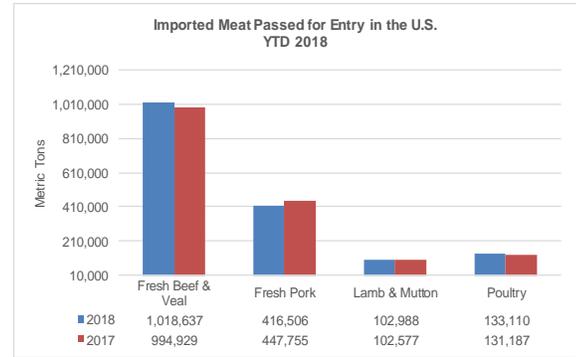


Report Contents:

- Trade Highlights
- Oceania Trade Update
- North America Trade Update
- Additional Sources of Information and Links to Other LPGMN International Reports.

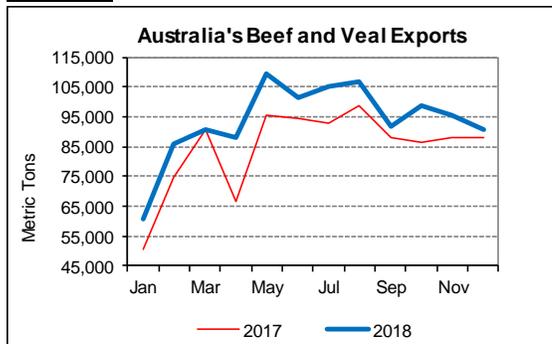
International Trade Highlights:

Recently, the USDA Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) issued the Imported Meat Passed for Entry in The U.S. by Country. According to the data, during the fourth quarter of 2018, the U.S. imported 230,687 MT of beef and veal. This was 15.5 percent less than the previous quarter but was 1.1 percent more than a year ago. Beef and veal imports from Canada during the fourth quarter were 2.1 percent lower than the previous quarter but were 13.5 percent higher than a year ago, totaling 72,530 MT. Total beef and veal from Canada during 2018 equaled 285,549 MT, which was up 6.6 percent over a year ago. Canada was the main supplier of beef and veal to the U.S. with 28.0 percent of the total imports. During the fourth quarter, beef and veal imports from Australia fell 10.7 percent from the previous quarter to 59,518 MT. However, this was up 6.2 percent over a year ago. During 2018, beef and veal imports from Australia were slightly less than the previous year, totaling 234,037 MT. Overall, during 2018, beef and veal imports totaled 1,018,637 MT, up 2.4 percent over the 2017. Meanwhile, during the fourth quarter of 2018, U.S. pork imports fell 2.5 percent from the previous quarter and fell 17.4 percent from a year ago to 94,453 MT. U.S. fourth quarter pork imports from Canada equaled 65,356 MT. This was 2.7 percent higher than the previous quarter but was 13.4 percent lower than a year ago. During 2018, pork imports from Canada totaled 273,336 MT, 12.3 percent less than the previous year. Canada was the largest market for U.S. pork imports with 65.6 percent of the total. During the fourth quarter, pork imports from Poland fell 14.3 percent from the previous quarter to 10,596 MT. Also, this was 23.9 percent less than a year ago. During 2018, Poland pork imports were 8.0 percent greater than the corresponding period a year ago, equaling 60,906 MT. Overall, during 2018, pork imports were 7.0 percent less than the corresponding period a year ago, equaling 416,506 MT. During the fourth quarter of 2018, the U.S. imported 23,320 MT of lamb and mutton. This was 6.1 percent lower than the previous quarter but was nearly 1.0 percent higher than the same period a year ago. Lamb and mutton imports from



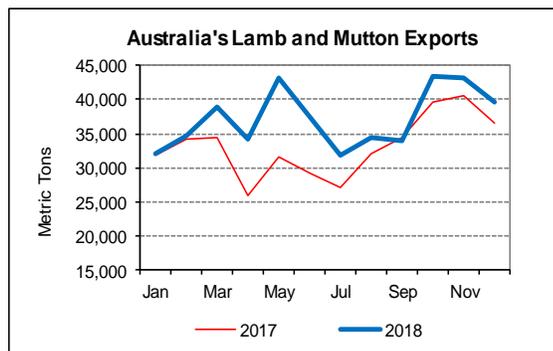
Australia during the fourth quarter were down a little from the previous quarter but were up 10.8 percent over a year ago, totaling 17,908 MT. During 2018, lamb and mutton imports from Australia totaled 73,625 MT, which was 7.1 percent more than last year. Australia was the main supplier of lamb and mutton to the U.S. with 71.5 percent of the total imports. During the fourth quarter, lamb and mutton imports from New Zealand equaled 5,263 MT. This was 14.9 percent lower than the previous quarter but was 10.2 percent higher than the same period a year ago. Year to date imports from New Zealand decreased 7.0 percent from last year, totaling 28,302 MT. Overall, during 2018, lamb and mutton imports reached 102,988 MT, which was slightly greater than the same period a year ago. Finally, during the fourth quarter of 2018, U.S. poultry imports were up 1.4 percent over the previous quarter but were down 2.3 percent from a year ago to 33,534 MT. Poultry imports from Canada during the fourth quarter were 6.5 percent less than the previous quarter, equaling 17,966 MT. Also, this was 9.7 percent less than a year ago. Poultry imports from Canada during 2018 totaled 77,583 MT, 4.7 percent less than last year. Canada was the main supplier of poultry to the U.S. with 58.3 percent of the total imports. During the fourth quarter, poultry imports from Chile were 11.7 percent higher than the previous quarter, totaling 13,710 MT. Also, this was 36.6 percent more than a year ago. Total year to date poultry imports from Chile during 2018 were 23.0 percent higher than a year ago, reaching 48,518 MT. Overall, poultry imports during 2018 were 1.5 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, totaling 133,110 MT. To obtain further U.S. import data, go to the website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lswimpe.pdf>.

Oceania:

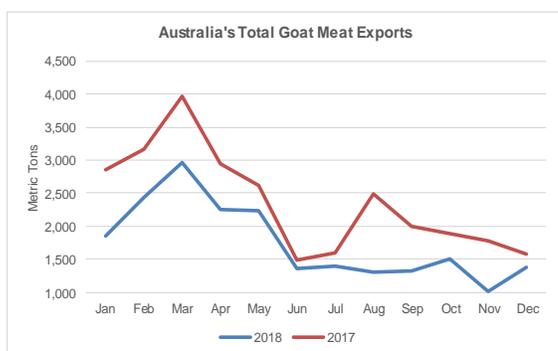


Recently, Australia's (DAFF) published Australia's red meat export data for December 2018 and the year-end. According to the statistics, during December, Australia exported 90,817 MT of beef and veal. This was 4.9 percent less than the previous month but was 3.3 percent more than December 2017. More specifically, frozen beef exports equaled 66,977 MT, which comprised 73.7 percent of the total. Fresh, chilled beef exports equaled 23,840 MT. During 2018, Australia's exports of frozen beef totaled 827,175 MT, while exports of fresh, chilled beef totaled 298,480 MT. Australia's beef exports to Japan during December fell 14.4 percent from November to 24,922 MT. However, this was 4.2 percent higher than December 2017. During 2018, Australia's total beef exports to Japan equaled 315,889 MT, which was 8.0 percent above 2017. Japan was the leading market for Australia's beef exports during 2018 with 28.1 percent of the total. During December, Australia exported 15,762 MT of beef to the U.S. This was 1.3 percent lower than the previous month and was 13.8 percent lower than December 2017. Beef exports to the U.S. during 2018 were down 1.2 percent from 2017, totaling 231,189 MT. During December, Australia's beef exports to South Korea equaled 16,139 MT, which was up 8.8 percent over the previous month and was up 13.7 percent over December 2017. Total beef exports to South Korea during 2018 were 14.7 percent more than 2017, amounting to 170,372 MT. Overall, during 2018, Australia's total beef and veal exports equaled 1,125,653 MT, 10.9 percent greater than 2017.

During December, Australia's lamb exports fell 11.4 percent from November but rose 1.5 percent over December 2017 to 21,822 MT. Australia's lamb exports to the Middle East during December equaled 5,512 MT, which was 16.8 percent lower than the previous month and was 2.9 percent lower than December 2017. During 2018, Australia's total lamb exports to the Middle East equaled 74,736 MT, 17.2 percent greater than 2017. The Middle East was Australia's leading destination for lamb exports with 28.0 percent of the total. During December, Australia exported 5,693 MT of lamb to the U.S. This was 5.4 percent less than the previous month but was 13.8 percent more than December 2017. Lamb exports to the U.S. during 2018 reached 56,831 MT, 3.0 percent higher than 2017. Lamb exports to China during December totaled 4,035 MT, which was down 5.7 percent from the previous month and was down 6.0 percent from December 2017. Australia's lamb exports to China during 2018 totaled 52,919 MT, which was 9.8 percent more than 2017. Overall, during 2018, Australia's lamb exports equaled 267,253 MT, 6.6 percent above 2017.



Meanwhile, during December, Australia's mutton exports totaled 17,860 MT. Although this was down 4.0 percent from the previous month, it was up 18.7 percent over December 2017. Mutton exports to China during December totaled 7,319 MT, which was 11.9 percent lower than November but was 23.3 percent higher than December 2017. During 2018, Australia's total mutton exports to China were 57.0 percent greater than 2017, totaling 54,938 MT. China was Australia's primary buyer of mutton with 30.5 percent of the total exports. During December, Australia exported 3,311 MT of mutton to the Middle East. This was down 5.0 percent from the previous month but was up 8.6 percent over December 2017. Total mutton exports to the Middle East during 2018 were 3.0 percent above 2017, equaling 45,844 MT. Mutton exports to the U.S. during December rose 35.8 percent over the previous month to 1,839 MT. Also, this was 48.2 percent higher than December 2017. During 2018, mutton exports to the U.S. totaled 17,863 MT, 33.2 percent more than 2017. Overall, during 2018, Australia's total mutton exports equaled 179,997 MT, which was 22.6 percent above 2017.



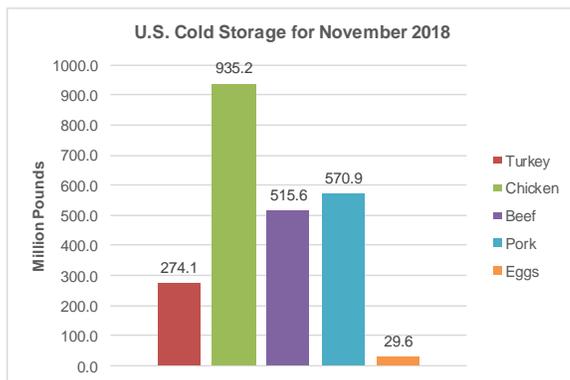
According to recent statistics from Australia's Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), during the fourth quarter of 2018, Australia's goat meat exports totaled 3,884 MT. This was down 3.8 percent from the previous quarter and was down 26.2 percent from a year ago. During the final quarter of 2018, Australia's goat meat exports to the U.S. equaled 2,501 MT, which was 8.1 percent less than the previous quarter and was 16.7 percent less than a year ago. During 2018, Australia's total goat meat exports to the U.S. were 24.5 percent below 2017, amounting to 14,254 MT. The U.S. was the primary destination for Australia's goat meat exports with 67.8 percent of the total. Goat meat exports to Taiwan during the fourth quarter totaled 376 MT. This was 3.1 percent lower than the previous quarter and was 54.6 percent lower than a year ago. Total goat meat exports to Taiwan during 2018 equaled 2,435 MT, which was 31.5 percent less than 2017. Taiwan was Australia's second largest goat meat export market with 11.6 percent of the total. During the fourth quarter, goat meat exports to South Korea equaled 116 MT, which was down 53.4 percent from the previous quarter and was down 59.3 percent from a year ago. During 2018, Australia's goat meat exports to South Korea totaled 1,344 MT, which was 25.6 percent lower than 2017. During 2018, goat meat exports to the Caribbean were 31.5 percent less than 2017, totaling 899 MT. During 2018, goat meat exports to Canada totaled 817 MT, which was down 54.9 percent from last year. Overall, during 2018, Australia's total goat meat exports equaled 21,027 MT, 26.0 percent below a year ago. Additional data on Australia's goat meat market is available on the DAFF website at <http://www.daff.gov.au/>.

North America:

On December 21, the USDA NASS published its monthly *Chicken and Eggs* report. According to the report, U.S. egg production during November totaled 9.07 billion, which was up 3.2 percent over last year and was up 4.2 percent over two years ago. More specifically, production included 7.92 billion table eggs, which was 3.2 percent higher than last year and was 4.2 percent higher than two years ago. Hatching eggs equaled 1.15 billion eggs, 2.8 percent more than a year ago and 3.7 percent more than two years ago. The total number of layers during November equaled 390.5 million, which was up 1.1 percent over October and up 2.5 percent over November 2017. Table eggs consisted of 84.4 percent of all layers, or 329.6 million. This was up 1.3 percent over October and was up 2.8 percent over last year. Hatching eggs totaled 60.9 million, or 15.6 percent of the total layers. This was unchanged from the previous month but increased 1.3 percent over a year ago. All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 2018 totaled 391.8 million, up 1.4 percent over November and up 2.5 percent over December 2017. This consisted of 331.0 million layers producing table or market type eggs, which was up 1.7 percent over the previous month and was up 2.8 percent over last year. Layers producing broiler type hatching eggs totaled 57.6 million, which was unchanged from October but was 1.4 percent more than last year. Layers producing egg type hatching eggs were 1.9 percent below the previous month and were 3.9 percent below a year ago, amounting to 3.25 million. Meanwhile, egg type eggs in incubators on December 1, totaled 50.8 million, up 12.4 percent over the previous month and up 8.7 percent over a year ago. Egg type chicks hatched during November was 14.8 percent less than last month and was 3.1 percent less than a year ago, equaling 46.9 million. Overall, egg type eggs hatched January through November totaled 588.5 million, up 9.9 percent over the corresponding period a year ago. Broiler type eggs in incubators on December 1, totaled 687.8 million, which was 5.9 percent higher than a month ago and was a little higher than last year. Broiler type chicks hatched during November amounted to 766.5 million, which was 3.0 percent less than October and was 1.0 percent less than November 2017. Overall, broiler type chicks hatched January through November were 1.0 percent higher than the corresponding period a year ago, equaling 8.88 billion. To obtain the complete report, visit the NASS website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

U.S. Chickens and Eggs		
Layers on Hand		
Layers on December 1	1,000 Head	
All layers	391,802	
Table egg type	330,953	
Hatching egg type	60,849	
Broiler-type Hatching	57,602	
Egg-type Hatching	3,247	
Hatchery Production		
Egg-Type	1,000	
Eggs in Incubators Dec 1	50,837	
Chicks Hatched Nov	46,862	
Chicks Hatched Jan-Nov	588,534	
Broiler-Type		
Eggs in Incubators Dec 1	687,792	
Chicks Hatched Nov	766,521	
Chicks Hatched Jan-Nov	8,875,876	

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service



On December 21, USDA NASS released its monthly *Cold Storage* report. According to the report, as of November 30, 2018, beef in U.S. cold storage facilities equaled 514.7 million pounds. This was 6.1 percent more than a year ago and was 8.2 percent more than the five-year average. More specifically, boneless beef in cold storage totaled 473.9 million pounds, which was 6.7 percent higher than a year ago. Beef cuts in cold storage equaled 40.9 million pounds, 1.0 percent less than a year ago. Meanwhile, at the end of November 507.6 million pounds of pork was in U.S. cold storage. This was up 1.1 percent over the previous year but was down 3.2 percent from the five-year average. Specifically, the volume of hams in storage equaled 96.4 million pounds, which was 1.9 percent lower than a year ago. The volume of pork bellies in storage was 4.8 percent above a year ago, totaling 36.9 million pounds. Pork loins in storage equaled 33.9 million pounds, 6.9 percent less than a year ago. The volume of ribs in storage was up 8.1 percent over a year ago, amounting to 108.3 million pounds. Pork trimmings in storage totaled 43.0 million pounds, which was up 14.8 percent over a year ago. Veal in U.S. cold

storage equaled 9.1 million pounds, which was 42.4 percent lower than a year ago. Lamb and mutton in cold storage totaled 37.9 million pounds, 30.7 percent higher than a year ago. As of November 30, 2018, chicken in U.S. cold storage totaled 935.2 million pounds which was the highest volume on record for November. This was 4.3 percent higher than a year ago and was 16.8 percent higher than the five-year average. More specifically, the volume of chicken breasts in storage was 1.4 percent more than a year ago, amounting to 186.6 million pounds, which was the highest volume on record for the month of November. Leg quarters totaled 70.1 million pounds, down 38.4 percent from last year. Chicken wings in cold storage was 30.8 percent more than last year, totaling 99.6 million pounds. Meanwhile, U.S. turkey in cold storage facilities totaled 274.1 million pounds, which was 5.0 percent lower than a year ago but was 21.9 percent higher than the five-year average. Specifically, the volume of whole turkeys in storage was 15.0 percent less than a year ago, equaling 92.7 million pounds. Turkey breasts in cold storage totaled 71.9 million pounds, up 12.4 percent over a year ago, which was the highest volume on record for the month of November. Turkey legs in storage were 4.2 percent higher than last year, amounting to 12.5 million pounds. In the meantime, eggs in U.S. cold storage totaled 29.6 million pounds. This increased 6.1 percent over last year but decreased 7.8 percent from the five-year average. More specifically, egg whites in cold storage reached 2.5 million pounds, 45.6 percent lower than last year. To obtain the entire report, go to the NASS website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

The next issue will be available January 17, 2019.

Links to Additional Sources and Other LPGMN International Reports:**Additional Information Sources Include:**

- [USDA Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News \(LPGMN\)](#)
- [USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service \(APHIS\)](#)
- [USDA Economic Research Service \(ERS\)](#)
- [USDA Foreign Agricultural Service \(FAS\)](#)
- [USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service \(NASS\)](#)
- [Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada](#)
- [CanFax](#)
- [Statistics Canada](#)
- [Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry – Australia \(DAFF\)](#)
- [Meat & Livestock Australia \(ALFA\)](#)
- [Australian Lot Feeders' Association \(ALFA\)](#)

- [New Zealand Beef + Lamb \(B+LNZ\)](#)
- [Agriculture and Livestock Industries Corporation \(ALIC\)](#)
- [Korea International Trade Association \(KITA\)](#)
- [Argentina's Agricultural Food, Health and Quality \(SENASA\)](#)
- [Uruguay's National Meat Organization \(INAC\)](#)
- [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#)
- [New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries \(MPI\)](#)

Links to Other LPGMN Reports:

- [Livestock, Poultry and Grain Individual International Reports](#)