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**(S.D.)- USDA Says Red Meat Production Up In S. Dakota**



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 02/23/2013 08:04 AM

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - The U.S. Department of Agriculture says red meat production in South Dakota is up 11 percent compared to a year ago.

The USDA says red meat production totaled 100.2 million pounds in January, which is up 1 percent from December. .

Hog slaughter totaled 430,600 head during January. This is up from 402,300 head in January 2012. The average live weight was 271 pounds, which was down 1 pound from the year before.

The USDA says pork, lamb and sheep production were also up in January compared to a year ago. The total of 300 head is up 100 from a year prior. The average live weight was 115 pounds, which is unchanged from January 2012.