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Livestock

Beef exports set record; pork challenges continue

By CAROL RYAN DUMAS
Capital Press

U.S. beef exports in August worth nearly \$752 million eclipsed the previous record high in May of \$722.1 million, according to USDA and U.S. Meat Export Federation.

Pork exports, however, were dinged by retaliatory tariffs by China and Mexico and dipped 3 percent in value year over year and 1 percent in volume, USMEF reported this week.

Beef exports in August totaled 119,850 metric tons, up 7 percent from year-earlier levels. For the third consecutive month, exports of beef muscle cuts set a volume record at 95,181 metric tons — an increase of 9 percent year over year. The value of those cuts increased 13 percent this year to \$679.6 million.

“U.S. beef exports continue to achieve tremendous growth, not only in our mainstay Asian markets but in the Western Hemisphere as well,” Dan Halstrom, USMEF president and CEO, said in a press release accompanying the latest data.

January through August, beef exports were up 9 percent in volume year over year to 899,300 metric tons and increased 18 percent in value to \$5.51 billion.

U.S. meat exports, August

Quantity (Metric tons)			
Item*	2017	2018	Percent change
Beef	112,069	119,850	7%
Pork	183,658	182,372	-1
Lamb and mutton	659	1,353	105

Value (Millions of dollars)			
Item*	2017	2018	Percent change
Beef	\$679.1	\$751.7	11%
Pork	511.4	494.1	-3
Lamb and mutton	1.7	2	16

*All items include variety meats.

Source: USDA (data compiled by U.S. Meat Export Federation) Capital Press graphic

Through August, beef exports to Japan were up 7 percent in volume and 11 percent in value to \$1.42 billion.

Beef exports to South Korea January through August increased 39 percent in volume and 54 percent in value to \$1.15 billion, close to the full-year record of \$1.22 billion set in 2017. Beef exports to Mexico were up 1 percent this year through August and 8 percent in value to \$693.9 million.

USMEF noted recent headway in market access, with favorable terms for U.S. beef exports being preserved in Mexico, Canada and South Korea and trade talks getting underway with Japan.

“A trade agreement with Japan would bring opportunities for even greater expansion

as U.S. beef becomes more affordable for Japanese consumers and is back on a level playing field with Australian beef,” Halstrom said.

Beef exports January through August accounted for 13.5 percent of total U.S. beef production with an average value of \$318.66 per head of U.S. fed slaughter — a 16 percent increase year over year.

While pork exports January through August were 1 percent ahead of year-earlier levels in volume and 3 percent higher in value to \$4.32 billion, they took a hit in August.

“Pork exports have posted an impressive performance in 2018, but the retaliatory duties are clearly a significant obstacle,” Halstrom said.

Idaho cattle convention loads agenda

By CAROL RYAN DUMAS
Capital Press

The Idaho Cattle Association’s annual convention and trade show will offer a host of cowboy-centric discussions, from politics and regulations to financial management and marketing opportunities.

The convention is set for Nov. 12-14 at the Sun Valley Resort.

The trade show begins at 10 a.m. Monday, and the convention kicks off at 1 p.m. with a presentation by Bruce Vincent, a third-generation logger from Libby, Mont.

Vincent will share the timber industry’s experience with anti-timber activism and how it spent enormous resources and wasted years of opportu-

nity by not leading the charge to implement its own vision of forestry in the U.S. His message is how the cattle industry can avoid the same pitfalls.

His presentation will be followed by breakout sessions on public lands, environmental policy, the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission and Quick Books.

This year’s Cattlemen’s College will include management strategies for a strong financial future with Northwest Farm Credit Services and improving the value of marketable products through management with Zoetis.

A trade show dinner and auction will follow.

Tuesday will commence with breakfast updates from the Idaho Brand Department

and Idaho State Department of Agriculture followed by feeder and cow-calf/breeder council sessions.

Celia Gould, state agriculture director, will take the stage to talk about programs to promote the beef industry and Idaho agriculture, and the Idaho Beef Council will update cattle producers on checkoff programs during lunch.

The convention will also include discussions of ICA policy with a vote on resolutions to follow.

The day will wind down with a national policy update and president’s banquet.

The closing session on Wednesday morning will focus on meat quality with professors from the University of Idaho.

Groups request flexibility for livestock haulers

By CAROL RYAN DUMAS
Capital Press

Groups representing livestock, bee and fish haulers have petitioned the U.S. Department of Transportation asking for a five-year exemption from requirements that limit commercial truck drivers’ time behind the wheel.

The regulations went into effect last year as part of a new requirement for electronic logging devices, with livestock haulers granted temporary waivers.

The petition — by the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, Livestock Marketing Association, American Beekeeping Federation, American Honey Producers Federation, National Aquaculture Association and American Farm Bureau Federation — also supports the use of modern fatigue-management practices.

Current DOT rules limit drive time to 11 hours and limit total on-duty time to 14 hours, after which drivers have to take a 10-hour rest before driving again.

The current requirements “may place the well-being of livestock at risk during transport and impose significant burdens on livestock haulers,” the groups said.

The organizations are asking the agency to instead grant livestock haulers approval to drive 15 hours with 16 hours of total on-duty time.

The groups estimated the exemption is needed for about 25 percent to 30 percent



Maegan Murray/EO Media Group File

Agricultural groups say the proposed limit on driving livestock trucks is unreasonable and poses a threat to the animals’ health.

of livestock hauls. They also said granting the exemption wouldn’t negatively impact motor vehicle safety because livestock haulers are experienced, plan their trips carefully, operate specialized equipment and routinely undergo transportation training.

Based on DOT data between 2013 and 2015, livestock haulers accounted for 6.6 percent of all commercial drivers but were only involved in about 0.8 percent of total crashes involving large trucks, they said.

In addition, “livestock haulers believe the exemption could be implemented in conjunction with a number of agreed-upon fatigue-management countermeasures that would ensure an equivalent or greater level of safety than would be achieved absent such exemption,” they said.



18th Annual WILLAMETTE VALLEY AG EXPO

3 Big Days!

Tues • Wed • Thurs
NOVEMBER 13 • 14 • 15



- 4 Big Buildings!
- CORE Pesticide Training for credits
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- Back by Popular Demand: Wed. Evening Dine Around Oregon. Tickets available online.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- Meetings:** Santiam Classroom (Repeats on Thursday)
Training: 2018 CORE Training No pre-registration required. Admission is \$4 at the door, parking is free, courses are complimentary with admission. Each one hour = one credit. Oregon and Washington Department of Ag recertification credits apply.
- 10:30-11:30AM • Jeffrey Jenkins; **Pesticide Human Health Risk Assessment**
A general discussion of the basic principles toxicology and key elements of pesticide human health risk assessment applied to glyphosate case study.
 - 11:30-12:30PM • Jeffrey Jenkins; **A System Approach to Water Quality Assessment in Oregon Watersheds** • Introduction to the OSU Watershed Assessment Framework and more.
 - Lunch or other Break
 - 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. • Kaci Buhl; **Worker Protection Standard – What Agricultural Employers Need to Know** • Will cover the requirements for agricultural employers under the WPS.
 - 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. • Andrea Sonnen; **ODA Update / Lessons Learned** • A brief overview of updates to laws and regulations and a look at several cases from the previous year detailing lessons learned.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- Meetings:** Willamette Conference Center
- 10:30- 12:15PM • **CPR / AED with Standard First Aid** (Advanced online registration required and \$30.00 fee) • Pacific Health & Safety will provide authorized health and safety training at the 2018 Willamette Valley Ag Expo. This course will cover CPR & choking for ages 8 and over, AED training for adult and child victims, and first aid for basic injuries and sudden illnesses. Certification from this course is valid for 2 years. • Pacific Health & Safety uses American Trauma Event Management and American Red Cross training materials that conform to national standards that are based on the same scientific guidelines and treatment recommendations used by the American Heart Association guidelines, International Liaison committee on Resuscitation guidelines, and Emergency Cardiac Care scientific guidelines.
 - 1:30-2:45PM • **Standard First Aid** (Registration required, and \$15.00 fee) • Pacific Health & Safety will provide authorized health & safety training at the 2018 Willamette Valley Ag Expo. This course will cover First Aid for basic injuries & sudden illnesses. Certification from this course is valid for 2 years.
 - 10:30 a.m. • **Forklift Certification Training:** – Santiam Classroom (Advanced registration required, free with admission) • Includes: classroom, workbook, written knowledge check verification with a scheduled practical driving evaluation immediately following. Proof of successful completion of course, knowledge check, and practical driving evaluation provided. Program and equipment provided/donated by Pape Material Handling and OVERTON Safety Training. Class size limited to 40 people. Advanced registration required online at www.wvaexpo.com. This class is free with paid admission. Class size limited to 40 people. (All materials and instruction is provided in English)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- Meetings:** Santiam Classroom
Training: 2018 CORE Training (Repeat of Tuesday, November 13)
- 10:30-11:30AM • Jeffrey Jenkins; **Pesticide Human Health Risk Assessment**
A general discussion of the basic principles toxicology and key elements of pesticide human health risk assessment applied to glyphosate case study.
 - 11:30-12:30PM • Jeffrey Jenkins; **A System Approach to Water Quality Assessment in Oregon Watersheds** • Introduction to the OSU Watershed Assessment Framework, a systems approach employing monitoring, modeling and geospatial analysis to aid in stakeholder evaluation of alternative IPM practices and BMPs designed to reduce pesticide surface water loading.
 - Lunch or other Break
 - 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. • Kaci Buhl; **Worker Protection Standard – What Agricultural Employers Need to Know** • Will cover the requirements for agricultural employers under the WPS, as revised in 2015. Provisions for training, central posting, decontamination requirements, and other topics will be discussed, with questions and answers.
 - 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. • Andrea Sonnen; **ODA Update / Lessons Learned** • A brief overview of updates to laws and regulations and a look at several cases from the previous year detailing lessons learned.

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