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In the fourth quarter of 2013, meat production and the producer value declined by 2.0 and 1.5 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding period in 2012.

Meat Production: Q4/2013

During the fourth quarter of last year, meat production declined by 2.0 per cent to 3,032 tonnes, mainly on account of an 11.6 and 5.8 per cent drop in the production of beef and broiler meat respectively. However, this was partially mitigated by an increase of 2.7 per cent in the production of pigmeat.

The decrease in beef and broiler meat production resulted from a 12.2 and 8.0 per cent drop in the number of slaughtered cattle and broilers respectively. In contrast, pigmeat production rose mainly due to a 1.0 per cent increase in the number of pigs slaughtered.

The producer value of animals slaughtered at licensed slaughterhouses in the period under review amounted to €6.8 million, or 1.5 per cent less when compared to the fourth quarter of 2012. While the producer value of beef and broiler meat fell by 16.9 and 7.1 per cent respectively on fewer slaughters and lower prices fetched, the increase in the producer value of pigmeat mainly went up due to an increase in the production of pigmeat and a price rise of 3.2 per cent ■

Compiled by:

**Unit B3: Agriculture and
Fisheries Statistics**

**Directorate B: Business
Statistics**

Further information on data:

Mr Ronald TANTI
T. +356 2599 7333
E. ronald.tanti@gov.mt

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Issued by: **External Cooperation and Communication Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**
T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. nso@gov.mt

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

Livestock	October-December				
	2011	2012	2013	± 2013/2012	±% 2013/2012
Cattle	1,047	1,229	1,079	-150	-12.2
Pigs	22,310	19,473	19,672	199	1.0
Broilers	649,814	647,654	595,883	-51,771	-8.0

Table 2. Carcass weight (in kgs) of slaughtered livestock

Livestock	October-December				
	2011	2012	2013	± 2013/2012	±% 2013/2012
Cattle	274,266	335,355	296,514	-38,841	-11.6
Pigs	1,839,629	1,619,785	1,662,726	42,941	2.7
Broilers	1,074,073	1,138,300	1,072,518	-65,782	-5.8
Total	3,187,968	3,093,440	3,031,758	-61,682	-2.0

Table 3. Producer value (in €) of slaughtered livestock

Livestock	October-December				
	2011	2012	2013	± 2013/2012	±% 2013/2012
Cattle	840,197	1,048,538	871,434	-177,104	-16.9
Pigs	3,458,503	3,718,537	3,940,661	222,124	6.0
Broilers	2,032,349	2,139,623	1,988,283	-151,340	-7.1
Total	6,331,049	6,906,698	6,800,378	-106,320	-1.5

Table 4. Average carcass weight (in kgs) of slaughtered livestock

Livestock	October-December				
	2011	2012	2013	± 2013/2012	±% 2013/2012
Cattle	261.95	272.87	274.80	1.94	0.7
Pigs	82.46	83.18	84.52	1.34	1.6
Broilers	1.65	1.76	1.80	0.04	2.4

Table 5. Average carcass price (in €) of slaughtered livestock

Livestock	October-December				
	2011	2012	2013	± 2013/2012	±% 2013/2012
Cattle	3.06	3.13	2.94	-0.19	-6.0
Pigs	1.88	2.30	2.37	0.07	3.2
Broilers	1.89	1.88	1.85	-0.03	-1.4

Methodological Notes

1. Monthly data with respect 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. The data for the production of meat are being presented in terms of carcass weight.
4. Definitions (as per Eurostat glossary):

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 fat, kidneys and diaphragm removed.

Cattle Carcass Weight

The weight of the slaughtered cattle's cold body after being slaughtered, 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. It includes poultry offal (tail, feet, neck, liver, heart and gizzard), with the exception of *foie gras*.

5. The carcass's average prices and weight are used for the compilation of monthly output price and volume indices.
6. The data are compiled on a monthly basis but disseminated on a quarterly basis with reference to the three months that would have elapsed.
7. The producer value of meat production excludes any subsidies on the product.
8. Total meat production does not include slaughtered rabbits.
9. The data in this news release are final and are not normally subject to revision.

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

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](#)

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