



1ST QUARTER 2026

MILK AND MEAT PRODUCTION REPORT



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INTRODUCTION

This report presents statistics on milk production and livestock slaughtering for the first Quarter of 2026. The statistics are obtained from administrative records collected by the Department of Meat Grading and Dairy Services under the Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Water Resources Development.

1. Milk Production

The total volume of milk produced during the first quarter of 2026 was **30,147,000 litres** representing a decline of 8.5 percent when compared to the 4th quarter volume of **32,938,000 litres. (Table 1)**

Table 1: Volume and Value of Milk (000) sold to Processors and Producers, Q1 2026

Month/ Quarter	Sold to Processors (000 litres)	Retail Sales by Producers (000 litres)	Total Milk produced (000 litres)	Total Value (ZWG 000)	% Change in Total Volume Sold from Previous Month/Quarter
October	9,945.1	786.7	10,731	512,546	1.5
November	10,000.7	791.4	10,792	511,593	0.6
December	10,599.7	814.5	11,414	536,754	5.8
Total Q4 2025	30,545.6	2,393	32,938	1,560,894	4.0
January	9,816	785	10,601	490,819	(7.1)
February	8,634	757	9,391	438,900	(11.4)
March	9,367	788	10,155	465,429	8.1
Total Q1 2026	27,817	2,330	30,147	1,395,147	(8.5)

2. Cattle Slaughtered

The volume of cattle slaughtered during first quarter 2026 decreased by **7.2** percent from **103,500** head slaughtered in fourth quarter 2025 to **96,000** head for the quarter under review. **(Table 2)**

Table 2: Volume and value of cattle (000) slaughtered by CSC, butchers & grading centres, Q1 2026

Month/ Quarter	Cold Storage Commission (CSC) 000' head	Butchers & Grading Centres '000' head	Total Cattle Slaughtering '000' head	Value of Sales '000' ZWL	% Change in Cattle Slaughtered from Previous Month/Quarter
October	2.3	32.9	35.1	445,180.4	(3.0)
November	1.4	29.3	30.7	386,515.6	(12.5)
December	2.3	35.4	37.7	469,822.5	22.8
Total Q4 2025	6.0	97.6	103.5	1,301,518.5	(3.2)
January	2.0	30.7	32.7	401,341.2	-13.3
February	1.7	29.8	31.4	388,801.6	-4.0
March	1.9	30.0	31.9	388,139.0	1.6
Total Q1 2026	5.6	90.5	96.0	1,178,281.8	(7.2)

3. Goats Slaughtered

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2025, the volume of goats slaughtered remained unchanged at **1,400** head in the first quarter of 2026. **(Table 3)**

Table 3: Volume and value of goats (000) slaughtered by CSC, butchers & grading centres, Q1 2026

Month/ Quarter	CSC' 000' head	Butchers & Grading Centres '000' head	Total Goats Slaughtered '000' head	Value of Sales '000' ZWL	% Change in Goats Slaughtered from Previous Month/Quarter
October	0.1	0.3	0.4	251	(33.3)
November	0.1	0.5	0.6	363	50
December	0.1	0.3	0.4	266	(33.3)
Total Q4 2025	0.3	1.1	1.4	881	(6.7)
January	0.0	0.2	0.2	107.44	-50.0
February	0.0	0.6	0.6	371.78	200.0
March	0.1	0.5	0.6	398.80	-
Total Q1 2026	0.1	1.2	1.4	878.02	-

4. Sheep Slaughtered

During the first quarter of the year, the volume of sheep slaughtered decreased by 28.6 percent from **700** slaughtered in fourth quarter 2025 to **500**. **(Table 4)**

Table 4: Volume and value of sheep (000) slaughtered by CSC, butchers & grading centres, Q1 2026

Month/ Quarter	CSC' 000' head	Butchers & Grading Centres '000' head	Total Sheep Slaughtered '000' head	Value of Sales '000' ZWL	% Change in Sheep Slaughtered from Previous Month/Quarter
October	0.0	0.2	0.2	210	(33.3)
November	0.0	0.2	0.2	215	0
December	0.0	0.3	0.3	272	50
Total Q4 2025	0.0	0.7	0.7	697	(12.5)
January	0.0	0.0	0.0	44.00	-100.0
February	0.0	0.2	0.2	248.45	-
March	0.0	0.3	0.3	311.95	50.0
Total Q1 2026	0.0	0.5	0.5	604.41	(28.6)

5. Pigs Slaughtered

The number of pigs slaughtered at butchers and grading centres declined by 8.5 percent from **30,500** in fourth quarter 2025 to **27,900** in the first quarter of 2026. **(Table 5)**

Table 5: Volume and value of pigs (000) slaughtered by butchers & grading centres, Q1 2026

Month/ Quarter	Butchers& Grading Centres '000' head	Total Pigs '000'	% Change in Pigs Slaughtered from Previous Month/Quarter
October	10.0	10.0	
November	8.8	8.8	(12)
December	11.7	11.7	32.9
Q4 2025	30.5	30.5	
January	8.9	8.9	(23.9)
February	9.8	9.8	10.1
March	9.2	9.2	(6.1)
Q1 2026	27.9	27.9	(8.5)

