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LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, 2024

Production in cattle farming

In 2024, as compared to the previous year, the increase of cattle went up by **10.6%**, that is, by about 8 000 tonnes. In the same period, the total number of calves brought forth decreased by about 5 000 head (by 4.5%). The total number of slaughtered cattle, that is, slaughtered head, remained at approximately the same level (around 159 000 head), while the net weight increased by about 1 279 tonnes (by 3.1%).

The total production of cows' milk remained at approximately the same level as compared to the same period of the previous year.

The total export of cattle in 2024 increased by 33.0% and their total import by 17.1%.

Production in pig farming

In 2024, the increase of pigs in pig farming went up by **13.3%**, accompanied by an increase in the number of slaughtered pigs by 6.8% and in their net weight by 8.3%. The number of piglets brought forth increased by about 75 000 head (by 5.4%) in 2024 as compared to the previous year.

As regards foreign trade in 2024, the export of pigs of all categories was lower than in the previous year (by 10.3%), while their total import increased by 20.6%.

Production in sheep farming

The increase of sheep went up by **26.8%**, that is, by about 2 180 tonnes compared to 2023, while the total number of lambs brought forth increased by about 2 000 head (by 0.5%). The total number of slaughtered sheep decreased by about 70 000 head (by 13.2%), that is, by about 815 tonnes of net weight (by 12.5%).

The production of sheep's milk decreased by 1.2% and the production of wool by 3.7%.

In 2024, as compared to the previous year, the import of sheep increased by 6.3%, while the export remained at approximately the same level.

Production in goat farming

The increase of goats was **20.1%** higher than in the previous year, while the number of kids brought forth decreased by 6.7%. The number of slaughtered goats decreased by 14.9% and their net weight by 14.5%.

The production of goats' milk decreased by 7.7%.

In 2024, concerning goat farming, the total foreign trade was statistically insignificant.

Production in poultry farming

Concerning the production of poultry in 2024, as compared to 2023, the number of hatched chicks increased by 4.7%, while the increase of poultry went up by **2.2%**.

The total number of slaughtered poultry increased by 1.4% (736 000 head) and their net weight by 2.7% (2 390 tonnes).

An increase of 3.6% was recorded in the production of hens' eggs, while the production of eggs of other poultry increased by 0.5%.

In 2024, as compared to 2023, the total import of poultry increased by 3.7% and their export by 1.6%.

1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, 2024

	Unit of measure	Total production		Indices 2024 2023
		2023	2024	
Cattle				
Increase	t	74 889	82 858	110,6
Newborns	'000 head	111	106	95,5
Import	'000 head	170	199	117,1
Export	'000 head	91	121	133,0
Total slaughtering, number	'000 head	159	159	100,0
Total slaughtering, net weight	t	41 201	42 480	103,1
Losses	'000 head	38	18	47,4
Cows' milk	'000 l	454 315	454 311	100,0
Pigs				
Increase	t	149 296	169 125	113,3
Newborns	'000 head	1 394	1 469	105,4
Import	'000 head	535	645	120,6
Export	'000 head	319	286	89,7
Total slaughtering, number	'000 head	1 525	1 628	106,8
Total slaughtering, net weight	t	110 831	120 057	108,3
Losses	'000 head	178	179	100,6
Sheep				
Increase	t	8 131	10 307	126,8
Newborns	'000 head	401	403	100,5
Import	'000 head	112	119	106,3
Export	'000 head	14	14	100,0
Total slaughtering, number	'000 head	537	466	86,8
Total slaughtering, net weight	t	6 546	5 731	87,5
Losses	'000 head	52	42	80,8
Sheep's milk	'000 l	4 423	4 369	98,8
Wool	t	976	940	96,3
Goats				
Increase	t	601	722	120,1
Newborns	'000 head	45	42	93,3
Import	'000 head	-	-	-
Export	'000 head	-	-	-
Total slaughtering, number	'000 head	47	40	85,1
Total slaughtering, net weight	t	509	435	85,5
Losses	'000 head	7	7	100,0
Goats' milk	'000 l	5 656	5 218	92,3
Poultry				
Increase	t	130 496	133 305	102,2
Newborns	'000 head	51 378	53 815	104,7
Import	'000 head	10 515	10 909	103,7
Export	'000 head	9 036	9 180	101,6
Total slaughtering, number	'000 head	51 391	52 127	101,4
Total slaughtering, net weight	t	90 136	92 526	102,7
Losses	'000 head	1 638	2 861	174,7
Hens' eggs	'000 p/st	642 550	665 951	103,6
Eggs of other poultry	'000 p/st	639	642	100,5

NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

Sources and methods of data collection

Data on livestock production on agricultural farms are collected through the regular Annual Survey on Crop and Animal Production (PO-71 form)

Data on the number of livestock and poultry as well as on livestock production were collected separately for legal entities and parts thereof and separately for private family farms.

Data for business entities are collected in two ways: through reports that are submitted to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics by postal service and via a web application filled in by reporting units themselves.

Data for private family farms were collected by using the CATI (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing) method applied to a selected stratified sample. The sample has been selected on the basis of the Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings and numbers approximately 25 000 units.

These reports provide data on the number and weight of livestock and poultry, balance of cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry, production and balance of eggs, balance of milk on private family farms, milk production (cows', sheep's and goats'), wool and eggs.

The expanded data were compared to data from previous years and to available administrative sources. On the basis of all available data, corrections were done when necessary.

Data on import and export of livestock are taken over from the Foreign Trade in Goods Statistics Department.

The methodology for carrying out the livestock survey is based on Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics, Commission Regulation (EC) No 617/2008 of 27 June 2008 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 as regards marketing standards for eggs for hatching and farmyard poultry chicks, and on the Methodological Basis for Gathering Data on Milk and Dairy Products Statistics (NN, No. 42/13).

Coverage and comparability

Reporting units are business entities and parts thereof defined in section A Agriculture, forestry and fishing according to the National Classification of Activities, 2007 version (NN, Nos 58/07 and 72/07) as well as other business entities and parts thereof engaged in the production of livestock but classified elsewhere.

Reporting units are also private family farms engaged in the production of livestock and poultry.

Confidentiality

Aggregate data that enable recognition of individual reporting units (due to their small number, the dominance rule or secondary confidentiality rule), in accordance with the Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20 and 155/23) and the Instruction on the Method of Protection of Confidential Statistical Data in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, are treated as confidential and are, therefore, not published.

Definitions

Increase of cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry means a gross production of meat in a reference year and is calculated by adding the difference in the weight of export and import to the weight of slaughtered livestock and the difference of the weight of the herd at the end and at the beginning of a reference period.

Newborns. Calved, farrowed, lambed, kidded, hatched. It comprises the total number of obtained live-born offspring of livestock and poultry (calves, piglets, lambs, kids, chicks).

Milk. The production of cows', sheep's and goats' milk in legal entities as well as on private family farms is presented. The total milked quantity in a reference period is presented, irrespective of the way of milking.

Total slaughtering. Covers all livestock and poultry slaughtered on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, irrespective of origin. It represents the sum of livestock and poultry slaughtered in abattoirs and livestock and poultry slaughtered at legal entities (compulsory slaughtering) and on private family farms.

Wool. Quantities of trimmed (clipped) wool from grown up sheep and tags (matted wool and cropped wool) are reported as raw wool.

Eggs production. Data on the total number of laid eggs by all categories of hens and other kinds of poultry (eggs for setting and eggs for human consumption) are reported.

Losses. Data are reported on the number of livestock and poultry (offspring and adult head) that died due to infectious diseases, exhaustion and accidents as well as on the number of head missing or killed, whose meat is not suitable for human consumption because of diseases.

Abbreviations

EC	European Community
l	litre
NN	Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia
p/st	pieces/sticks
t	tonne
'000	thousand

Symbols

-	no occurrence
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