



U.S. Meat Bulletin

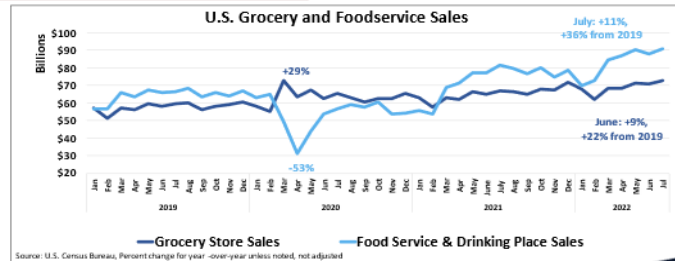
September 6, 2022 Volume XIV | Issue 9.1

Note: The next U.S. Meat Bulletin will be published September 20.

SUPPLY & DEMAND

Wholesale beef prices were mixed last week, with USDA CHOICE ribs, loins & chucks trading lower, while all USDA SELECT cuts found strength. U.S. retailers have been more aggressive advertising and promoting beef for Labor Day, as average consumer prices for meat are approximately 20% lower than year ago levels. But airwaves over this past week's long weekend were also full of ads promoting chicken sandwiches, so the protein space remains competitive. In addition, the public remains concerned over inflation and in the past few weeks, consumers have been preparing for back-to-school expenditures. That said, food spending remains +15% from last year's pace (see GRAPH below), although buyers are getting less product for each dollar spent. Live fed cattle prices fell back last week after a 3-week rally but remain high at U.S. \$1.45/lb. liveweight. Cow slaughter has been counter seasonally falling due to recent monsoon rains in the drought-stricken SW. Cow culling normally increases into the fall then declines in winter months, but the rain has encouraged some re-stocking by SW cow-calf operators.

Combined grocery and foodservice sales were up 15% from last year for Jan – July 2022

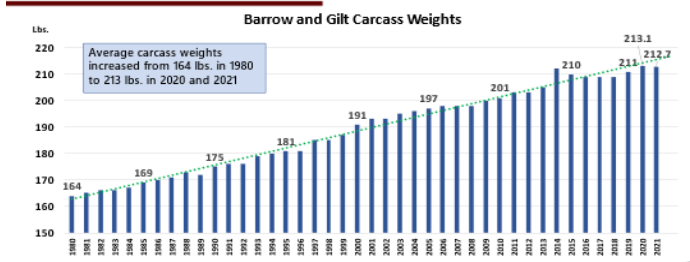


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Percent change for year-over-year unless noted, not adjusted

Beef Choice Beef Cutout Value: 2/9/2022 – US\$259.42/cwt. (-2% from 22/8/2022)

Wholesale pork prices eased again last week despite continued muted slaughter levels and steady domestic demand. The pork cutout has fallen approximately 18% since early August, with the composite value last week hitting its lowest level since mid-May. Average live hog weights have been heavy this year, and this is partially offsetting the lower slaughter activity. Market hog weights seasonally trend higher from September through November, but data shows that swine have been gradually getting heavier over the last several decades (see GRAPH below & MOVING AHEAD next column.) Live hog values & futures have been following pork prices down. The CME's Lean Hog Index, a two-day weighted average of cash hog prices, fell at the weekend to \$1.06/lb., the lowest since June 2. USDA is upgrading its weekly Export Sales reporting system, so no data will be available until this or next week. The latest report from mid-August showed that total U.S. pork muscle cut exports were -21% the pace of a year ago, with large double digit decreases for top markets China, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong & Philippines. Exports to #2 and #3 markets Japan & Korea were down 6% & 3% respectively according to the weekly data, showing surprising resilience despite sharp drops in their currencies and buying power (see TRADE).

Historical Increase in Carcass Weights



Source: USDA/NASS

Hog Carcass Cutout Value: 2/9/2022 – US\$102.25/cwt. (-13% from 22/8/2022)

ACTIVITIES:

- Food & Hotel Asia, Singapore: September 5-8, 2022 (THIS WEEK)
- Restaurant and Bar, Hong Kong: September 6-8, 2022 (THIS WEEK)
- FHC Shanghai Global Food Trade Show: Nov 8-10, 2022
- SIAL, Shanghai: December 7-9, 2022

MARKET MAKERS

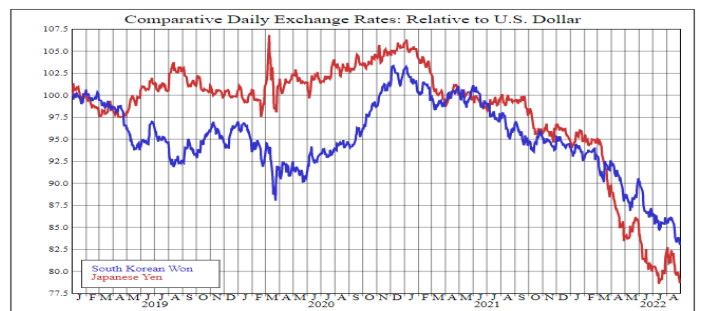
Sustainable Beef LLC's widely anticipated new beef processing enterprise has a new investor. Retail giant **Walmart** has announced it will acquire a minority stake in the North Platte, Nebraska project. News reports state that Walmart's investment will help Sustainable Beef LLC open their beef processing facility by late 2024 after groundbreaking takes place next month.

MOVING AHEAD

USDA's top economists at its **Economic Research Service** have published a new macro analysis of the fundamental structural changes the U.S. hog industry has undergone over the past 20 years. Utilizing a bevy of census and survey data, USDA shows that during the 2-decade period from 1997 to 2017 the number of U.S. hog farms dramatically declined, the size of the typical U.S. hog farm grew significantly, and the geographic pattern of hog production shifted. Most importantly, the hog industry has gradually moved to more specialized operations. In the past, U.S. farms raised hogs from birth to slaughter, but now more operations are specializing in contract feeder-to-finish production models. In 1992, only 3% of all operations – accounting for 5% of total hogs marketed - produced market hogs under a contractual arrangement. By 2015, this share increased to more than 50%, accounting for 69% percent of production. The average scale of operations increased; in 1992, per farm marketing hog output was 945 head, but by 2015, an average operator produced 8,721 head. Driving the structural shift were technological advancements that improved productivity. Larger confined housing for hogs at all phases of production allowed for the development of the all-in/all-out management model (grouping hogs of similar ages and weights through the different growth stages) and the increased use of phase feeding (i.e., shifting diets to meet nutritional needs as hogs mature). These production systems reduced the risk of the spread of disease and improved feed efficiency, thus reducing overall production costs. From 1992 to 2015, real feed costs decreased for feeder-to-finish operations, while feed expenses for farrow-to-finish operations experienced more variability. Production systems vary by region; around the east coast production base centered on North Carolina, contract production dominates the hog industry, with 91% of hogs sold there in 2017 coming from operators utilizing this model. In the Midwest states of Iowa and Minnesota, there is a more even split between independent and contract operations, with 59% percent of hogs sold under contract there in 2017. The typical Midwest operation also farmed more acres of their own cropland. Other changes in the industry that have affected production methods, costs and efficiencies include new stricter guidelines for antibiotic use, and changes in manure handling and storage as sustainability concerns grew. The study concludes by noting that over the 20-year period, total pork production grew significantly; interestingly, domestic U.S. pork consumption remained flat, but increased exports allowed the overall industry to remain profitable while expanding.

TRADE

Major meat exporting countries have been concerned about the weakening Japanese Yen and Korean Won versus major currencies, especially the U.S. dollar, but through July, the combined volume of total beef & pork imports by both nations of 1.736 million tons was the 2nd largest ever over this 7-month time. Total import value of \$10.1 billion was record large. The Japanese Yen last week briefly touched the Yen 140 = U.S. \$1 following the U.S. Federal Reserve's signal last week that it would continue to raise interest rates to combat inflation. The devaluations should pressure prices of imported meat upward, but MEF data shows that some popular U.S. beef items in Japan are lower in wholesale value now than at the end of Q2. How long traders can hold steady prices to end-users remains unknown, but there is no question that the sharp currency movements will result in changes in export pricing or wholesale prices, or both.



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编辑笔记：下期《美国肉品新知》将于2022年9月20日发布。

产业新知

大受关注的**可持续牛肉有限责任公司**新的牛肉加工企业吸引了新的投资者加入。**沃尔玛**宣布将收购在内布拉斯加州，北普拉特项目的小部分股权。新闻报道称，沃尔玛的投资将助推可持续牛肉有限责任公司在2024年底前开张其新的牛肉加工厂，此次工程项目将在下个月动土开工。

产业动态

美国经济研究所的美国农业部高级经济学家发表了一份新的有关于美国生猪产业在过去20年中所经历的基本结构变化的宏观分析。美国农业部利用了一组普查和调查的数据发现，在1997年至2017年的20年间，美国养猪场的数量明显下降，标准养猪场的规模显著增大，生猪生产的地理环境也有所迁移。最为重要的是，生猪产业已逐渐转向更专业化的运营模式。在过去，美国农场的生猪饲养模式是从出生到屠宰，但现在更多生产商专注于合约制育肥到育成的生产模式。在1992年，只有3%的生产商根据合同安排生产上市生猪，占市场上生猪总量的5%。到2015年，这一市场份额已经增加到50%以上，占生猪产量的69%。生产商的平均规模增加了；在1992年，每个农场的生猪上市产量为945头，但到2015年，一个中等生产商的产量都达到了8,721头。推动生产结构的转变是提高生产力的技术进步。在生产各个阶段，为生猪提供更大的封闭式养猪场使得通过不同生长阶段对相近年龄和体重的生猪进行分组的管理模式得以发展，也增加了分阶段饲养（随着生猪生长成熟，转变饮食结构以满足所需营养）的利用。这些生产系统降低了疾病传播的风险并提高了饲养效率，从而降低了总生产成本。从1992年到2015年，育肥到育成模式的实际饲料成本降低了，而出生到育成模式的饲料费用的浮动更大。生猪生产系统因地区不同有所差异；在以北卡罗来纳州为中心的东海岸生产基地周围，合约制生产占生猪产业的主导地位，2017年，在此地区销售的生猪中，其中91%使用了这种运营模式。在中西部地区的爱荷华州和明尼苏达州，个体和合约制两者运营模式的分配比例更为平均，在2017年，有59%的生猪是根据合约制模式出售的。比较具有代表性的中西部地区生产商，也会种植更多英亩的自有农作地。还有其它一些影响生产方法、成本和效率的行业变化，其中包括新出台的以及更严格的抗生素使用指南，以及随着可持续性问题的增加需改变肥料的处理和储存。该研究最后指出，在1997至2017这20年间，猪肉生产总量有显著增长；有意思的是，美国国内猪肉消费水平没有变化，而美国生猪行业在扩张的同时还能保持盈利还得益于猪肉出口量的增加。

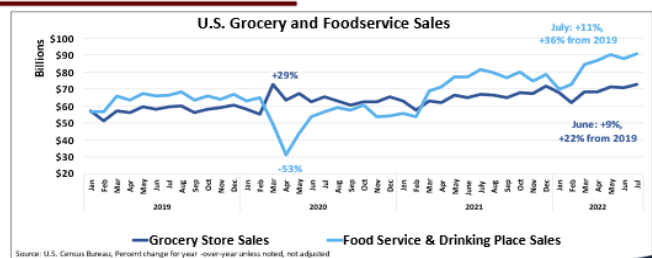
贸易新闻

首要的两个肉类出口国家日本韩国对日元、韩元等主要货币（尤其是美元）的贬值表示担忧，但整个7月份，两个国家的牛肉和猪肉的进口总量为173.6万吨，进口数量在整个7个月排名第2。进口总额为101亿美元，创历史新高。上周，日元兑美元比率在140日元=1美元短暂停留。此前，美联储上周表示将继续加息以对抗通胀。货币贬值应该会拉高进口肉类的价格，但美国肉类出口协会的数据显示，目前在日本，一些首选的美国牛肉部位的批发价格低于今年第二季度末。贸易商能向终端用户维持多久稳定的牛肉售价还未知，但货币汇率的剧烈波动将导致出口定价或批发价格或两者同时发生变化。

供应与需求

上周牛肉批发价格涨跌互现，美国精选级牛肉肋脊部、腰脊部和肩胛部位价格走低，而所有可选级牛肉的价格都表现强劲。美国零售商为劳动节假期进行了更积极的广告宣传和促销，因为平均肉类消费者价格较上年同期下降了约20%。但在过去一周的长周末，电视广播中也遍布鸡肉三明治的促销广告，因此肉类蛋白市场仍具有竞争力。此外，公众仍然担心通货膨胀，过去几周，消费者一直在为开学消费做准备。也就是说，尽管消费者花费同样的钱能买到的产品越来越少，但是食品消费仍比去年增长了15%（见下图）。活牛价格在经历三周反弹后，上周回落，但活牛价格仍在1.45美元/磅活重的高位。受干旱影响的西南地区最近因为季风气候的影响，母牛的屠宰量出现了反季节性下降。通常情况下，母牛的去化数量在秋季会增加，而在冬季则会减少，但这次降雨则促使西南地区的母牛小牛经营者重新补充了一些牛只。

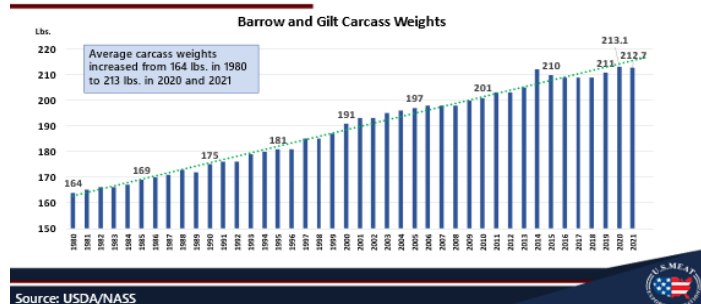
Combined grocery and foodservice sales were up 15% from last year for Jan - July 2022



美国农业部牛肉屠体价格指数（特选级）：2022年9月2日 - \$259.42 美元/百磅（较2022年8月22日减少2%）

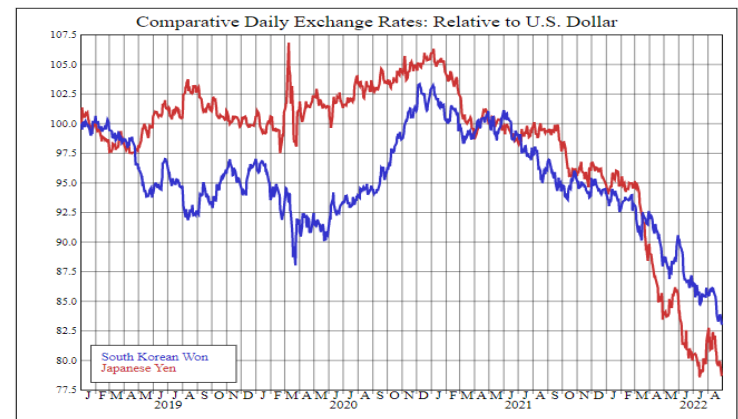
尽管屠宰水平持续低迷且国内需求稳定，但上周猪肉批发价格再次回落。自8月初以来，猪肉分切价格已下跌约18%，上周综合值触及5月中旬以来的最低水平。今年的平均生猪体重很重，这部分抵消了屠宰活动的减少。从9月到11月，出栏生猪体重会呈季节性上升趋势，但数据显示，在过去的几十年里，猪的体重逐渐变重（见下图和下一栏的产业动态）。生猪现货和期货价格一直跟随猪肉价格下跌。芝加哥商品交易所的瘦肉猪指数是现货生猪价格的两天加权平均值，周末跌至1.06美元/磅，为6月2日以来的最低水平。美国农业部正在升级其每周出口销量报告系统，因此直到本周或下周才能获得数据。8月中旬的最新报告显示，美国猪肉出口总量比一年前下降了21%，中国、澳大利亚、加拿大、香港和菲律宾的主要市场出现了两位数的大幅下降。根据每周数据，尽管当地货币汇率和购买力急剧下降，美国对第二和第三市场的日本和韩国的出口分别下降了6%和3%，出口量仍显示出惊人的恢复力（见贸易新闻）。

Historical Increase in Carcass Weights



猪屠体分切价格：2022年9月2日 - \$102.25 美元/百磅（较2022年8月22日减少13%）

美国肉类出口协会活动预告：
 新加坡国际食品与饮料展 - 新加坡：2022年9月5-8日（本周）
 香港餐饮展 - 香港：2022年9月6-8日（本周）
 FHC 上海环球食品展：2022年11月8-10日
 SIAL 国际食品展（上海）：2022年12月7-9日



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