

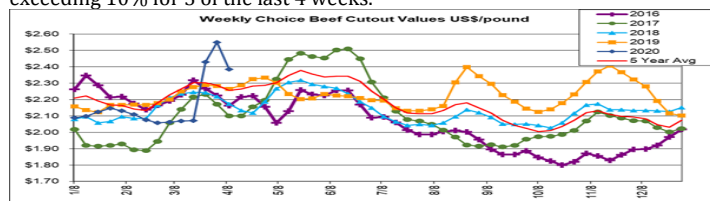


U.S. Meat Bulletin

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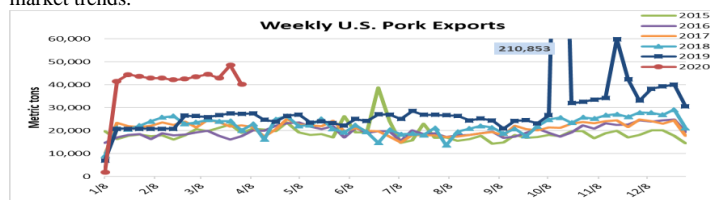
SUPPLY & DEMAND

The beef cutout settled last Friday **-6.5%** week-on-week after spiking **+23%** the previous 2 weeks. The decline was viewed as inevitable as the rush to restock supermarket shelves in response to panicked consumer buying has subsided. Estimates are that U.S. retail beef sales during the week ending March 20 jumped **95%** from the same week in 2019. However, foodservice demand, for items such as middle meats and fajita meats (skirts) has dropped sharply, leading to lower prices. Retail buying interest has been strong for chucks, rounds, and ground beef, while values for tenderloins, inside and outside skirts, and brisket prices have all moved substantially lower. Livestock and cattle futures markets remain unsettled due to concern over supply chain reliability. Last week saw two medium sized U.S. beef plants temporarily suspend production. The U.S. meat industry is working hard to keep the supply chain stable however (see next column), and although last week's 626 K head harvest level was below the very large number of the previous week, U.S. beef production through April 3rd was still **+4.8%** from last year's pace, with slaughter up **2.5%**. This week, analysts expect lower harvests – in the 570-590K head range - due to the plant closures and new social distancing protocols being implemented in plants. As we reported last week, futures markets are experiencing extreme volatility in line with overall equity markets. Live cattle futures fell the limit yesterday due to concerns over the plunge in foodservice demand but also the temporary loss of harvest capacity. Moving forward, analysts are grappling with anticipated longer-term changes in food demand & purchasing behavior. According to USDA data for 2018, Americans spent about \$678 billion at all types of restaurants, while expenditures at grocery stores and warehouse clubs reached \$627 billion. The National Restaurant Association is already estimating that restaurant sales could drop \$225 billion in just the next few months. For international buyers, U.S. beef prices are now very attractive. Moreover, U.S. beef quality continues to improve; the percentage of fed beef production grading USDA PRIME has been at record highs for this time of year, with the percentage exceeding 10% for 3 of the last 4 weeks.



Beef Choice Beef Cutout Value: 6/4/2020 - US\$230.05/cwt. (-8% from 30/3/2020)

The pork market saw an extremely unsettling five days last week, with the cutout dropping an unprecedented **21%** week-on-week. Values of some primals dipped to lows not seen in decades, including bellies and hams. Following the dip in cash markets, U.S. hog futures fell on Friday to their lowest point since 2002 as large supplies and swooning demand weighed on the market outlook. After increasing by **3.5%** through the trading week ending Friday March 27, cash hog prices closed **-26.2%** or **-\$15.19/cwt** to **\$42.88/cwt** (carcass basis) last Friday. Lean hog futures rose yesterday however as buyers moved in to take advantage of extremely favorable pork pricing and belief that last week's market was oversold. One medium sized hog plant, representing about 2% of U.S. harvest capacity, has been closed this week due to a small number of CoVID-19 findings among employees. Still, last week's U.S. hog slaughter was estimated to total 2.565 million head, down **6.9%** from the previous week. Despite the fall in pork prices, retail meat sales last week were strong again, rising **36%** from the level of the same week a year ago. Hot dogs are among the fast-moving protein items. U.S. pork prices are now extremely favorable, and MEF will endeavor to provide readers with timely information in the coming days and weeks of important market trends.



Hog Carcass Cutout Value: 6/4/2020 - US\$57.69/cwt. (-18% from 30/3/2020)

ACTIVITIES:

SIAL, Shanghai: September 28-30, 2020

Food Taipei, Taiwan: December 17-20, 2020 **New Dates!**

CORONAVIRUS AND U.S. RED MEAT SUPPLY CHAIN ASSURANCES

The U.S. is arguably in the most difficult stage of its fight against CoVID-19. Although the administration warned Americans this past weekend of likely grim news this week in terms of casualties, there is evidence that those areas in the U.S. that adopted early social distancing measures – including the states of Washington & California – are flattening their epidemic growth curves. That said, the U.S.'s vast size, its open state borders, and the autonomy of state governments means that the behavior of the outbreak in each state, county and municipality are on different timelines. But there is no question that the U.S. meat and food industry, including companies and their respective trade associations, are working collectively across the nation to mitigate and contain the spread of the virus among all the sectors 45+ million workers. This week and last, food industry efforts have been focused on ensuring the widespread adoption by all food manufacturing and processing facilities of protocols for managing a CoVID-19 case among workers, instructing workers on the proper usage of face masks, implementing social distancing measures within facilities, employee screening for CoVID-19, and tips for food companies on public messaging on the safety and stability of the U.S. food supply chain. The protocols have been developed and disseminated by a private-public collaboration involving **The Food and Beverage Industry Alliance (FBIA)**, a collection of 58 allied U.S. based food and beverage trade associations and select government agencies including the **USDA** and **FDA**. On the livestock production side, advice on maintaining business continuity is available for both swine

(<https://www.pork.org/public-health/what-you-need-to-know-about-covid-19/>)

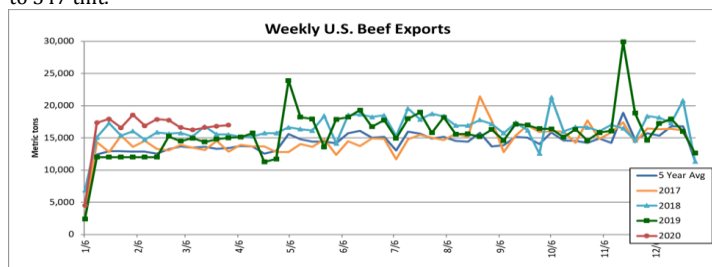
& cattle producers

(https://www.ncba.org/CMDocs/BeefUSA/Publications/COVID-19%20Talking%20Points_032720-07.pdf).

The **North American Meat Institute** continues to provide national guidance to meat processing facilities on how to manage production through the epidemic. Issues this week include ensuring employee virus containment and mitigation measures are in place and assuring supplies of carbon dioxide for humane swine slaughter. Both **Cargill** and **Tyson** have provided wage increases or one-time bonuses to employees. Workers in front line industries, including those in meat processing, trucking and stevedoring, are lobbying the government and their industries for PPE and rapid employee CoVID-19 testing. With a growing virus case load in the U.S., PPE availability has become a critical issue. USMEF is appreciative of the gracious donations of PPE from China meat industry leaders to U.S. front line medical workers.

TRADE

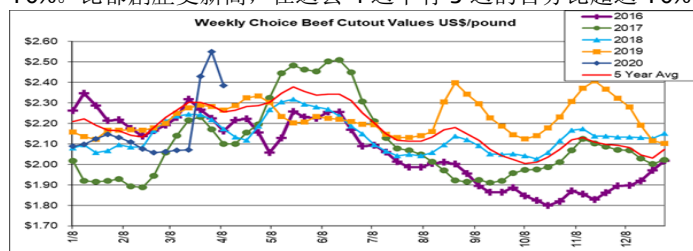
Although livestock, meat and all commodity markets remain volatile, U.S. beef and pork exports continue at a pace that suggests – at least to date – supply chain normalcy and a holding of international demand for U.S. red meat. The latest USDA weekly data covers activity through March 26th. On the pork side (see graph previous column), shipments to **China** have been at unprecedented volume levels and are propping up the entire export curve, but pork exports to **Japan, Mexico, Australia** and **Canada** are above the pace of a year ago, and despite a drop in the value of the Mexican and Australian currencies. Net new U.S. pork sales during the week of March 20 were roughly even with the previous week. On the beef side, total shipments overseas through the end of March were up **+29%** year-on-year, and up nearly **8%** from the record setting pace of 2018. Shipments have been very strong to **Japan, Korea, and Taiwan**, which year-to-date, account for 69% of all beef muscle cut exports. That said, there was a slight **-7%** drop off in the velocity of beef exports in March compared to the pace during the final 8 weeks (i.e. Nov-Dec) of 2019. Given that the continued spread of CoVID-19 is forcing major changes in social behavior across the globe on a daily basis, highlighting 2 month old full export statistics may seem anachronistic, but newly released trade data for Feb show that total beef & beef variety meat exports for the 1st 2 months of the year of 219.4 thousand tons (tmt) were **+11%** year-on-year while total pork exports, including v-meats, were up **57%** to 547 tmt.





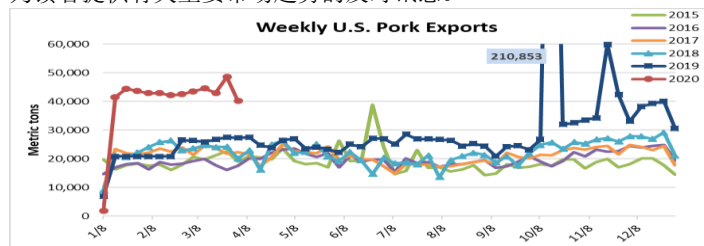
供应与需求

牛肉分切价格在连续两周**上涨 23%**後於上周五周环比**下跌 6.5%**。价格下跌被认为是不可避免的，因为超市为应对消费者恐慌性抢购行为而仓促补货的情况已经放缓。据估计，截至 3 月 20 日当周，美国零售牛肉销量与 2019 年同一周相比**增长 95%**。但是对如排类商品和墨西哥烤肉用部位肉(胸腹板肉)的餐饮需求急速减少，导致价格下跌。截至 3 月最後一周，估计肩胛部、後腿部和牛绞肉的零售销量表现强劲，而里肌肉、内侧和外侧胸腹板肉以及牛前胸肉的价格均大幅下跌。由於对供应链稳定性的担忧，牲畜和牛只期货市场仍起伏不定。上周美国有两间中型牛肉屠宰厂暂时停产。美国肉类产业正努力维持供应链稳定(见右栏)，尽管上周屠宰量为 62.6 万吨，远低于上上周水平，截至 4 月 3 日当周，美国牛肉产量与去年同期相比**增长 4.8%**，屠宰量**增长 2.5%**。由於屠宰厂关闭和屠宰厂实施新的社交距离协议，分析师预计本周屠宰量将减少约 57 万至 59 万头牛只。正如我们上周所报导，期货市场正经历与总体股市一致的剧烈波动。市场因消费者对餐饮服务需求大减和屠宰产能暂时减少感到担忧，导致昨日活牛期货价格跌停。展望未来，分析师正设法预期食品需求和购买行为的长期变化。根据美国农业部 2018 年的数据，美国人在各种类型的餐厅消费约 6,780 亿美元，而在杂货店和大型量贩店的支出则达到 6,270 亿美元。美国餐厅协会已经估计：餐厅营收在未来几个月内可能会减少 2,250 美元。對於国际买家来说，现在的美国牛肉价格极具吸引力。此外，美国牛肉质量持续提升；每年的这个时候，被评级为美国农业部极佳的已肥育牛肉产量百分比都创历史新高，在过去 4 周中有 3 周的百分比超过 10%。比都創歷史新高，在過去 4 週中有 3 週的百分比超過 10%。



美国农业部牛肉屠体价格指数 (特选级)：2020 年 4 月 6 日 - **\$230.05 美元/百磅 (较 2020 年 3 月 30 日减少 8%)**

上周 5 天猪肉市场极度动荡，分切价格周环比空前**下跌 21%**。部分大分切，包括腹肋肉和後腿肉的价格跌至 10 年来前所未有的低点。现货市场走跌後，美国活猪期货价格於上周五跌至 2002 年以来的最低点，这是因为大量供应和需求疲软拖累市场前景。活猪现金价格在 3 月 27 日(星期五)当周**上涨 3.5%**之後，上周五其价格**下跌 26.2%**或每百磅下跌 15.19 美元至每百磅 42.88 美元(屠体重)。然而，买家因极为优惠的猪肉价格获利且相信上周市场超卖，使得瘦肉猪期货价格昨日上涨。本周一间中型活猪屠宰厂因发现少量员工感染 CoVID-19 而关闭，该屠宰厂屠宰量约占美国总量的 2%。上周美国活猪屠宰量估计为 256.5 万头，与上上周相比**减少 6.9%**。即使猪肉价格下跌，上周零售肉类销量再次走强，与去年同期相比**增长 36%**。热狗是销售最快的蛋白质商品之一。现在的美国猪肉价格非常优惠，美国肉类出口协会将尽力在未来几天和几周中为读者提供有关重要市场趋势的及时讯息。



猪屠体分切价格：2020 年 4 月 6 日 - **\$57.69 美元/百磅 (较 2020 年 3 月 30 日减少 18%)**

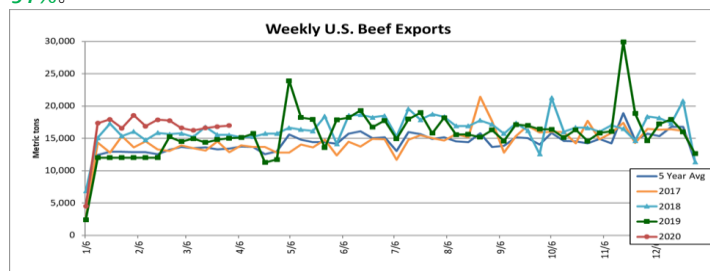
新型冠状病毒和美国红肉供应保证

美国正处於对抗 CoVID-19 最艰难的阶段。尽管政府在过去这周末警告美国市民本周将可能会有重大伤亡，有证据表明，美国早期采取社交距离的地区(包括华盛顿州和加利福尼亚州)的疫情增长曲线正趋於平坦。美国国土辽阔、其开放的州界以及州政府自治权均意味着疫情在每个州、县市和直辖市爆发的时间都不同。但毫无疑问地，美国肉类和食品产业，包括公司和各界贸易协会正为全国共同努力着，以减缓和遏制该病毒在他们共计 4500 万名以上劳工的所有部门中传播。这周和上周食品产业的工作重点是确保在所有食品制造和加工设施中广泛采用协议来管理感染 CoVID-19 的员工、指导员工正确使用口罩 CoVID-19、在工厂内实施社交距离措施、对员工进行 CoVID-19 筛查以及告示食品公司就美国食品供应链的安全性和稳定性进行公开宣传。该协议是由 58 间美国餐饮贸易协会结盟而成的**美国餐饮业联盟(FBIA)**以及包括**美国农业部(USDA)**和**美国食品药品监督管理局(FDA)**在内的某些政府机构所参与并公私合作订立和宣传。在畜牧生产方面，养猪 (<https://www.pork.org/public-health/what-you-need-to-know-about-covid-19/>)和養牛

(https://www.ncba.org/CMDocs/BeefUSA/Publications/COVID-19%20Talking%20Points_032720-07.pdf) 业者均可获得有关运营持续的建议。**北美肉类协会**继续向肉类屠宰设施提供有关如何在流行病爆发期间进行生产管理的国家指南。本周的指南内容包括确保员工遏制和缓解病毒传播的措施有到位，以及确保为人道屠宰的猪只提供二氧化碳。**Cargill** 和 **Tyson** 都为其员工加薪或提供一次性奖金。前线行业的劳工，包括肉类屠宰、货车运输和装卸工人正游说政府及其产业业者提供个人防护装置(PPE)以及员工快速 CoVID-19 测试。随着美国确诊数量增加，PPE 的有效性已成为一关键问题。美国肉类出口协会感谢中国肉类产业领袖为美国前线医护人员慷慨捐赠 PPE。

贸易新闻

尽管牲畜、肉类和所有商品市场仍然动荡，美国牛肉和猪肉出口仍维持；至少截至目前供应链正常和国际对美国红肉需求维持稳定。美国农业部每周最新数据显示 3 月 26 日之前的活动。在猪肉方面(见右栏)，美国至**中国**的出口量达到前所未有的水平，并推动了总体出口；尽管墨西哥和澳洲的货币贬值，至**日本、墨西哥、澳洲和加拿大**的猪肉出口与 1 年前相比也有所增加。3 月 20 日当周猪肉销量与前一周基本持平。牛肉方面，截至 3 月底牛肉出口辆同比**增长 29%**，与 2018 年的创纪录水平相比**增长近 8%**。今年迄今，至**日本、韩国和台湾**的出口非常强劲，至这些国家的出口量占牛肉分切总出口的 69%。也就是说，与 2019 年最後 8 周(即 11 月至 12 月)的出口量相比，3 月牛肉出口速度略微**下跌 7%**。鑑於 CoVID-19 持续传播迫使全球社会行为每天发生重大变化，强调 2 个月来完整出口统计数据似乎并不即时，但 2 月新发布的贸易数据显示，今年前两个月的牛肉和牛杂碎总出口量为 21.94 万吨，同比**增长 11%**；而包括猪杂碎在内的猪肉总出口量为 54.7 万吨，**增长 57%**。



美国肉类出口协会活动预告：

中国国际食品及饮料展 — 上海：2020 年 9 月 28-30 日

台北国际食品展 — 台湾：2020 年 12 月 17-20 日 (延期!!!)