamb, Choice grade.....	do.	97.5	98.2	106.7	106.6	
Index number all meats (BLS)						
Wholesale (1957-59=100).....		110.6	113.8	124.5	127.2	
Retail (1957-59=100).....		119.1	121.2	133.9	134.7	
Beef and veal.....		121.4	125.1	133.0	133.6	
Pork.....		116.4	117.5	137.2	137.9	

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		1970		
		March	April	February	March	
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1957-59=100)		122	124	117	120	
6-State Cattle on Feed Report						
Number on feed	1,000	6,381	6,489	7,338	7,033	6,846
Placed on feed	head	1,348	1,192	944	1,217	
Marketings	do.	1,240	1,273	1,249	1,404	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	2,423	2,414	2,318	2,477	
Steers	do.	1,277	1,311	1,258	1,350	
Heifers	do.	652	620	624	674	
Cows	do.	458	447	401	416	
Bulls and stags	do.	36	36	35	37	
Calves	do.	352	312	239	290	
Sheep and lambs	do.	818	839	742	859	
Hogs	do.	6,809	6,852	5,507	6,415	
Percentage sows	Percent	5	5	5	4	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	1,027	1,033	1,066	1,062	
Calves	do.	181	190	195	186	
Sheep and lambs	do.	107	105	109	109	
Hogs	do.	234	236	238	237	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	602	606	631	633	
Veal, per head	do.	101	107	111	106	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	53	52	54	54	
Pork, per head	do.	151	152	154	154	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	65	64	65	65	
Lard, per head	do.	22	22	22	22	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	9	9	9	9	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	1,454	1,459	1,460	1,564	
Veal	do.	35	33	26	30	
Lamb and mutton	do.	43	43	40	47	
Pork	do.	1,024	1,042	844	985	
Lard	do.	149	152	121	139	
Commercial slaughter <sup>1/</sup>						
Number slaughtered	1,000					
Cattle	head	2,809	2,805	2,651	2,829	
Calves	do.	452	409	327	381	
Sheep and lambs	do.	867	901	774	911	
Hogs	do.	7,526	7,551	6,073	7,023	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	1,660	1,665	1,643	1,759	
Veal	do.	53	52	44	49	
Lamb and mutton	do.	45	46	41	49	
Pork	do.	1,131	1,145	928	1,074	
Lard	do.	160	164	130	149	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	271	275	367	389	373
Veal	do.	7	7	11	11	11
Lamb and mutton	do.	9	12	17	18	23
Pork	do.	264	270	210	237	266
Total meat and meat products <sup>2/</sup>	do.	601	617	659	721	735

<sup>1/</sup> Federally inspected, and other commercial.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the four meats listed.

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