Statistics Commentary
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Overview

The livestock sector remains under supply pressure, with most subsectors recording lower marketing volumes due to a constrained supply of market-ready animals across key marketing channels. However, pigs continued to show relatively steady performance. Meanwhile, price performance across cattle, sheep, and goats remains firm, in response to limited availability and stable domestic demand.

Cattle Sector

Cattle marketing volumes contracted sharply in September 2025, reflecting the continued limited supply of market-ready animals across the country. Year-on-year, marketing also dropped by 30.8%, from 26,345 heads in September 2024 to 18,224 heads in 2025 and recorded a further decline of 10.1% month-on-month. Total cattle marketed year-to-date stood at 156,297 heads, compared to 314,466 heads over the same period last year, a decline of 50.3%, underscoring subdued throughput at both A and B&C Class abattoirs, following a similar trend.

On the other hand, live exports reached 7,711 head, representing a 34% decline from 11,690 cattle exported during the same month in 2024. Compared to August, slaughter volumes dropped by 12.9%, and live exports declined by 5.8% month-on-month, providing a slight lift to total marketing. Year-to-date, total live exports decreased by 69.8%, from 156,941 head in 2024 to 47,594 heads this year. Export destinations remained concentrated, with South Africa absorbing about 98% of live exports (7,025 head), followed by consignments to the DRC (544), and Zimbabwe (86).

Beef exports totaled 1,101,893 kg in September, down 34.7% from 1,688,385 kg in September 2024, and down by 50.8% on YTD to 9,499,218 from 19,324,288 kg exported during the same period in 2024. The market mix was heavily Europe-led: the EU accounted for (72.8%), and Norway (15.7%). Notably, shipments within Africa rose from just 0.01% of total exports in August to 7.1% in September, mainly led by Lesotho, a new market as well as Asia.

Another notable aspect is the decline in exports to the Rest of the World (including Asia (new market), and China) reduced by 50.3%, reflecting relatively low volumes compared to earlier months. Despite firm prices, lower abattoir supply continues to cap exportable volumes. On a year-to-date, exports stood at 9.5 million kg by the end of September 2025, 50.8% lower than the 19.3 million kg recorded over the same period in 2024.

Hides and skins exports stood at 49,051 kg in September, 100% from South Africa. No consignments were recorded to other markets in the month. Year-to-date exports totaled 824,834 kg by the end of September 2025. The monthly pattern broadly tracks cattle slaughter trends; lower abattoir throughput has limited raw material availability.

Producer prices remained firm on constrained supply. In September, the s-VCF B2 producer price averaged N$68.91/kg, above last year's level. The 2025 year-to-date averaged N$69.90/kg, up by N$8.77, a growth of 14.3% compared to the same period in 2024. At auctions, weaners producer prices averaged N$33.13/kg in September while the 2025 YTD average stands at N$30.17/kg, N$4.68 and 18.4% higher than the same period in 2024. For context, the strongest full-year movement so far is in cow-lean prices, up 33.0% on a YTD basis versus 2024.

Sheep Sector

Sheep marketing continued to contract during September 2025, with 30,242 heads marketed compared to 44,025 heads in September 2024, reflecting a 31.3% year-on-year decline. Month-on-month, total marketing dropped by 20.1% from 37,857 heads recorded in August. Within this, slaughter reached 12,248 heads, a 4.7% increase from the same period in 2024, while live exports fell to 17,994 heads, a decline of 44.3% compared to the same period in 2024; mainly to South Africa (17,727 heads) with neighbors. On a year-to-date (Jan–Aug), 423,174 sheep were marketed, compared to 699,968 head during the same period in 2024, a decline of 39.5%.

Producer prices remained high on tight supply and herd rebuilding after better rains. At export abattoirs, the A2 lamb producer price averaged N$94.22/kg in August but declined to N$85.53/kg in September, marking a 9.2% month-on-month decrease. Year-to-date, A2 stood at N$92.35/kg, which is N$15.83 and 20.7% higher than the 2024 average N$76.52/kg. At auctions, lamb (Dorper) prices averaged N$41.81/kg in September; while the 2025 YTD prices average stood at N$38.52/kg, up N$6.03 (18.6%) versus 2024 N$32.49/kg.

Sheep-meat exports were 33,845 kg in September, 20.4% higher from 28,101 kg in September 2024. Shipments went almost entirely to South Africa 79% while 21% went Seychelles; there were no EU/Norway exports in the month. Year-to-date exports totaled 273,546 kg, 56.7% below the 632,045 kg recorded over the same period in 2024, reflecting the same supply-side constraints.

Goat Sector

Goat marketing recorded a slight month-on-month decline in September 2025, with 13,613 heads marketed compared to 10,883 heads in August, reflecting a 25.1% increase. Year-on-year, total marketing fell by 16.8%, down from 16,357 heads in September 2024. Live exports stood at 13,576, a 16.6% decline from 16,270, same month in 2024: exports were mainly to South Africa (13,139 heads) with small consignments to, and Botswana (225), Zimbabwe (116), with Tanzania and Angola taking the rest.

Year-to-date, total goat marketing stood at 90,457 heads, 15.7% below the 107,290 recorded in 2024, with the decline concentrated in slaughter volumes.
The average auction price for goat lambs rose to N$50.16/kg from N$48.91/kg in August, while kapater and ram prices increased to N$45.43/kg and N$37.92/kg, respectively. The overall firming of prices reflects improved body conditions and steady demand amid restricted market supply, a typical post-rainfall response as producers focus on herd rebuilding rather than sales.

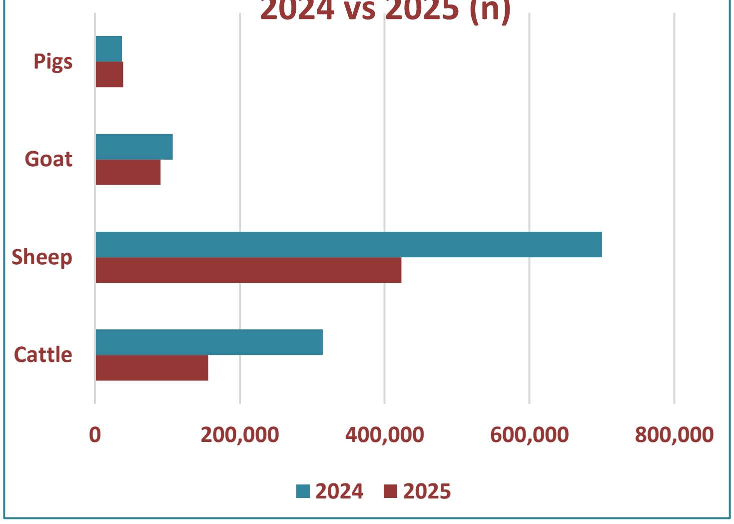
Pork Sector

Pig marketing totaled 4,879 heads in September, an increase of 14.2% from 4,274 in August and 21% year-year-on-year (4,033 in September 2024). All slaughtering occurred through B&C class abattoirs; no live exports were recorded in September.

In terms of trade, notably on a month-to-month basis, imports increased drastically by 54.3% from August (465,528) to 718,243 kg in September, and imports increased by 74.5% on a year-to-year basis. However, on a year-to-date pork imports were recorded at 5.1 million kg, a 1.12% decline from 5.2 million kg imported in the same period in 2024. Spain was the leading supplier, accounting for 70.6% of total imports, followed by South Africa (20.2%), France (2.5%) Belgium (2.3%), Ireland (1.0%) and others.

Poultry and Poultry Products

YTD, a total of 14,363,502 chickens were slaughtered for domestic consumption. In terms of trade, A total of 893,782 kg of processed chicken products were exported to Zambia (59.2%) and Botswana (15.2%), with smaller share of exports s to South Africa (13.1%) and Zimbabwe (12.4%. Year-to-date imports totaled 15.9 million kg. Live-bird imports s declined by 79.4% from 62,150 in August to 12,800 heads in September (mainly (100%) day-old chicks from South Africa), bringing the year- to -date total to 352,701 chickens.



Total Marketing by Sector – Jan-Sep 2024 vs 2025 (n)

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Conclusion
Overall, the livestock and livestock products sector remains supply-constrained, with marketing volumes trailing 2024 levels across most commodities. Price gains continue to offset volume losses, with the pig sector providing relative resilience within an otherwise subdued livestock market.

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