REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 19, 2023

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER – DECEMBER 2022
UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.47 billion pounds in December, down 7 percent from the 4.78 billion pounds produced in December 2021.

Beef production, at 2.22 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.68 million head, down 5 percent from December 2021. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,385 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.5 million pounds, 15 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,900 head, down 15 percent from December 2021. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 237 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.23 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.3 million head, down 7 percent from December 2021. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 292 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 7 percent from December 2021. Sheep slaughter totaled 176,100 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 122 pounds, down 1 pound from December a year ago.

January to December 2022 commercial red meat production was 55.5 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2021. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

For a full copy of the *Livestock Slaughter* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov. For state specific questions, please contact the following State Statisticians at 1-800-392-3202:

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