

# Statistics Commentary

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## Overview

The livestock and meat industry registered contractions across the board with the exception of the pigs sector during October 2024. Similarly, exports of beef, lamb and mutton products declined during this period.

## Cattle Sector

Y-o-Y, cattle marketing dropped by 1.2 percent. 19 659 cattle were marked compared to 19 906 heads marketed during the corresponding period of 2023. Both live exports of animals and slaughtering by B&C class abattoirs declined by 22.2 percent and 30.6 percent, respectively.

Y-o-Y, s-VCF cattle prices rebounded during October 2024. As a result, s-VCF weaner price averaged N\$28.67 /kg during the period under review relative to an average of N\$24.24/kg recorded during the corresponding month of 2023. The n-VCF tolly price on the other hand declined during October 2024 and averaged N\$22.40/kg. The B2 producer carcass price dropped by N\$2.21/kg and averaged N\$59.10/kg

relative to the N\$61.31/kg paid to producers during the same period in 2023.

On the meat trading front, beef exports totaled 1 425 965 kg during October 2024, decreasing by 11.3 percent and brings YTD total beef exports to various destinations to 20 750 253 kg, 44.0 percent higher than the 2023 volumes.

YTD, the EU remains Namibia's biggest market for beef exports. The EU market absorbed 55.3 percent of total beef exports while South Africa, UK and Norway took up 20.4 percent, 14.5percent and 7.21 percent, respectively as top destinations. YTD Beef imports primarily in the form of processed and offal products rose by 10.5 percent. This points to an increase in demand for particularly, locally processed beef products which makes up 75.8 percent of the 2024 YTD beef import basket.

## **Sheep Sector**

The sector recorded a drop in overall marketing activities by 24.6 percent due to weaker marketing activities recorded across all marketing segments. Live exports of sheep fell by 29.0 percent with only 27 469 animals exported during 2024 compared to 38 669 animals exported during the corresponding period of 2023. Throughput at A and B & C class abattoirs declined by 17.3 percent and 10.3 percent respectively, going from a combined total of 14 377 heads in 2023 down to 12 505 heads in 2024.

The Namibian A2 producer price peaked in October 2024 as abattoirs began slaughtering for the Norwegian market. During this period, the A2 producer price reached N\$85.56/kg, marking a significant increase in producer prices compared to earlier months in 2024.

Lamb and mutton exports declined by 59.4 percent during the month under review while YTD lamb and mutton exports totaled 648 14, from 884 408 kg exported during 2023. Of the October 2024 lamb and mutton exports, 92.2 percent went to South Africa and the remaining 7.8 percent went to Botswana.

## **Goat Sector**

The sector experienced a 20.3 percent decline during the period under review. In 2024, a total of 11,438 goats were marketed during October, compared to 14,355 during the same period in 2023. The decline is owed to a decrease in live exports and reduced slaughtering at local abattoirs. The average producer lamb price increased to N\$35.67/kg, up from N\$27.31/kg recorded in October 2023.

## **Pork Sector**

Y-o-Y, 4 386 pigs were marketed at LLPBN-approved abattoirs during October 2024 relative to 3 979 pigs marketed during the corresponding period of 2023.

Pork imports dropped drastically during the period under review. A total of 357 348 kg of pork came in as imports relative to 716 213 kg imported during 2023. South Africa, Spain, Germany, Denmark, and Botswana emerged as Namibia's leading pork import markets during October 2024. The pork price ceiling under the scheme remains set at N\$51.03/kg.