

# Statistics Commentary

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## OVERVIEW

The livestock and livestock products industry maintained strong momentum in August 2026, with marketing activity strengthening across key sectors, supported by firm producer prices and resilient export demand. Cattle and sheep marketing both showed solid growth, while poultry and egg production continued to expand steadily. Pork marketing registered modest gains despite ongoing reliance on imports. In contrast, goat marketing softened alongside weaker auction prices, and the dairy sector came under pressure from declining domestic milk production. Overall, the extensive sectors demonstrated resilience through diversified export channels, while intensive sectors remained constrained by import dependency.

## CATTLE SECTOR

Year-to-date cattle marketing totalled 195 620 head, a 34.9% increase compared with 145 049 head marketed during the corresponding 2025 period. On a year-on-year basis, 29 389 animals were marketed in August 2026, a 32.5% increase from 22 184 in August 2025, reflecting sustained throughput momentum.

Live exports rose 67.1% year-to-date to 66 632 head, up from 39 883 in the corresponding 2025 period. Export-approved abattoirs also recorded a 36.0% increase in throughput, reaching 93 752 head by the end of August 2026, supported by favorable and competitive market conditions. By contrast, B&C class abattoirs registered a 2.7% decline to 35 236 head over the same period.

Beef exports reached 12 723 449 kg year-to-date, a 51.5% increase on the 8 397 324 kg recorded over the corresponding 2025 period, while August exports alone rose 36.8% year-on-year to 2 011 667 kg, from 1 470 109 kg in August 2025. Hides and processed leather exports totalled 1 237 760 kg year-to-date, a 72.1% increase from the 719 043 kg recorded in 2025.

Weaner prices strengthened by N\$2.20/kg (7.4%) to average N\$32.00/kg, up from N\$29.80/kg in the corresponding 2025 period. The average B2 carcass price advanced to N\$78.26/kg in 2026, from N\$69.36/kg in 2025, while the all-grade carcass price rose 10.3% to

N\$72.82/kg, from N\$65.99/kg.

## SHEEP SECTOR

Year-to-date sheep marketing totalled 575 425 head, a 40.9% increase compared with 408 291 head in the corresponding 2025 period, with August 2026 marketing up 43.5% year-on-year to 54 301 head.

Export-approved abattoir throughput increased 14.9% year-to-date to 47 071 head, up from 40 956 head in the corresponding 2025 period, supported by favorable export-market conditions and access to premium markets. Domestic abattoirs, however, registered a 7.5% decline to 64 609 head by the end of August 2026, reflecting weaker local demand, rising operational costs, and competition from informal slaughter. Additionally, year-to-date live sheep exports surged 55.9% to 463 745 head compared with 297 465 head in 2025, while August 2026 exports climbed 78.0% to 46 754 head from 26 267 head in August 2025, driven by strong South African feedlot demand and producer preference for export markets over domestic supply.

Year-to-date lamb and mutton exports rose 24.2%, increasing from 351 683 kg in 2025 to 436 685 kg in 2026. South Africa remained the principal destination, absorbing 48.8% of total exports (213 246 kg), while Norway and the United Kingdom accounted for 20.1% (87 917 kg) and 12.0% (52 529 kg), respectively. Botswana, Zambia, and the Netherlands collectively contributed the remaining 19.0%, with 43 724 kg, 21 845 kg, and 17 424 kg exported. Year-to-date sheep skin exports also strengthened, totaling 141 008 kg in 2026 compared with 56 740 kg in the corresponding 2025 period.

The all-grade carcass price averaged N\$64.82/kg, a 5.1% increase from N\$61.66/kg in the corresponding 2025 period, while the live lamb Dorper auction price strengthened 4.9% to average N\$39.98/kg, from N\$38.11/kg in 2025.

## GOAT SECTOR

Year-to-date, the goat sector recorded a 2.6% decline in total marketing, reaching 75 501 head in 2026 compared with 77 496 head in the corresponding 2025 period. LLPBN-registered abattoirs processed 2 555 head, a 32.7% increase from 1 925 head slaughtered over the same period in 2025. Live exports remained the dominant channel, with 69 156 head (94.8%) dispatched to South African feedlots, while the remaining 5.2% was distributed across Angola, Botswana, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya.

The average goat lamb auction price declined to N\$40.31/kg, down 3.2% from N\$41.64/kg in the corresponding 2025 period. Kapater and ram prices also softened, falling 4.0% and 5.7% to N\$39.63/kg and N\$32.06/kg respectively.

## PORK SECTOR

Year-to-date pig marketing volumes rose 8.9% reaching 37 274 head in 2026 compared with 34 220 head in 2025 corresponding period. Year-on-year marketing strengthened, up 4.0% to 4 440 head from 4 276 head in the corresponding period of 2025. Under the Pork Market Share Promotion Scheme (PMSPS), the pork ceiling price has been set at N\$47.61/kg for the third quarter, subject to adjustment as the quarter progresses.

Year-to-date pork imports reached 4 988 436 kg, reflecting a 13.6% increase compared with 4 390 701 kg recorded during the corresponding 2025 period. The growth highlights continued reliance on imports to supplement local production, with offal comprising 73.3% of total YTD volumes. South Africa emerged as the leading supplier, contributing 26.0% of imports, followed by Botswana (17.6%), Belgium (15.6%), and Spain (13.2%). The remaining 27.5% was sourced from a diversified range of countries including Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Ireland, Denmark, Brazil, Australia, China, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, and Finland.

## POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Total YTD chicken marketing reached 15 698 651 head, a 24.6% increase compared with 12 598 661 head in the corresponding period of 2025. Domestic abattoirs slaughtered 1 987 896 head during August 2026, up 32.6% compared with 1 499 403 head slaughtered in August 2025.

Egg marketing totalled 82 865 349 units, a 14.4% year-to-date increase from 72 464 770 units in 2025. A total of 27 479 eggs were exported to South Africa and Zimbabwe during August 2026. Average egg prices at the end of August 2026 stood at N\$1.50/unit for small,

N\$2.50/unit for medium, N\$2.24/unit for large, N\$2.75/unit for extra-large, and N\$3.13/unit for jumbo sizes.

Poultry and poultry product imports declined 6.0% year-to-date, falling from 14 056 965 kg in 2025 to 13 215 953 kg. South Africa and Poland dominated the import market, accounting for 46.0% and 24.4% of total volumes respectively, followed by Argentina (10.8%) and Brazil (9.8%). The remaining 8.9% was supplied jointly by the Netherlands, Swaziland, Spain, Belgium, Uruguay, the United States, Ireland, Turkey, and Thailand.

## DAIRY SECTOR

Domestic year-to-date milk production totalled 10 426 618 litres, a 3.1% decline compared with 10 762 050 litres in the corresponding 2025 period. On a year-on-year basis, August 2026 output eased by 1.0% to 1 521 319 litres, down from 1 536 813 litres in August 2025, reflecting input cost pressures.

Year-to-date milk imports increased substantially by 45.6% to 12 863 744 litres from 8 835 843 litres in the corresponding 2025 period, bringing Namibia's milk self-sufficiency ratio to 44.8%. The producer prices averaged N\$6.69/litres in August 2026.

Year-to-date dairy product imports increased 23.4% to 22 838 008 kg, compared with 18 507 115 kg in the corresponding 2025 period. On a year-on-year basis, August 2026 imports rose 34.3% to 3 315 051 kg, up from 2 468 694 kg in August 2025. South Africa remained the dominant supplier, accounting for 95.0% of total YTD imports, followed by Denmark (1.9%) and Germany (1.2%), with the remaining 2.0% sourced from other countries.

## CONCLUSION

The livestock and livestock products industry maintained a positive trajectory, anchored by robust cattle and sheep marketing, and firm producer prices. To secure balanced, long-term growth across the value chain, sustained diversification of export channels and targeted support for intensive sectors will remain essential.