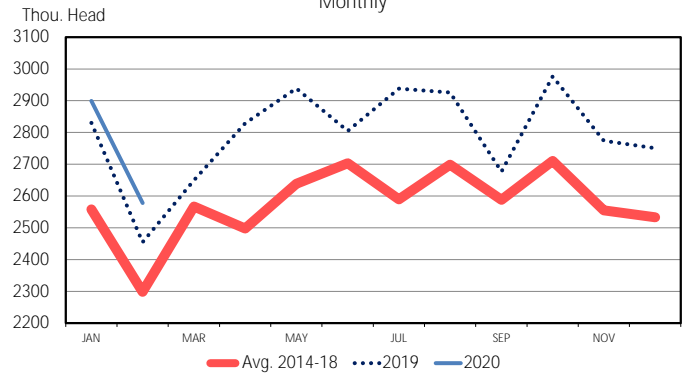


Livestock Slaughter for the month of [February](#) was released by USDA NASS yesterday. Although this February was a leap year there were still the same amount of slaughter days in the month as there were last year. Commercial red meat production for the month totaled 4.5 billion pounds, an increase of 6.7% over 2019. Beef production totaled 2.1 billion pounds (up 143 million pounds or 7.2%) for the month with veal production totaling 5.1 million pounds, down 16.4%. Total pork production was 2.3 billion pounds, increasing 139 million pounds or 6.4% over the prior year. Rounding out red meat production is lamb and mutton where production totaled 10.7 million pounds, down 4.5% from last year.

On the cattle side, commercial slaughter was 2.6 million head in February, a 5.0% increase over last year. Live weights averaged 1,376 pounds which is tracking 1.8% above the same month last year (1,352 pounds). The report breaks out federally inspected slaughter by class and steer slaughter was 1.2 million head while heifer slaughter was just over 747,000 head for the month, an increase over last year of 7.0% and 3.3%, respectively. All cow slaughter (Dairy and Other Cows) totaled almost 518,000 head, a 2.7% increase. Dairy cow slaughter did contract 4.6% from last year to just over 266,000 head. Other Cow (Beef Cows) slaughter totaled nearly 252,000 head, an increase of 11.7% from 2019.

Hog slaughter continues its strong pace to start 2020. Commercial hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head in February,

COMMERCIAL CATTLE SLAUGHTER Monthly

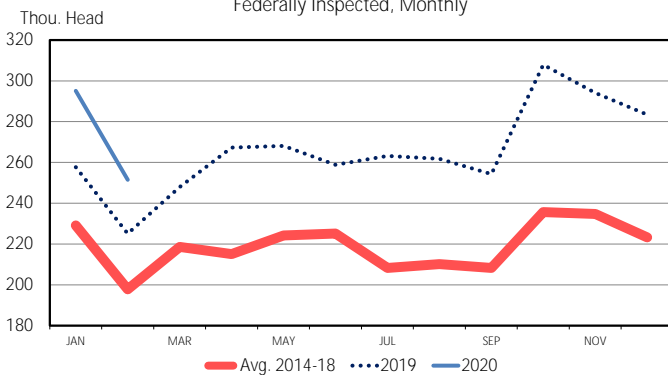


Data Source: USDA-NASS
Livestock Marketing Information Center

C-S-09
12/19/19

a 6.1% rise over the same month last year. This comes off of January's 7.0% year-over-year increase of 11.8 million hogs slaughtered. Live weights are tracking marginally above (less than 1%) the same time last year at 288 pounds, which indicates that slaughter facilities are keeping up with the higher hog numbers. Federally inspected sow slaughter was reported at just over 248,000 head, up 6.1%. As discussed in the [March 18, 2020 DLR](#) the growth in sow slaughter may partly be due to a three-week influx of sow shipments from Canada.

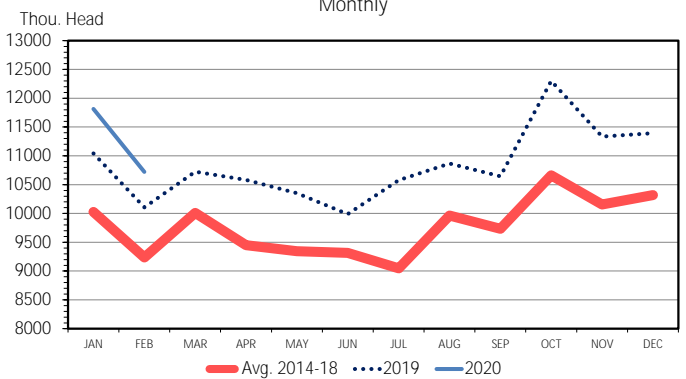
BEEF COW SLAUGHTER Federally Inspected, Monthly



Data Source: USDA-NASS
Livestock Marketing Information Center

C-S-20
12/19/19

COMMERCIAL HOG SLAUGHTER Monthly



Data Source: USDA-NASS
Livestock Marketing Information Center

H-S-04
03/19/20

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