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Number of cattle declined in 2020, pig stock increased compared to the previous year

Vienna, 2020-08-21 – A total of 1 844 000 cattle was kept in Austria on 1 June 2020, according to Statistics Austria. Compared to the previous year, this represents a decrease of 1.5% or 29 000 animals. The total number of pigs amounted to 2 695 000, 1.6% or 43 100 animals more than on 1 June 2019.

Number of cattle declined by 1.5%

The number of **young cattle aged under one year** decreased by 1.4% to 588 000 animals compared to the previous year (see table 1). In detail, the stock of calves for slaughter fell by 0.8% to 145 000, that of other calves and young cattle by 1.5% to 443 000 animals.

Compared to 1 June 2019, the number of **cattle aged one to under two years** declined by 2.1% to 416 000 animals. While the number of male cattle (-2.9% to 157 000) and heifers for production and breeding (-2.9% to 175 000) dropped, that of heifers for slaughter rose (+1.2% to 84 100).

With a total of 841 000, the stock of at least **two year old cattle** fell by 1.4% compared to the previous year. Except for bulls and oxen (+3.3% to 18 700), decreases were recorded in all other categories. The number of dairy cows dropped by 0.4% to 523 000 and that of other cows by 3.8% to 193 000. The stock of heifers for production and breeding declined by 3.1% to 88 300, that of heifers for slaughter by 1.1% to 17 700 animals.

Within the last year the number of **cattle holdings** on the reference day decreased by 2.4% to 55 800. The average livestock density remained at 33 animals per holding.

Number of pigs increased by 1.6%

With a plus of 2.1%, the total stock of **piglets and young pigs** rose to 1.41 million animals. The number of **pigs for breeding** increased by 2.8% to 234 000 and that of **pigs for fattening** by 0.8% to 1.05 million animals (see table 2).

In detail, there were increases in the number of pigs in almost all categories compared to the previous year. On 1 June 2020, a stock of 667 000 piglets (+4.4%) and 743 000 young pigs (+0.1%) was recorded. Within the group of pigs for breeding, the number of covered breeding sows rose to 159 000 (+2.5%) and that of not covered sows to 70 300 (+3.7%). The stock of breeding boars fell to 4 900 (-1.9%). Within pigs for fattening, an increase to 519 000 animals (+0.2%) was recorded in the group weighing 50 to less than 80 kg, while the number of pigs weighing 80 to less than 110 kg fell to 420 000 (-0.4%). With a plus of 8.1%, the stock of pigs weighing more than 110 kg rose to 112 000.

The share of Austrian Länder most relevant for pig production (Upper Austria, Lower Austria and Styria) remained constant at 93.7% of the total stock.

For more detailed results and further information concerning statistics of livestock please refer to our [website](#).

Information on methods: These statistics are based on Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics; implemented under Ordinance Federal Law Gazette II No. 163/2012 (available in German only) issued by the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

The **bovine livestock** was determined through an evaluation of the central cattle database pursued by Agrarmarkt Austria in combination with data from the Association of Austrian Cattle Breeders. The administrative data were consolidated by the Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research, which also subsequently processed the results.

Since 2012, the number of **pigs** for the reference day 1 June is calculated using a regression model, based on data from the Veterinary Information System, instead of a sample survey conducted directly at holdings as in previous years.

Table 1: Number of cattle on 1 June 2020

	1 June 2019	1 June 2020	Change in %
Cattle in total	1 873 308	1 844 335	-1.5
Young cattle under 1 year old	595 842	587 758	-1.4
Young cattle 1 up to under 2 years old	424 555	415 770	-2.1
Cattle 2 years and older	852 911	840 807	-1.4
Holdings with cattle	57 112	55 751	-2.4

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA; database: Agrarmarkt Austria, Association of Austrian Cattle Breeders; calculations: Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research; STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

Table 2: Number of pigs on 1 June 2020

	1 June 2019	1 June 2020	Change in %
Pigs in total	2 651 957	2 695 051	+1.6
Piglets and young pigs below 50kg live weight	1 381 592	1 410 352	+2.1
Pigs for fattening, 50kg live weight and above	1 042 768	1 050 715	+0.8
Pigs for breeding, 50kg live weight and above	227 597	233 984	+2.8

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, database: Veterinary Information System, calculations: STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

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