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In the first quarter, meat production and the producer value declined by 2.0 and 1.5 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding quarter last year.

Meat Production: Q1/2014

Meat production went down by 2.0 per cent to 3,032 tonnes during the quarter under review. While the production of pigmeat and beef rose by 8.2 and 2.4 per cent respectively, these were offset by a decline of 10.3 per cent in the production of broiler meat.

The increase in beef production resulted from a 0.4 per cent rise in the number of slaughtered cattle and a 2.0 per cent increase in the average carcass weight, while the rise in pigmeat production resulted from a 13.3 per cent increase in the carcass weight, in spite of a 4.5 per cent decline in the number of pigs slaughtered. Additionally, broiler meat production declined by 10.3 per cent due to a 10.6 per cent drop in the number of slaughtered broilers, with the average carcass weight increasing marginally.

Producer Value

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 first quarter of 2013. Decreases of 14.7 per cent and 6.3 per cent in the producer value of broilers and beef respectively were the result of drops of 8.4 per cent and 4.8 per cent in the average price per kilogramme of slaughtered cattle and broilers. On the other hand, an increase in the average carcass weight of slaughtered pigs was reflected in an 8.2 per cent rise in the producer value of pigs, with the average carcass price remaining stable ■

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

Livestock	January-March				
	2012	2013	2014	± 2014/2013	±% 2014/2013
Cattle	1,053	1,134	1,138	4	0.4
Pigs	17,417	16,769	16,010	-759	-4.5
Broilers	628,480	585,941	523,673	-62,268	-10.6

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

Livestock	January-March				
	2012	2013	2014	± 2014/2013	±% 2014/2013
Cattle	279,258	309,194	316,538	7,344	2.4
Pigs	1,429,364	1,306,671	1,413,705	107,034	8.2
Broilers	1,095,464	1,091,942	979,612	-112,330	-10.3
Total	3,187,968	3,093,440	3,031,758	-61,682	-2.0

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

Livestock	January-March				
	2012	2013	2014	± 2014/2013	±% 2014/2013
Cattle	898,560	956,910	896,900	-60,010	-6.3
Pigs	2,687,204	3,096,810	3,350,481	253,671	8.2
Broilers	1,923,207	2,040,793	1,741,307	-299,486	-14.7
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	January-March				
	2012	2013	2014	± 2014/2013	±% 2014/2013
Cattle	265.20	272.66	278.15	5.50	2.0
Pigs	82.07	77.92	88.30	10.38	13.3
Broilers	1.74	1.86	1.87	0.01	0.5

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

Livestock	January-March				
	2012	2013	2014	± 2014/2013	±% 2014/2013
Cattle	3.22	3.09	2.83	-0.26	-8.4
Pigs	1.88	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.0
Broilers	1.76	1.87	1.78	-0.09	-4.8

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 kilogramme.
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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