



U.S. Meat Bulletin

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SUPPLY & DEMAND

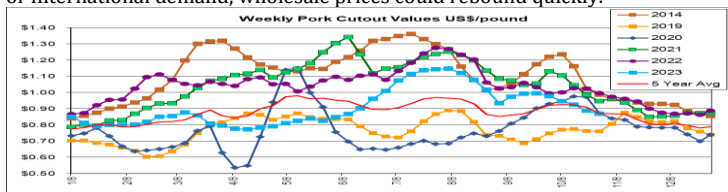
U.S. beef wholesale prices ground higher last week as buyers continued to take positions in advance of end-of-year holidays. There was notable buying interest for loin cuts, both by retailers and foodservice institutions. USDA CHOICE New York strip loin prices trended higher through October and averaged up 3% this week to \$6.73/lb., the highest since August. Prices were up 15% from last year and up 4% from 2021 as are the prices of most other primals (see TABLE below). Although the value of the rib primal see-sawed through the week, rib prices are the highest ever for this time of year. At the end of last week, the live cattle trade also see-sawed, as the market digested the bearish USDA cattle on feed report (COF - see MOVING AHEAD next column). Available spot supplies of fed cattle were tight however, and packers bid up spot prices toward the end of last week despite a crash in futures a few days earlier following the COF report's release. Although the USDA report suggested that the fed cattle pipeline over the next few quarters may be larger than earlier expected, the supply of USDA CHOICE-and-above animals is running below the pace of the last few years and there is analytical consensus that the herd continues to contract. Last Friday, fed cattle futures still closed down from the previous week's close, but market optimists helped drive futures higher toward the weekend. A lower slaughter week of 630K head also helped firm market sentiment as did the latest cold storage report which showed frozen beef stocks on October 1 were 20% lower than a year earlier. Year to date U.S. cattle slaughter is down 4.6% while beef production is -5.2%. Moving forward, the market will be watching feeding performance as the first major cold weather of the year hits cattle country.

BEEF	10/29/2021	10/28/2022	10/27/2023	YOY Chg	2023/2021 Chg
Choice	2.84	2.61	3.06	17%	8%
Select	2.63	2.30	2.81	23%	7%
Rib	4.90	4.38	5.17	18%	5%
Chuck	2.32	2.24	2.65	18%	14%
Round	2.56	2.27	2.71	20%	6%
Loin	3.41	3.24	3.77	16%	11%
Brisket	2.53	1.99	2.27	14%	-10%
Short Plate	1.76	1.52	1.78	17%	1%
Flank	1.54	1.40	1.36	-3%	-11%
50% trim	1.01	0.72	0.84	14%	-9%

USDA/AMS, Prices in USD/lb., from USDA/AMS, FOB plant negotiated, beef primals are Choice values

Beef Choice Beef Cutout Value: 30/10/2023 - US\$309.28/cwt. (+2% from 23/10/2023)

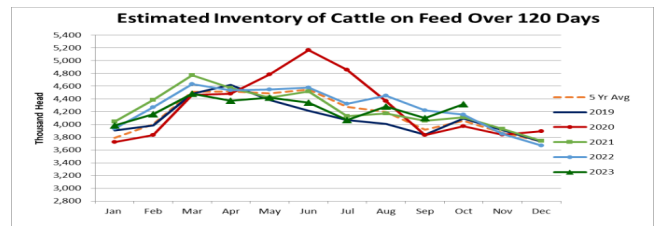
The pork cutout ended lower last Friday for the 5th consecutive week as production continued to seasonally increase and as demand slowed following the end of grilling season. The pork cutout is now -13% from year ago levels, with year-to-date pork production running slightly ahead of the pace of a year ago at +0.2%. The pork market continues to exhibit bearish overtones as seasonal production ramps up and demand for items like bacon & deli meats remains underwhelming. Wholesale pork prices hit their annual high at the end of July, with the USDA pork cutout value reaching U.S. \$1.17/lb. Late last week the cutout had fallen to the U.S. \$.86/lb. range. The decline in the primal belly value of approximately -55% since late July has accounted for two-thirds of the drop in the overall pork cutout value. Bacon producers and retailers took advantage of low belly prices in the spring, with supermarkets advertising bacon specials through the summer months. That drove up demand for bellies in the summer - and then bacon prices - which are now again dampening demand. In July, average bacon prices were 18% cheaper than a year earlier, but the same feature price index last week was +18% from a year ago. In the futures market, lean hog contracts have been trending lower for 5 weeks, following the weakening cash market. The recent skittishness in the cattle futures market is also seen as a factor pushing lean hog futures lower. On the positive side, total frozen pork stocks in U.S. cold storages as of October 1 were -14% year-ago levels. Optimists point out that if there is an uptick in domestic or international demand, wholesale prices could rebound quickly.



Hog Carcass Cutout Value: 30/10/2023 - US\$87.86/cwt. (-1% from 23/10/2023)

MOVING AHEAD

Clues on the near-term future direction of the U.S. cattle & beef markets were provided in USDA's latest October 20th cattle on feed report. The report showed higher-than-expected total feedlot inventories on October 1, and a much larger-than-expected flow of cattle into feedlots during September. That suggests the pipeline of fed cattle to processing plants will be bigger than anticipated in the coming few quarters. It now looks likely there could be a bump in the supply of market-ready cattle during Q1 2024 from the 700-to-900-pound animals that accounted for most of the placement increase during September, and then a smaller bump in marketings during Q2 from the larger-than-expected number of under-700-pound animals put on feed during last month. Another big takeaway from the report was the continuing liquidation of female cattle. The YOY increase in total cattle on feed was mainly due to larger placements of heifer on feed; specifically, October 1 total feedlot inventories were 71,000 head larger than a year earlier with heifer calf placements accounting for 85% (=60,000 head) of the increase. The number of heifers currently on feed is higher than a year ago, higher than 3 months ago, and is the largest October heifer-on-feed number dating back to at least 1996. Heifers currently account for 40% of the total cattle on feed, the highest % since October 2001. Monthly slaughter data through the end of September shows that total female (cows & heifers) slaughter has averaged just under 52% for the past 12 months, the highest 12-month average female slaughter % since August 1986. Drought and attractive slaughter cattle prices are both responsible for the continuation of high female slaughter rates. USDA's report showed that it is unlikely that producers this year will be retaining more heifers for new breeding, and that the U.S. herd liquidation cycle is still the dominant market dynamic of the moment. While cattle prices decreased in reaction to USDA's report, the bottom line is that the unanticipated current bulge of the cattle pipeline translates into an even smaller cattle pipeline later when producers begin to rebuild herds.



TRADE

Official production & trade data just released for the month of September shows that **China's** total meat supplies for the first 3 quarters of 2023 were record large. According to China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), China's national output of pork, beef, mutton, and poultry during the Jan-September period reached 69.74 million tons, a YOY increase of 2.63 million tons, or +3.9%. China's pork output totaled 43.01 million tons, an increase of 1.51 million tons or +3.6% YOY. Beef output totaled 5.09 million tons, an increase of 240,000 tons (+5%), mutton production equaled 3.64 million tons, an increase of 180,000 tons (+5.2%). Total poultry production hit 18 million tons, a 4% YOY rise. Although weaker macro-economic fundamentals - including consumption - have been cited as reasons for low pork prices and low imported beef wholesale prices, the new Q1-Q3 data shows that supply factors may be partially to blame for sluggish markets. For example, almost 17 million more pigs were marketed during the Jan-September period, with the YOY growth rate in hog marketings accelerating each quarter through Q3. China's total meat & poultry (M&P) imports during the 1st 3 quarters were 5.736 million tons, +6% from last year's pace. Despite growing domestic pork production, the pace of imports during Q1-Q3 was +6.4% to 2.1 million tons, while total beef imports of 2.066 million tons were +4.6% YOY and record large. China's beef import activity has slowed since the record 298K ton-import month of July, but distributors claim there are still large stocks of imported beef - especially grass-fed South American product - to be worked through.

China: total meat & poultry production (Jan - Sept, metric tons)



ACTIVITIES:

FHC Shanghai Global Food Trade Show: Nov 8-10, 2023

供应与需求

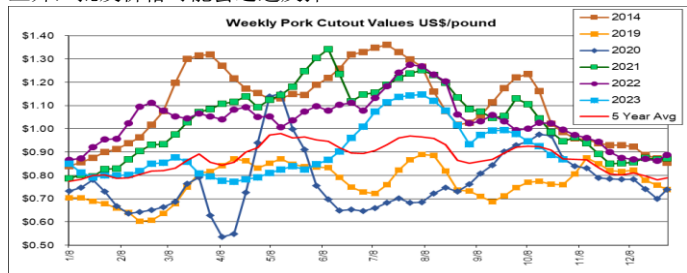
由于买家继续在年底假期前进行购买活动，上周美国牛肉批发价格走高。零售商和餐饮机构对腰脊部的购买兴趣显著。美国精选级纽约客西冷价格在10月份呈走高趋势，本周平均上涨3%，达到6.73美元/磅，为8月份以来的最高水平。纽约客西冷价格比去年上涨15%，比2021年上涨4%，大多数其他初级分切的价格也是如此（见下表）。尽管肋骨部初级分切的价格在一周内波动较大，但肋骨部价格却是一年中这个时候的最高水平。上周末，随着市场消化了看跌的美国农业部育肥牛报告（参见产业动态专栏），活牛贸易也出现拉锯。然而，出栏牛的现货供应紧张，尽管育肥牛报告发布后几天期货暴跌，但屠宰厂在上周末抬高了现货价格。尽管美国农业部的报告表明，未来几个季度的出栏牛供应可能比之前预期的要大，但美国精选级及以上牛只的供应量低于过去几年的速度，并且分析一致认为牛群在继续收缩。上周五，美联储出栏牛期货收盘价仍较前一周收盘下跌，但市场乐观情绪推动期货在周末走高。本周相对减少的屠宰量63万头也有助于稳定市场情绪，最新的冷藏报告显示10月1日冷冻牛肉库存比去年同期减少20%。今年迄今为止，美国牛屠宰量下降了4.6%，而牛肉产量则下降了5.2%。展望未来，随着今年第一次大寒天气袭击养牛地区，市场将持续关注育肥表现。

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USDA/AMS, Prices in USD/lb., from USDA/AMS, FOB plant negotiated, beef primals are Choice values

美国农业部牛肉屠体价格指数（特选级）：2023年10月30日 - \$309.28美元/百磅（较2023年10月23日增加2%）

由于猪肉产量持续季节性增长以及烧烤季节结束后需求放缓，上周五猪肉分切价格连续第五周走低。目前，猪肉分切价格较去年同期水平下降13%，而年初至今猪肉产量略高于去年同期水平，同比增加0.2%。随着季节性产量的增加以及对培根和熟食肉类等产品的需求仍然低迷，猪肉市场继续表现出看跌的色彩。7月底，猪肉批发价格创下年度新高，美国农业部猪肉分切价格达到1.17美元/磅。上周晚些时候，分切价格已跌至0.86美元/磅的范围。自7月下旬以来，腹部部初级分切价格下降约55%，占猪肉分切价格整体下降的三分之二。培根生产商和零售商利用了春季较低的腹部部价格，超市在整个夏季都在做培根特价广告。这推高了夏季对腹部的需求，进而推高了培根价格，而现在又再次抑制了需求。7月份，培根平均价格比去年同期便宜18%，但上周相同的特征价格指数比去年同期上涨18%。在期货市场，随着现货市场走弱，瘦肉猪合约价格已连续五周走低。最近牛期货市场的不稳定也被视为推动瘦肉猪期货走低的一个因素。从积极的一面来看，截至10月1日，美国冷库中的冷冻猪肉库存总量比去年同期下降14%。乐观者指出，如果国内或国际需求上升，批发价格可能会迅速反弹。



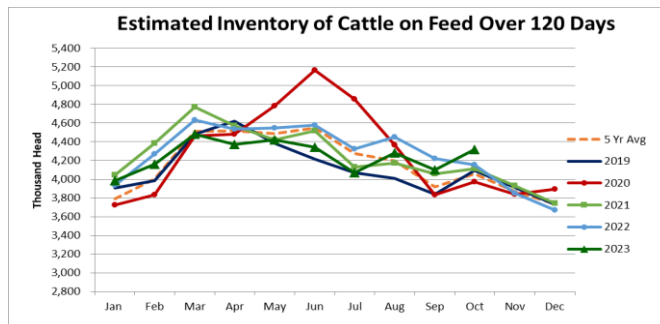
猪屠体分切价格：2023年10月30日 - \$87.86美元/百磅（较2023年10月23日减少1%）

美国肉类出口协会活动预告：

FHC 上海环球食品展：2023年11月8-10日

产业动态

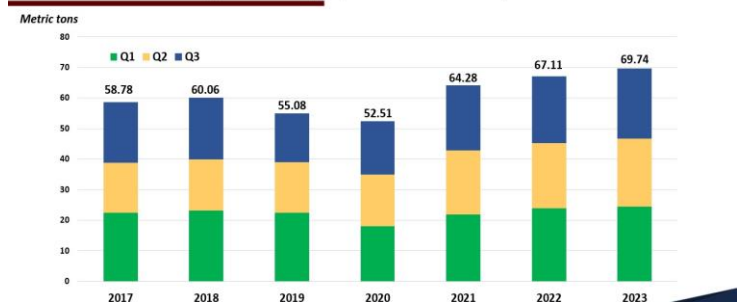
美国农业部10月20日最新的育肥牛报告提供了有关美国活牛和牛肉市场近期未来方向的线索。报告显示，10月1日育肥场总库存高于预期，9月份进入育肥场的牛只数量也远高于预期。这表明未来几个季度将出栏牛送往屠宰厂的数量将比预期更大。现在看来，2024年第一季度可出栏牛只的供应量可能会有所增加，是根据体重700至900磅的牛只占9月份安置增量的大部分，然后第二季度的出栏量增幅较小，根据上个月育肥的700磅以下牛只数量超出预期。该报告的另一个重要结论是母牛的持续清算。育肥牛总数同比增加主要是由于小母牛的投放量增加；具体而言，10月1日育肥场总库存比去年同期增加71,000头，其中小母牛的投放量占增量的85%（=60,000头）。目前正在育肥的小母牛数量高于一年前，高于3个月前，是至少可追溯到1996年以来10月份最大的育肥场小母牛数量。目前小母牛占育肥牛总数的40%，自2001年10月以来的最高百分比。截至9月底的月度屠宰数据显示，过去12个月，雌性（母牛和小母牛）屠宰总量平均略低于52%，这是自1986年8月以来最高的12个月平均雌性屠宰百分比。干旱和有吸引力的屠宰牛价格都是导致母牛屠宰率持续居高不下的原因。美国农业部的报告显示，今年生产商不太可能保留更多小母牛进行新育种，而且美国牛群清算周期仍然是目前的主导市场动态。虽然牛只的价格因美国农业部的报告而下降，但最重要的是，当生产者开始重建牛群时，目前未预料到的牛只供应增加会转化为未来更少的供应量。



贸易新闻

刚刚发布的9月官方生产和贸易数据显示，2023年前三季度中国肉类供应总量创历史新高。据国家统计局数据，1-9月，全国猪牛羊禽产量6974万吨，同比增加263万吨，增长3.9%。全国猪肉产量4301万吨，同比增加151万吨，增长3.6%。牛肉产量509万吨，增长24万吨，增长5%；羊肉产量364万吨，增长18万吨，增长5.2%。家禽总产量1800万吨，同比增长4%。尽管包括消费在内的宏观经济基本面疲软被认为是猪肉价格和进口牛肉批发价格走低的原因，但新的第一季度至第三季度数据显示，供应因素可能是市场低迷的部分原因。例如，1月至9月期间，生猪出栏量增加了近1700万头，生猪出栏量的同比增长率在每个季度到第三季度都在加快。前三季度中国肉类和家禽（M&P）进口总量为573.6万吨，比去年同期增长6%。尽管国内猪肉产量不断增长，但第一季度至第三季度的进口量增长了6.4%，达到210万吨，而牛肉进口总量为206.6万吨，同比增长4.6%，创历史新高。自7月份进口量达到创纪录的29.8万吨以来，中国的牛肉进口活动已经放缓，但经销商声称仍有大量进口牛肉（尤其是南美草饲产品）库存需要处理。

China: total meat & poultry production (Jan - Sept, metric tons)



Source: NBS