

Statistics Commentary

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Fransina Angula

Statistician: Trade & Strategic Marketing

T: 061-275-872 | E: fransina@nammic.com.na



Overview

Year-on-year, the livestock sector witnessed declines across all major sub-sectors, except the pigs sub-sector during August 2024. Meanwhile, the meat industry showed improved performances during August 2024. Price trends recorded mixed results with the sVCF weaner, beef and mutton carcass prices decreasing during the period under review while the n-VCF beef carcass price improved during August 2024.

Cattle Sector

For the first time this year, overall cattle marketing saw a decline due to reduced activity at both export-approved and local abattoirs, as well as in live exports. Year-on-year, total marketing dropped by 17.3 percent, with a month-on-month decline of 16.4 percent. This brings the YTD total to 278,195 cattle marketed in 2024, compared to 210,807 marketed during the same period in 2023. Equally, cattle exports fell by 24.3 percent, driven by a 26.8 percent decrease in exports to South Africa in August 2024.

Y-o-Y, sVCF weaner producer price declined by 11.2 percent, averaging N\$24.01/kg in August 2024 compared to N\$27.04/kg in 2023. Furthermore, the sVCF beef all-grade producer carcass price dropped to N\$56.44/kg in August 2024, from N\$61.10/kg recorded in August 2023 consequently bringing the YTD B2 carcass price to N\$60.23/kg by the end of August 2024.

Meanwhile, nVCF tolly producer price averaged N\$22.17/kg in August 2024, N\$1.28/kg lower than the August 2023 level of N\$23.45/kg while the all-grade beef carcass price increased by N\$2.01/kg and averaged N\$39.45/kg in August 2024, from N\$37.44/kg paid to producers during the same period in 2023.

Sheep Sector

The sheep sector recorded a decline in marketing numbers during the period under review. 48 232 sheep were marketed during August 2024, 26.5 percent lower than the 65 651 sheep marketed during 2023. YTD marketing total stood at 647 741 by the end of August 2024. Slaughtering activities at both export approved and local abattoirs dropped during August 2024, recording a combined decline of 54.2 percent. Demand for local live sheep by the South Africa market weakened by 18.7 percent during August 2024.

Lamb producer prices remained relatively stable during August 2024 and averaged N\$33.41/kg in comparison to N\$32.87/kg received by producers in the comparable period of 2023. The sheep All-grade carcass producer price averaged N\$53.35/kg during the period under review while the A2 average carcass producer price came in at N\$78.19/kg.

In respect of trade, YTD export of lamb and mutton dropped by 25.9 percent due to poor slaughter activity. Y-o-Y, Lamb and mutton exports declined by 17.3 percent during August 2024 compared to the same period last year.

The reduced throughput recorded at abattoirs resulted in a drop of lamb and mutton exports with only 49 373 kg being exported to Botswana in the form of carcasses, cuts and lamb bacon. Meanwhile, Mutton imports primarily in the form of sheep casings increased during August 2024.

Goat Sector

Y-o-Y, activities within the goats sector recorded a decline with 13 825 goats marketed during August 2024. YTD marketing totaled 90 870 goats by the end of August 2024, 0.9 percent decline. YTD Goat lamb prices averaged N\$30.48/kg by the end of August 2024.

Pork Sector

Pig slaughtering for the period under review totaled 4 171 pigs, 13.2 percent growth in comparison to a slaughter quantity of 3 686 pigs slaughtered during the same period in 2023.

A total of 724 174 kg of pork, primarily in the form of offal, processed and fresh pork was imported during August 2024 to complement local production. Of the imported pork, 65.2 percent originated from Germany, followed by South Africa, Spain and Belgium with a market share of 20.5 percent, 8.1 percent and 3.6 percent, respectively. The remaining 2.6 percent originated from Botswana, China and other European countries.

Although imports are dominant in the market, the Pork Market Share Promotion Scheme, administered by the LLPBN continues to assist local producers in maintaining significant market share. The pork ceiling price remains fixed at N\$51.03/kg while the average slaughter mass of pigs during August 2024 stood at 98.29 kg.