U.S. Meat Bulletin

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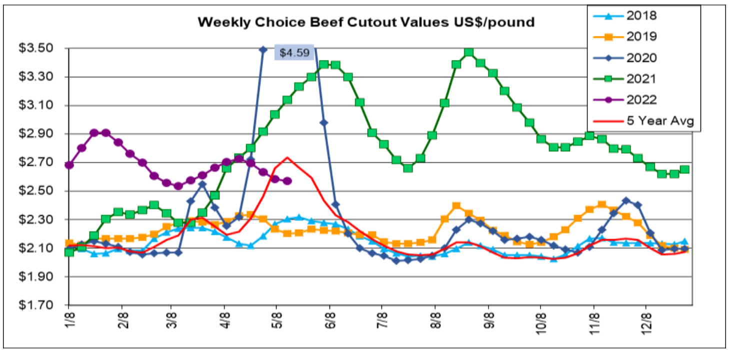
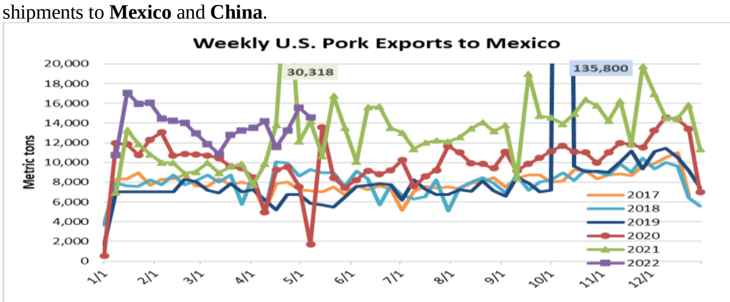
SUPPLY & DEMAND

The USDA beef cutout value ended slightly down week-on-week on choppy demand. Institutional buyers are focused on securing supplies for the large Memorial Day (May 30) weekend, which helped to arrest recent value declines in rib and loin values, especially of higher grades. Demand for striploins, a major grill item, has remained steady and chucks received some support last week. Grilling weather has been less than ideal, with nearly 90 million persons in the central U.S. under a severe storm watch last weekend, while record high mid-May temperatures throughout the southern U.S. are driving many indoors. On the live cattle side, cattle on feed numbers remain record high despite processing plants desire to fill harvest schedules. Last week's relatively large harvest of 657K head kept live fed cattle prices at steady levels through last week. On the other hand, a negative tone permeated the cattle futures markets, as overall investment sentiment – especially for more speculative assets such as cryptocurrencies - turned even more bearish. Consumer food bills increased again in April (see MOVING AHEAD next column) and consumption behavior is changing rapidly as managing inflation becomes a more central aspect of household activity. At the same time, transportation and feed costs are moving higher for producers; last week, USDA issued its much-watched monthly WASDE agricultural supply & demand report and the agency is predicting lower corn yields this year from lower acreage. The report predicts total 2022 U.S. corn production of 367.3mmt will be -4.3% YOY, with global market tightness exacerbated by a forecast 54% fall in **Ukrainian** corn output. Much-needed moisture provided some drought relief to cattle grazing in the southern plains a few weeks back but now record heat threatens to deplete that moisture. Export demand remains strong with huge new beef sales of 28+K tons reported to **Korea** and **Japan** during the first week of May. Buyers were taking advantage of a recent dip in U.S. wholesale prices in expectation of higher U.S. cattle prices ahead and a rebound in Chinese beef import demand as lockdowns ease.



Beef Choice Beef Cutout Value: 16/5/2022 – US$260.31/cwt. (+2% from 10/5/2022)

The pork cutout drifted lower last week to near 3-month lows on slower ham & belly demand. Interest in bone-in hams was weak due to recently elevated price increases, and bellies softened as consumers pushed back on high retail bacon prices. Loin items also moved noticeably lower. The bearish sentiment in the market saw the current CME lean hog cash index fall below the value of the June lean hog futures contract value as investors worry about consumer demand. According to a study by consumer research firm First Insight Inc., 97% of consumers are reprioritizing the way they spend, with groceries ranking as the most important (56%), followed by gasoline (43%), housing costs (29%) and health care (18%). Nearly half of survey respondents reported reducing dining out activity with one-third stating they are cutting back on retail food spending. Analysts believe consumer concern over rising prices may be hitting demand for high cost processed meats such as bacon. U.S. export data for Q1 showed sharply lower international pork shipments YOY, although shipments are near pre-ASF trends (see TRADE next column). Export activity was brisk during the 1st week of May, with large shipments to **Mexico** and **China**.

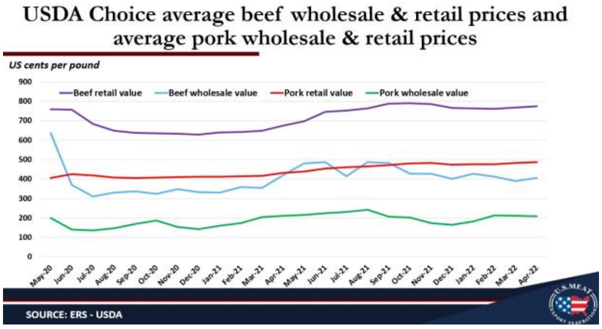


Hog Carcass Cutout Value: 16/5/2022 – US$101.55/cwt. (+1% from 10/5/2022)

ACTIVITIES:
Food & Hotel Asia, Singapore: September 5-8, 2022
FHC Shanghai Global Food Trade Show: Nov 8-10, 2022
SIAL, Shanghai: December 7-9, 2022

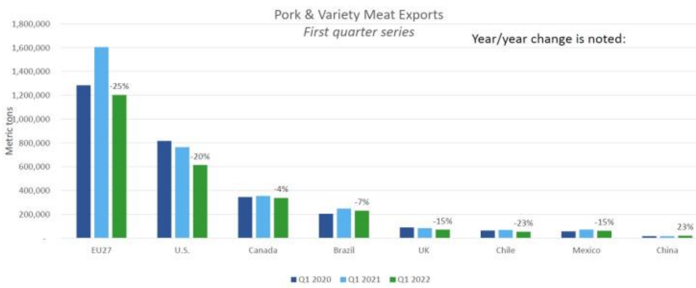
MOVING AHEAD

Inflation continues to be top of mind for U.S. and many consumers around the world. Average retail gasoline prices hit a record high U.S. $4.40/gallon (U.S. $1.16 per liter) late last week as the U.S. announced a small decrease in the annual inflation index from March's 8.5% to April's 8.3%. Retail food prices, averaged across a basket of all items, climbed 10.8% year-on-year (YOY), the highest year-on-year rate since 1980. The USA's Bureau of Labor, which compiles the data, divides prices into food purchased for home consumption and food ordered at restaurants. Prices for all food items purchased in supermarkets rose 10.8% on average, while retail meat, poultry, fish and egg prices rose 14.3%. Year-over-year costs for restaurant meals were 7% higher than in April 2021, with the cost of full-service meals – including steakhouses - up 9%. In general, retail food costs rise faster than those of restaurants, as consumers are more sensitive to menu price increases. Supermarket operators can change food prices often, as consumers can more easily trade among a wider variety of items. With meat prices rising faster than overall food prices, there is some anecdotal evidence of switches from higher cost meats (e.g., ribeye steaks) to lower cost items (e.g., ground beef or chicken breasts). Typically, food, gasoline and housing constitute a larger share of total spending for lower-income households and economists report that there may also be some switching from animal proteins to more affordable carbohydrates such as pasta, especially given that even relatively low-priced animal protein items like ground beef and chicken breast prices remain at record high levels. It is important to note that inflation figures represent an average spread across pricing & consumption behavior that varies widely between the demographics of households and location. Its also important to note that retail prices do not necessarily follow wholesale prices, as rising labor costs need to be factored into pricing strategies of supermarket and restaurant operators. As a general rule, food costs normally account for between 28-35% of menu prices, while during Q1 2022, the average wholesale value of all beef cuts purchased by supermarkets of U.S. $4.08/lb equated to 53% of the retail value of $7.64/lb. Although restaurant menu prices are less volatile than supermarket prices, retail prices are much less volatile than wholesale prices (see GRAPHS below).



TRADE

Q1 2022 trade data shows that U.S. beef and pork exports trended in opposite directions, with strong **Korean, Chinese,** and **Taiwan** demand for beef driving shipments +6% YOY to 354K tons, while total U.S. pork exports dropped 20% from last year's pace to 630K tons. Weaker pork shipments were the result of a steep 56% volume decline to China, but also sizeable drops to **Japan** (-13%), **Korea** (-6%) and **Canada** (-14%). Although current U.S. pork export activity appears weaker year-on-year, Q1 2022 volume was still slightly above the average level of U.S. trade for the 2017-2019 pre-China ASF period. Moreover, all major global pork exporters have experienced export drops (see GRAPH below) due to the contraction of Chinese import demand, with total **EU** shipments -25% due to their greater export dependency on the China market (30+%) compared to the U.S. (16%). Average per ton export values during the Jan-March period for U.S., EU, Canadian and **Brazilian** pork also dropped slightly on slower global demand. A positive part of the U.S. pork export portfolio is #1 market **Mexico**, where current indications point to record 2022 import needs & record large U.S. exports. Looking at the Q1 global beef trade, demand remained firm, with sizeable increases by #1 exporter Brazil (+10%), #2 USA (+6%) & #3 India (+10%) more than offsetting the -10% & -7% YOY declines by #4 & #5 exporters (by volume) Australia & Argentina (respectively).



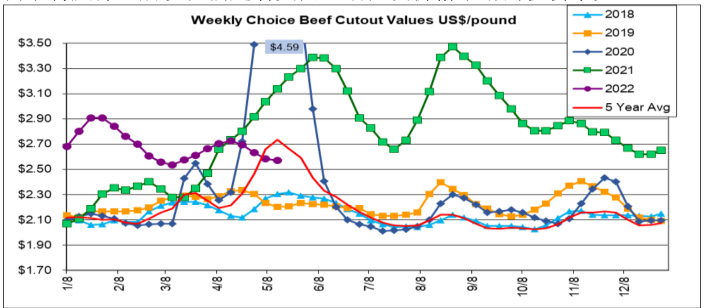
U.S. MEAT EXPORT FEDERATION

美国肉品新知

2022 年 5 月 17 日　　第十四卷 5.2 期

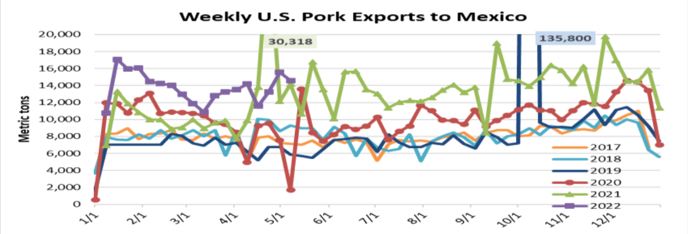
供应与需求

上周，由于需求波动，美国牛肉分切价格环比小幅下跌。机构买家专注于确保阵亡将士纪念日(5 月 30 日)周末的供应，有助于遏制近期肋骨和腰脊肉价格的下跌，尤其是高级别部位肉的下跌。烧烤常用的西冷的需求一直保持稳定，肩胛肉上周也得到了一些青睐。但是烧烤的天气并不那么理想。上周末，美国中部近 9，000 万人收到严重风暴预警，而美国南部 5 月中旬创纪录的高温，迫使许多人躲在室内。在活牛方面，尽管加工厂希望尽快完成屠宰进度，但育肥牛数量仍处于历史高位。上周相对较大的 65.7 万头屠宰量使活牛价格在上周保持稳定。另一方面，随着整体投资情绪变得更加悲观，尤其是对加密货币等投机性更强的资产的投资的悲观，活牛期货市场弥漫着负面基调。消费者的食品支出在 4 月份再次增加，控制通货膨胀成为家庭活动的一个重点，消费行为正在迅速改变。与此同时，养殖端的运输和饲料成本正在上升；上周，美国农业部发布了备受关注的月度 WASDE 农业供需报告，该机构预计今年玉米产量将因种植面积减少而下降。该报告预测，2022 年美国玉米总产量将为 3.673 亿吨，同比下降 4.3%，而**乌克兰**玉米产量预计下降 54%，加剧了全球玉米市场供应的紧张。几个星期前，急需的降雨缓解了南部平原上牧场的干旱，但现在创纪录的高温正在加速水分的消耗。出口需求依然强劲，据报告，5 月第一周向**韩国**和**日本**新一波牛肉销量达到 28，000 多吨。买家预计未来美国牛价将走高，并且随着中国封锁情况的缓解，其牛肉进口需求将反弹，所以他们趁着美国近期批发价格下滑的机会采买。



美国农业部牛肉屠体价格指数（特选级）：2022 年 5 月 16 日 -$260.31 美元/百磅（较 2022 年 5 月 10 日增加 2%）

由于后腿肉和腹部肉需求放缓，猪肉分切价格上周下跌至近 3 个月的低点。近期价格上涨也导致消费者对带骨腿肉的兴趣减弱。高挺的培根零售价格劝退了消费者，腹部肉的需求也随之放缓。腰脊肉的价格也明显走低。由于投资者担心消费需求，市场看跌情绪导致当前 CME 瘦肉猪现货指数跌破 6 月瘦肉猪期货合约价格。根据消费者研究公司 First Insight Inc. 的一项研究，97% 的消费者正在重新确定支出的优先顺序，其中食品及日常用品是最重要的（56%），其次是汽油（43%），住房支出（29%）和医疗保健（18%）。近一半的受访者表示他们减少了外出就餐，三分之一的人表示他们正在削减零售食品支出。分析师认为，消费者对价格上涨的担忧可能正在打击对诸如培根之类的高成本加工肉类的需求。美国第一季度的出口数据显示，猪肉出口量同比大幅下降，尽管出口量接近非洲猪瘟爆发前的趋势（请参阅下一栏贸易部分）。5 月第一周的出口活跃，主要是对**墨西哥**和**中国**的大量出口。

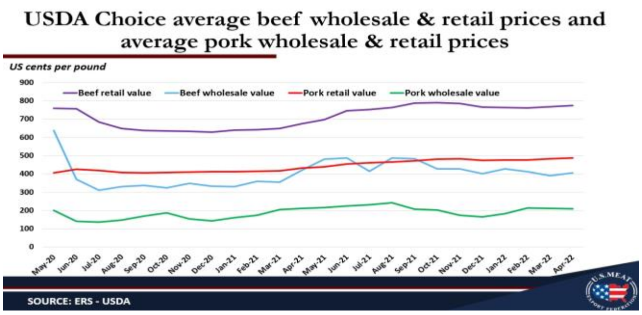


猪屠体分切价格：2022 年 5 月 16 日—$101.55 美元/ 百磅（较 2022 年 5 月 10 日增加 1%）

美国肉类出口协会活动预告：
新加坡国际食品与饮料展 - 新加坡：2022 年 9 月 5-8 日
FHC 上海环球食品展：2022 年 11 月 8-10 日
SIAL 国际食品展(上海)：2022 年 12 月 7-9 日

产业动态

通货膨胀仍然是美国和世界各地许多消费者面临的头等大事。上周晚些时候，虽然美国宣布年度通胀指数从 3 月的 8.5% 小幅下降至 4 月的 8.3%，但零售汽油平均价格仍创 4.40 美元/加仑（每升 1.16 美元）的历史新高。 所有超市零售食品价格平均同比上涨 10.8%，这也是 1980 年以来的最高同比增长率。汇编价格数据的美国劳工部将食品价格分为两类：家庭消耗物品和餐厅的菜单价格。现在超市购买的食品价格平均上涨 10.8%，而零售肉类、家禽、鱼类和鸡蛋价格上涨 14.3%。餐厅用餐成本同比 2021 年 4 月增长 7%，包括牛排馆在内的全方位服务用餐成本也增长 9%。一般来说，零售食品成本的上涨速度快于餐馆，因为消费者对菜单价格上涨更为敏感。超市经营者可以经常改动食品价格，这样消费者更容易地在种类繁多的商品之间进行替换交易。对于肉类价格的上涨速度快于整体食品价格，有一些观察性证据表明，消费者的购买意向从成本较高的肉类（例如肋眼牛排）转向成本较低的商品（例如牛绞肉或鸡胸肉）。通常来说，食品、汽油和住房占低收入家庭总支出的较大比例，有经济学家报告称，考虑到牛绞肉和鸡胸肉的价格仍保持在历史高位，可能会有一些家庭从消费动物蛋白转向更实惠的碳水化合物，例如意大利面。值得注意的是，通胀数据虽代表了价格和消费行为之间的平均价差，但家庭人口和地理位置特征不同，数据差异也很大。同样重要的是，零售价格未必完全跟随批发价格涨跌，因为作为超市和餐馆经营者，定价策略中劳动力成本上涨也是考虑因素。通常规则来讲，食材成本普遍占餐厅菜单价格的 28-35%，而在 2022 年第一季度，超市所批发购买所有牛肉部位的平均价值为 4.08 美元/磅，相当于零售销售价格 7.64 美元/磅的 53%。尽管餐厅菜单价格的波动性低于超市定价，但零售价格的波动性更远低于批发价格 (请参见下图)。



贸易新闻

2022 年美国第一季度的贸易数据显示，牛肉与猪肉出口量呈相反趋势，随着**韩国**，**中国**和**台湾**对牛肉的需求量增多，促使出货量同比增长 6%，达到了 35.4 万吨，然而美国猪肉出口量较去年相比，下降了 20%低至 63 万吨。由于中国猪肉出口量急剧下降 56%，导致猪肉出货量减少，除此之外，**日本**，**韩国**和**加拿大**的出口量也出现相对大幅度的下降（见下图），分别对应的下降比例是日本 13%，韩国 6%和加拿大 14%。尽管美国目前的猪肉出口贸易水平同比减弱，但是 2022 年美国第一季度的猪肉出口量，还是略高于中国 2017-2019 年非洲猪瘟爆发前的贸易水平。除此之外，由于中国对进口猪肉需求的萎缩，美国所有猪肉出口商的出口量都出现了下降趋势，其中**欧盟**国家的总发货量下降了 25%，相比于美国对中国市场的出口依存度为 16%，欧盟国家则达到了 30%以上。由于全球的猪肉需求量较缓，在 2022 年一月至三月期间，美国，欧盟，加拿大和**巴西**的猪肉，平均每吨的出口值也略微有所下降。**墨西哥**是美国猪肉出口市场需求量排名第一的国家，目前的迹象表明，该国的进口猪肉需求和美国的出口量都将创下 2022 年的最高纪录。从第一季度全球牛肉贸易的趋势来看，总体需求依旧保持强劲势头，出口量排名第一，第二和第三的国家巴西，美国和印度大幅增长的比例依次是 10%，6%和 10%，同比超过了出口量呈下降趋势而排名第四和第五的国家澳大利亚和阿根廷，下降比例依次为 10%和 7%。