



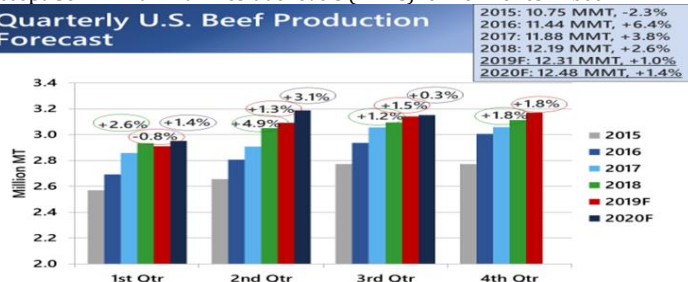
U.S. Meat Bulletin

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SUPPLY & DEMAND

The USDA CHOICE beef cutout decreased again last week on seasonally weak institutional buying, but falling middle meat values generated some interest in increased steak buying for Christmas features. Live cattle prices continued to gain, with last week's announcement of a US-China trade deal helping to drive both cash cattle and futures markets higher. The benchmark February live cattle reached contract high values during last Friday's trading session before closing slightly lower. The decrease in beef prices and increase in live cattle prices are pinching beef processing margins, but at U.S. \$150/head, remain high. Both the U.S. and Chinese governments made official announcements of the new trade deal, but details remain sketchy. According to the USTR, Chinese purchases of all U.S. agricultural goods are expected to increase to \$40 billion to \$50 billion annually over the next two years, a huge increase in the \$24 billion in farm products exported to China in 2017. However, USTR announced that it was not setting purchasing targets for individual commodities in order to dampen market speculation. Peak U.S. agricultural exports to China took place in 2013 when exports – including forestry & fishery products – reached just under U.S. \$29 billion. The U.S. is expected to export less than U.S. \$90 million in beef this year, but trade could get a huge boost if general media reports are true that China will make concessions on its zero tolerance of synthetic hormone residues in beef imports. China bans synthetic hormone residue in beef imports, but it has not been clear that its beef agreements with all supplying countries specifically mention the ban. China is the only large beef import market in Asia not to accept CODEX maximum residue levels (MRLs) for hormones in beef.

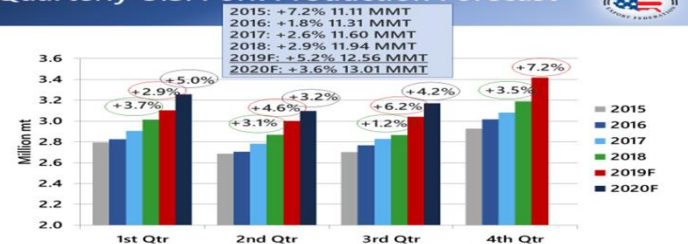
Quarterly U.S. Beef Production Forecast



Beef Choice Beef Cutout Value: 16/12/2019 - US\$217.08/cwt. (-3% from 9/12/2019)

Continuing firmness in the ham and picnic primal in addition to the China trade deal announcement, helped push last Friday's pork cutout value up 1% from the previous Friday's close. Heavy bone-in ham primal and boneless ham rollout values are up by 57% and 47% year-on-year respectively. Last week's slaughter was 2.763 million head, off of the previous week's record high, but still up 5.9% from the same week last year. Historically, slaughter levels pull back during the first quarter of the year, but USDA's latest WASDE report forecasts Q1 2020 production will be +5% on Q1 2019 (see GRAPH below). Still, analysts expect weekly slaughter numbers to be several hundred thousand head less in Q1 than the levels of recent weeks. Pork futures rose last Friday on news of the trade deal, although there were no details on specific Chinese purchasing targets for U.S. pork. Given that both the U.S. and China issued press releases on the deal, the pork market was surprisingly subdued. The lack of specifics and the experience earlier of earlier this year when traders became over exuberant over pork export prospects to ASF-affected China has contributed to greater market sobriety.

Quarterly U.S. Pork Production Forecast



Hog Carcass Cutout Value: 16/12/2019 - US\$79.56/cwt. (-3% from 9/12/2019)

ACTIVITIES:

Food & Hotel Asia, Singapore: March 31 - April 3, 2020
SIAL, Shanghai: May 13-15, 2020
Food Taipei, Taiwan: June 17-20, 2020

MARKET MAKERS

Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., has signed an agreement with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan and a large private Kazakh conglomerate to build a 2000-head-per-day beef processing facility in the central Asian nation. Kazakhstan has recently gained export access to **China** for beef, with 4 plants approved. The country has a desire to become a beef export powerhouse, but from Jan-Sept its exports totaled just over 1.7 thousand tons (but +350% year-on-year), with most product moving to **Iran** and **China**. According to Kazakh statistics, the country has a cattle population of over 7 million head and produces just under 500K tons of beef per year.

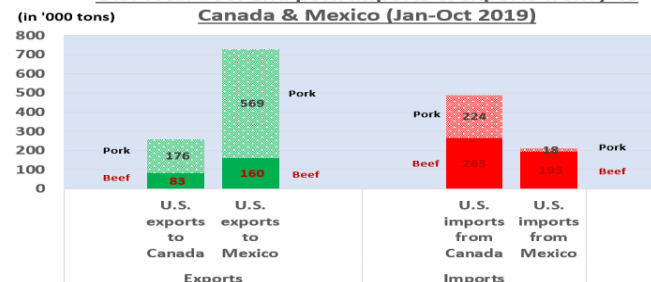
MOVING AHEAD

Scientists at one of the U.S.'s most secure animal disease laboratories have published a paper claiming success in producing a vaccine for the epidemic-causing Georgia strain of African Swine Fever. The global scientific community has found development of a vaccine elusive, but the USDA **Agricultural Research Service** (ARS) scientists, funded in part by the U.S. **Department of Homeland Security**, were able to confer stable immunity of swine against the common ASF strain by deleting a previously uncharacterized virus gene. Specifically, the scientists looked at ASF's 150 predicted genes, then through an elimination process, ranked those with a high likelihood of being important for immune evasion. A patent has been filed for the vaccine by the ARS scientists and meat industry media last week claimed that discussions were ensuing on developing commercial products based on the breakthrough trial results. Larger safety studies will now need to be undertaken to determine virulence of the vaccine and optimum dosing. The live-attenuated vaccine is made from ASFv isolated from the current outbreak strain that was introduced in the republic of Georgia in 2007; that strain is responsible for most of the cases in Europe and Asia since. The paper announcing the findings can be found here (<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/861666v1.full>).

TRADE

After securing trade deals with **Japan** and the **EU** that lower trade barriers for U.S. meat imports, the U.S., Canada and Mexico have completed the revised United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The agreement should lock in zero tariffs on trade in meat products between the 3 countries and reduce the risk for further trade. In June 2018, Mexico, the USA's #1 pork export market by volume, imposed a 10% retaliatory duty on imports of U.S. pork muscle cuts, a 15% duty on U.S. pork sausages and a 20% duty on some U.S. processed hams in retaliation for the U.S. increasing steel & aluminum import duties. The duty rate for U.S. pork cuts increased to 20% in July 2018. The duties were eliminated in mid-May of this year, but the absence of a final USMCA agreement has left some uncertainty that trade tensions between the 3 countries could flare. Combined, Mexico and Canada are by far the largest export markets for U.S. meat and poultry, as well as being some of the USA's largest suppliers for meat & livestock. For the Jan-Oct 2019 period, U.S. trade in meat, poultry and livestock trade with its 2 neighbors totaled U.S. \$10.48 billion, with the U.S. running an overall deficit of approximately \$600 million. The US imports more live cattle, swine, pigs, sheep, and horses from Canada & Mexico, while exporting more beef, pork and poultry (see graph below for beef and pork balances). Final USMCA ratification will now follow. USMCA was signed last Tuesday in Mexico City by the USTR, the Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and the Mexican Deputy Foreign Minister. The Mexican Senate must now approve the new version, but this is expected to happen quickly and with little opposition. Approval by both houses of the Canadian Parliament is required, and this probably won't happen until at least late January. The U.S. House of Representatives could consider USMCA this week and the likelihood of quick passage is high given last week's announced support by House political leaders. The U.S. Senate must also approve USMCA; observers think this will happen in January.

U.S. total beef and pork imports & exports from / to Canada & Mexico (Jan-Oct 2019)



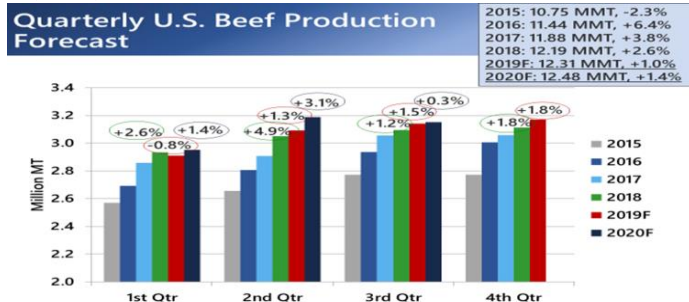


美国肉品新知

2019年12月17日 第十一卷 12.3

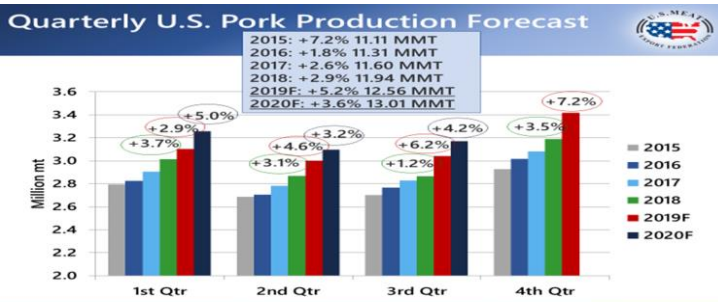
供应与需求

由於采买活动季节性疲软，上周美国农业部特选级牛肉分切价格再次下跌；但排类商品价格下跌使得消费者为圣诞节购买更多牛排商品的意愿增加。活牛价格持续上涨，上周宣布的中美贸易协议有助于推动活牛和期货市场价格走高。於上周五交易时段，2月基准活牛期货价格达到高点，隨後收盘小幅下跌。牛肉价格下跌和活牛价格上涨导致牛肉屠宰利润缩减，但每头仍高达150美元。美国和中国政府均正式宣布新的贸易协议，但细节部分尚未明确。根据美国贸易代表处(USTR)，预计中国在未来两年向美国购买的农产品价值将增加至每年400亿至500亿美元，远高于2017年时的240亿美元。尽管如此，USTR表示为了不限制市场的投机买卖，它并没有为个别农产品设定购买目标。2013年时，美国至中国的农产品出口量达到顶峰，当时包括林业和渔业产品在内的出口额接近290亿美元。预估今年美国牛肉的出口值将少于9,000万美元，但若媒体所报导之有关中国将对进口美国牛肉中的合成激素(synthetic hormone)的零容忍残留量做出让步属实，这将进一步促进双方贸易。中国禁止所有进口牛肉中含有合成激素残留物，但目前尚未清楚其与所有供应国的牛肉协议是否有特别提到禁令。中国是亚洲地区唯一一个不接受国际食品法典委员会(CODEX)牛肉中激素最高残留量(MRLs)的大型牛肉进口市场。



美国农业部牛肉屠体价格指数(特选级)：2019年12月16日 - \$217.08 美元/百磅 (较2019年12月9日减少3%)

由於後腿肉和前腿肉的原始价格持续稳定，加上中国宣布达成贸易协议，使得上周五猪肉分切价格与上上周五收盘价相比**上涨1%**。带骨後腿肉和无骨後腿肉原始价格分别比去年同期**上涨57%和47%**。上周猪只屠宰量为276.3万头，低於上上周的创纪录高点，但仍比去年同期**增长5.9%**。从历史上看，今年第1季度的屠宰水平有所回落，但美国农业部最新的世界农业供需报告(WASDE)预测，2020年第1季度的屠宰量将比2019年第1季度**增长5%**(见下图)。不过分析人士预计明年第1季度每周屠宰量将比最近几周减少几10万头。尽管目前没有关于中国对美国猪肉购买特定目标数量的消息，上周五猪肉期货价格因贸易协议而上涨。尽管美国和中国均针对该协议发布新闻稿，猪肉市场出乎意料外地走软。今年年初贸易商因缺乏对事情的详细说明和经验，在面对受非洲猪瘟影响的中国的猪肉出口前景变得异常旺盛，导致现市场趋於冷静。



猪屠体分切价格：2019年12月16日 - \$79.56 美元/百磅 (较2019年12月9日减少3%)

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：2020年3月31日-4月3日

中国国际食品及饮料展 - 上海：2020年5月13-15日

台北国际食品展 - 台湾：2020年6月17-20日

产业新知

Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.和哈萨克共和国总理及哈萨克大型私营企业集团签定一项协议，并将在此中亚国家建立一间牛肉屠宰厂，该工厂的日产量为2,000头牛只。哈萨克共和国近来被批准出口牛肉至中国，而目前核准的牛肉工厂已有4间。该国渴望成为牛肉出口大国，但从1月至9月期间，其出口总量仅刚好超过1.7万吨(同比增长350%)；大部分的牛肉出口至伊朗和中国。根据哈萨克的数据统计，该国拥有超过700万头牛只，每年生产将近50万吨的牛肉。

产业动态

来自其中一间美国最安全的动物疾病实验室的科学家发表了一篇文章，宣称成功生产出对引发非洲猪瘟的流行性佐治亚菌株的疫苗。全球科学界发现一种难以捉摸的疫苗，但美国农业部农业研究局(ARS)的科学家透过删除先前未鉴定的病毒基因，使猪只拥有对抗普通非洲猪瘟菌株的稳定免疫力；这项实验一部分是由美国国土安全部资助。具体而言，科学家研究了非洲猪瘟中150个可预测基因，并透过消除过程，對於那些与免疫系统相斥且很可能非常重要的基因进行排名。ARS科学家和肉品产业媒体已於上周申请该疫苗的专利，并声称正在根据突破性的试验结果进行商业产品开发讨论。他们现在需要进行更大规模的安全性研究，以确保疫苗的毒性和最佳剂量。减毒活疫苗是由非洲猪瘟病毒制成的，该病毒是从2007年在佐治亚州爆发的非洲猪瘟菌株(ASFV-G)中所分离出来；自此之後，该菌株是造成欧洲和亚洲爆发疫情的主要原因。发现疫苗的论文可参阅以下连结：

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/861666v1.full>

贸易新闻

在与日本和欧盟签订确保降低美国肉品进口贸易壁垒的协议後，美国、加拿大和墨西哥已完成修订《美国-墨西哥-加拿大协议》(USMCA)。该协议锁定三国之间肉类产品交易零关税，并减少进一步贸易风险。於2018年6月，全球排名第1(按重量计算)的美国猪肉出口市场墨西哥对美国猪肉分切徵收10%报复性关税，以及对美国猪肉香肠徵收15%关税，并同时对美国加工後腿肉徵收20%关税，以报复美国对其钢铁和铝制商品加徵进口关税；对美国猪肉分切的关税税率更於2018年7月提升至20%。虽然上述关税措施已於今年5月中旬取消，但没有最终的USMCA协议为市场带来不确定性，可能加剧这三国之间紧张的贸易局势。截至目前为止，墨西哥和加拿大是美国最大的肉类和禽肉出口市场，同时也是美国最大的肉类和牲畜供应国。在2019年1月至10月期间，美国与其两个邻国的肉类、禽肉和牲畜贸易总额为104.8亿美元，美国总体贸易赤字为6亿美元。美国从加拿大和墨西哥进口更多活牛、活猪、绵羊和马，同时也出口更多牛肉、猪肉和禽肉(见下图牛肉和猪肉收支平衡表)。最终版USMCA已於上周二由USTR、加拿大副总理和墨西哥外交署副署长在墨西哥城完成签属。墨西哥参议院现正必须批准最新版本的协议，但这预计将会很快通过并且几乎没有反对声音。协议也必须获得加拿大国会上下两院的批准，预计将至少到1月下旬才能完成。美国众议院本周可能会考虑加入审核USMCA，鑑於上周众议院政治领导人宣布支持该协议，快速通过的可能性很高；USMCA还需要美国参议院批准，观察家认为这可能要到1月完成。

