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In the second quarter of 2015, meat production and producer value decreased by 13.6 and 17.3 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding period in 2014.

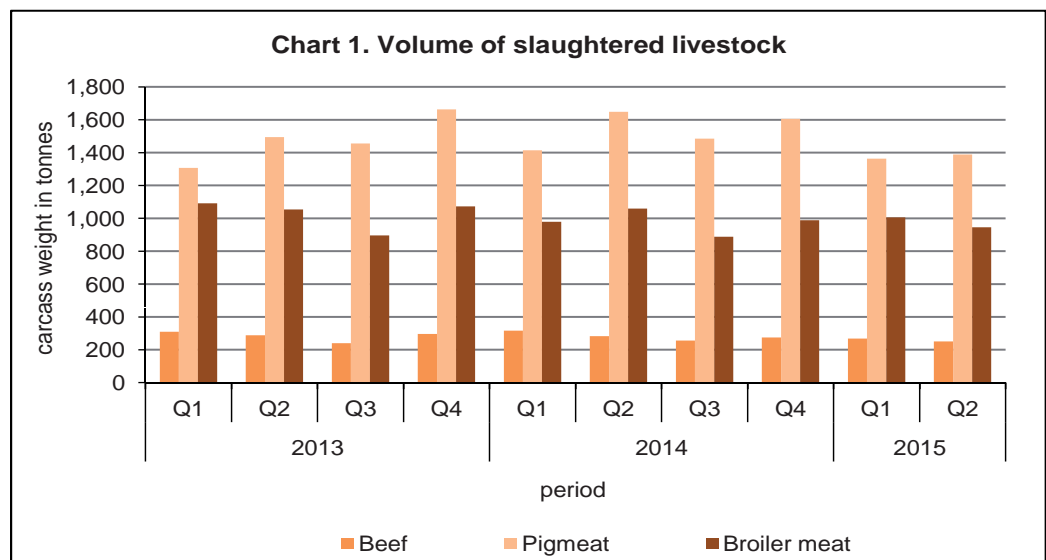
Meat Production: Q2/2015

In the second quarter, meat production went down by 13.6 per cent to 2,585 tonnes. This was due to drops of 15.7, 11.6 and 10.8 per cent in the production of pigmeat, beef and broiler meat respectively (Table 2).

Lower beef production resulted from a 11.1 per cent drop in the number of slaughtered cattle (Table 1). Slaughtered pigs decreased by 3,192 heads, corresponding to a drop in the production of pigmeat, although an increase of 1.7 kilogrammes was registered in the average carcass weight (Table 4). The drop in broiler meat resulted from a 2.2 per cent decrease in the number of slaughtered broilers (Table 1).

Producer Value

The producer value of animals slaughtered at licensed slaughterhouses amounted to €5.4 million, 17.3 per cent less when compared to the second quarter of 2014. This was brought about by decreases in the producer value of pigmeat, broiler meat and beef, by 18.9, 16.6 and 11.1 per cent respectively (Table 3) ■



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Table 1. Livestock (in heads) slaughtered at licensed slaughterhouses by period

Livestock	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Cattle	1,017	1,015	902	-113	-11.1
Pigs	17,361	18,390	15,198	-3,192	-17.4
Broilers	586,331	557,331	544,901	-12,430	-2.2

Table 2. Carcass weight by period and type of meat (Kgs)

Type of meat	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Beef	287,981	283,155	250,443	-32,712	-11.6
Pigmeat	1,494,053	1,648,673	1,389,326	-259,347	-15.7
Broiler meat	1,054,205	1,059,674	945,178	-114,496	-10.8
Total	2,836,239	2,991,502	2,584,947	-406,555	-13.6

Table 3. Producer value by period and type of meat (€)

Type of meat	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Beef	914,623	782,265	695,578	-86,687	-11.1
Pigmeat	3,540,906	3,907,355	3,167,663	-739,692	-18.9
Broiler meat	2,007,099	1,881,186	1,569,002	-312,184	-16.6
Total	6,462,628	6,570,806	5,432,243	-1,138,563	-17.3

Table 4. Average carcass weight by period and type of meat (Kgs)

Type of meat	April-June (Q2)			Change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014
Beef	283.2	279.0	277.7	-1.3
Pigmeat	86.1	89.7	91.4	1.7
Broiler meat	1.8	1.9	1.7	-0.2

Table 5. Average carcass price by period and type of meat (€)

Type of meat	April-June (Q2)			Change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014
Beef	3.2	2.8	2.8	-
Pigmeat	2.4	2.4	2.3	-0.1
Broiler meat	1.9	1.8	1.7	-0.1

Methodological Notes

1. Monthly data with regard to cattle and pig slaughtering are provided by the abattoir under the responsibility of the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change. Data on broiler slaughtering are provided directly by private licensed slaughterhouses. Data sets are finalised after actual data are collected from all active licensed slaughterhouses.
2. Slaughterhouses provide data on the number of heads slaughtered, carcass weight, and the average carcass price per kilogram.
3. Data in respect of meat production are presented in terms of carcass weight.
4. **Definitions:**
 - **Pig carcass weight:** The weight of the slaughtered pig's cold body, either whole or divided in half along the mid-line, after being bled, eviscerated and having its tongue, bristles, hooves, genitalia, flare flat, kidneys and diaphragm removed.
 - **Cattle carcass weight:** The weight of the slaughtered cattle's cold body after being skinned, bled, eviscerated and having its genitalia, limbs at the carpus and tarsus, head, tail, kidneys, kidney fats and udder removed.
 - **Broiler carcass weight:** The weight of the slaughtered broiler's cold body after being bled, plucked and eviscerated and having its head, feet, neck, heart, liver and gizzard removed.
5. The carcass's average price and weight are used for the compilation of monthly output price and volume
6. The producer value of meat production excludes any subsidies on the product.
7. Total meat production does not include slaughtered rabbits.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Agriculture_and_Environment_Statistics/Pages/Meat-Production.aspx

European statistics comparable to data in this News Release are available at:

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&plugin=1)

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