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Report Highlights:

In 2023, Post forecasts that cattle production will grow 1.3 percent, to 48.5 million cattle head, as the Brazilian cattle sector reaches its peak in the production cycle. Cattle slaughter is expected to increase 2.8 percent due to elevated demand for beef exports and recovering domestic consumption. However, cattle producers are likely to face challenges of high production costs, potential droughts, and consequential damage to pasture. Post forecasts beef production to increase by 2.1 percent to 10.6 million tons CWE, of which 28 percent would be exported, amounting to 3 million tons CWE. For swine, in 2023 Post forecasts production to increase by 2.1 percent, reaching 45.8 million tons (CWE). As in 2022, swine and pork producers are likely to face elevated feed and production costs. Pork production is expected to grow 3.9 percent, reaching 4.52 million tons CWE, and it is anticipated that exports will increase by 7.4 percent and domestic production by 2.3 percent.

CATTLE

Production, Supply and Distribution

Animal numbers, cattle	2021		2022		2023	
	Jan 2021		Jan 2022		Jan 2023	
Brazil	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
<i>(* 1000 head)</i>						
Total Cattle Beg. Stks	193195	193195	193,780	193,780	194365	194365
Dairy Cows Beg. Stocks	39400	39400	38720	38720	39020	38960
Beef Cows Beg. Stocks	54600	54600	54900	54900	55150	55280
Production (Calf Crop)	46550	46550	47836	47836	48160	48458
Total Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	239745	239745	241,616	241,616	242525	242823
Total Exports	62	62	150	150	160	160
Cow Slaughter	10000	10000	10050	10050	10300	10260
Calf Slaughter	200	200	300	300	320	300
Other Slaughter	29900	29900	31900	31900	32480	32860
Total Slaughter	40100	40100	42,250	42,250	43100	43420
Loss and Residual	5803	5803	4851	4851	4595	4573
Ending Inventories	193780	193780	194,365	194,365	194670	194670
Total Distribution	239745	239745	241,616	241,616	242525	242823

1.1 – Production

Cattle numbers

Post forecasts that in 2023 total cattle production will grow 1.3 percent, producing 48.5 million cattle head. Considering the beginning stock of 194.4 million head, as well as the production and slaughter numbers for 2022, Post anticipates the ending stocks to remain almost unchanged at 194.7 million head. The new forecast is slightly higher than Post estimated in the last GAIN Livestock report ([BR2022-0054](#)), mainly due to the reduction of certain production costs. For instance, animal feed prices were on a downward trend at the end of 2022, and market projections confirm this trend through 2023. Also, the cost of calves and lean cattle have been falling and should continue so in 2023, which provides an incentive for cattle breeders to expand their herds.

As the Brazilian cattle production cycle reaches its peak, the growing availability of cattle will pressure animal and beef prices downwards this year. From the end of 2022 to early 2023 there were incentives for cattle producers to increase their production, but slaughterhouses had less

income and very small profit margins, due to the low domestic demand. This situation represents challenges for the beef producers and distribution channels in Brazil. Despite the challenging situation domestically in Brazil, high export volumes seen in 2022 and the rising prospects of opening new foreign markets are helping to maintain the business operations of slaughterhouses and exporters lucrative.

As anticipated in the previous GAIN report ([BR2022-0054](#)), Post projects a slaughter rate for 2023 at around 2.8 percent higher than 2022, which is half the increase of 2022, reaching 43.4 million head. The challenges to be faced by the cattle sector in 2023 should be similar to those of 2022, namely: elevated input and operational costs, thin operational margins for cattle breeders, unstable weather that worsen pasture conditions, and low domestic demand for beef.

Factors Affecting Production

The Post forecast of a small increase in cattle production in 2023 is based on these market conditions and trends.

Brazil's Economic Recovery

In 2023, the economic condition of Brazil will represent a modest force in increasing cattle and beef production. The official forecast for Brazil's GDP growth in 2023 is 0.8 percent, lower than projected at the end of 2022. As mentioned in the previous report, despite the slow economic improvement, the demand for beef did not recover in 2022: it remained low in the Brazilian market, due to less income available in the lower-middle classes and high beef retail prices.

The new Brazilian government took office in January of 2023, and one of the first decisions was to extend the government subsidies offered to lower income families during the pandemic crisis, which is currently called 'Auxilio Brasil'. This monthly support allowed many lower-income families to pay for food during the economic hardship. The value of the support is insufficient for most families to purchase beef due to the high prices. However, it may allow an increasing portion of benefitted families to do so this year. With falling unemployment rates, family income is expected to increase, albeit slightly, and so some money may be left for spending on beef products.

Nonetheless, caution is needed in this projection. As seen during the World Cup in December 2022, beef consumption in Brazil was smaller than expected by market analysts, even though beef is usually consumed in the festivities related to watching soccer in Brazil. Post expects that in 2023 domestic beef consumption will increase around 1.7 percent. Low- and middle-income families should begin to have more income available for non-essential expenses as Brazil's economy continues its slow recovery.

Foreign Demand for Beef

As in 2021 and 2022, exports will be the 'escape valve' for beef producers. The constant demand from abroad for Brazilian beef offers assurance to Brazilian beef producers, as the domestic demand remains low.

China will continue being the main buyer, meaning that its behavior has important implications not only for the Brazilian exports, but also for the whole bovine sector. China will continue determining the Brazilian cattle sector's behavior, given that it influences the prices of animals and beef in the sector. The change in China's beef demand often influences the prices in the Brazilian sector, therefore the producers can plan what prices to expect when it is time to sell their animals.

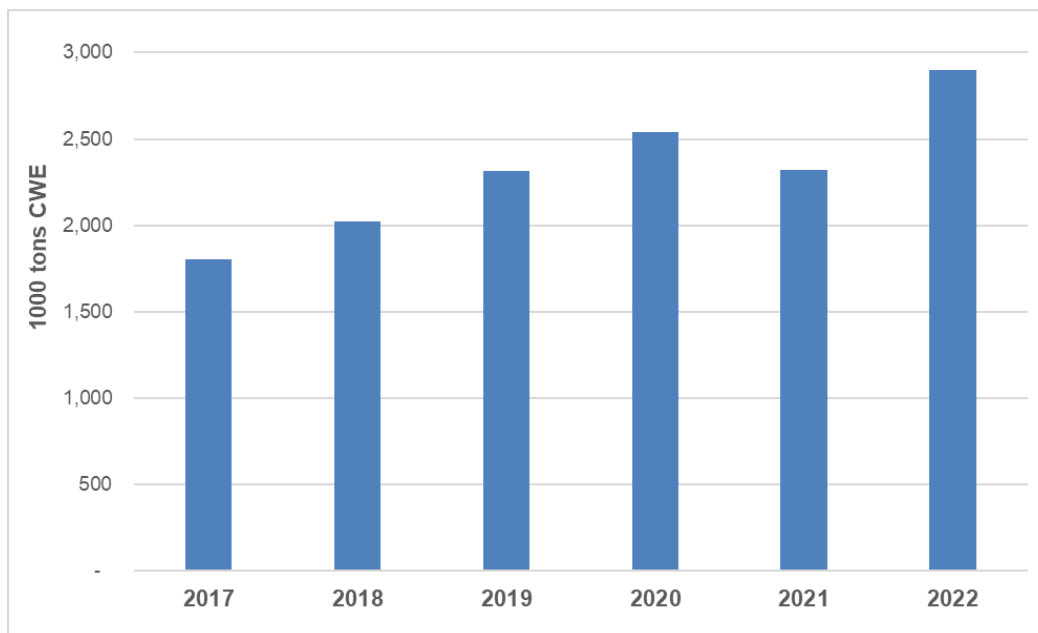
Considering the weight of China on Brazil's beef exports, it is important to monitor China's appetite for beef imports and its domestic production of cattle and beef. In 2021-22, China had unpredictable behavior towards beef imports from Brazil, suspending Brazilian exporting plants for rather obscure and vague reasons (often related to package contamination of COVID). However, in 2023, experts believe that China may pose less obstacles to Brazilian beef imports. According to Brazilian media, the former Brazilian government (of President Bolsonaro) had an undiplomatic stance towards China, and Brazilian analysts believe that this contributed to the latter's decision to suspend several Brazilian beef export plants. On the other hand, after the new government (of President Lula) took office in January 2023, China authorized three new Brazilian slaughterhouses to export beef.

Brazilian beef products continue to be attractive in the global market due to the devalued Brazilian currency, at an average of BRL 5.30 per dollar during 2022. With the new Brazilian government in place, financial institutions project the exchange rate to remain between BRL 5.1 and 5.3 per dollar throughout the year. Therefore, through 2023, Brazilian beef will continue being competitively priced in the global market.

As shown below in Figure 1, Brazil's beef exports experienced steady growth since 2017, which was interrupted in 2021, mainly due to China's ban on beef imports from Brazil. Nonetheless, export volumes recovered the following year and reached 2.9 million tons – which is a 25 percent increase over 2021's volume. The value in U.S. dollars of these exports in 2022 was 41 percent larger than 2021's value, mainly because of the increasing prices of beef in the global market. The average price of beef in 2020 was USD 3.2 per Kg, in 2021 it was USD 3.7 per Kg and the average in 2022 was USD 4.4 per Kg, representing a 39 percent increase during this period.

In 2023, it is anticipated that global demand for beef will remain relatively high and Brazil will continue being an important supplier. Post forecasts an increase of 3.9 percent in Brazilian beef exports in 2023. Although most experts predict a lower demand from China for beef, given that it is increasing its domestic production, the import volume from Brazil will still be significant. China, India and Brazil will have larger cattle production in 2023, while countries like the United States, Australia and other large producers are expected to have lower production. The latter should create opportunities for Brazil in terms of exports. Assuming that China does not impose any embargo on Brazilian beef, and that Asian countries and the United States continue buying more beef from Brazil, then Post anticipates that Brazil's exports will reach 3 million tons.

Figure 1
Brazil's Beef Exports



Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor. Graph Source: OAA Brasilia.

Professional management, financial instruments and animal genetics

Cattle producers are using financial instruments, especially futures contracts, to try to guarantee the financial return for their animal production. Considering that bovine prices fluctuate considerably in the Brazilian market, it is a method for protecting their investments and preventing financial losses, especially considering the tight margins that cattle producers work with. Experts noticed an increasing use of these financial instruments in 2022, especially by producers that are adopting more professional management methods.

Brazilian experts have pointed out that the smaller to medium sized cattle ranchers could benefit greatly from adopting more professional organizational methods. For instance, the traditional operational standard in such properties is to hold onto the cattle until the market prices for animals are favorable, instead of planning specific dates for selling the animals to the market. The latter method – a more professional and business-oriented approach - allows for a higher turn-around of animal production, which often results in higher financial returns.

Since 2019, cattle ranchers have been investing more in improving animal genetics, including cattle genetics, better nutrition and improved animal herding methods. The results of such investments became apparent in 2022, when the cattle supply increased noticeably, especially to restore the cattle herds – the recovery stage of the cattle production cycle. This trend should continue in 2023, as producers develop animals in shorter time periods, with better genetics, that ultimately produces more meat/beef. It is worth noting that there are several government and private-sector initiatives to disseminate animal genetic improvement programs. These seek to

facilitate the acquisition of the inputs or technologies, disseminate the benefits of improving animal genetics and offer technical support to cattle breeders.

Challenges and Risks Faced by the Cattle Sector

As in 2022, Post anticipates cattle producers and slaughterhouses, will face a few challenges and risks in 2023.

In general, the main challenges are those related to matters external to the livestock properties, i.e. related to logistics, market prices and conditions, domestic and foreign demand, among others. Although cattle producers can have efficient and productive operations, the success of their business will depend on external factors that may have significant impacts. Any small mistake or risk can cause financial losses to their whole operation. Thus, the risks and challenges faced by the Brazilian cattle producers are significant.

Weather conditions

Similar to 2022, climate experts believe that the effects of the *La Niña* on national weather patterns will cause some risks to Brazilian agriculture in 2023. This climate phenomenon is expected to begin having impacts from April onwards. In 2022, it caused significant droughts in the south of Brazil, especially in the winter season, but also abundant and excess rain in the southeast and center-west of the country. The drought had two effects on cattle ranchers: poor pasture conditions reduced the natural feed available for the cattle; and the production losses caused to crops like corn and soybeans raised the feed costs for the ranchers. The poor pasture, together with high feed costs (corn and soybeans), pressured producers into holding their cattle longer until they could reach market weight.

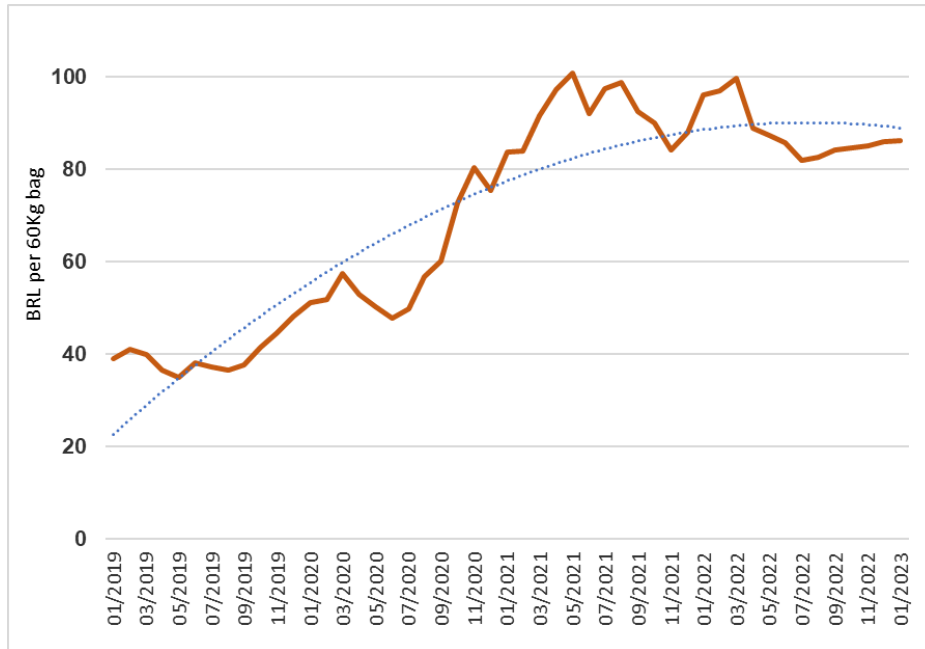
In January 2023, dry weather in the south of the country started to cause significant harm to farmers, including livestock production. Corn and soy production of the region is already expected to be lower in the current harvest. Considering that corn and soybeans are used as cattle feed, especially in the south, it is expected that this may affect cattle and beef production in this region (which accounts for 12 percent of total cattle slaughter).

Inflation and Production Costs

In continuation from 2022, cattle production costs, especially feed inputs and animal costs, are expected to remain elevated, yet begin to reduce throughout the year. Although the costs of inputs, such as animal feed, are already in a downward trend since Q3 of 2022, only in the middle of 2023 are such costs expected to reach a more reasonable level, i.e. similar to those before the pandemic crisis.

Cattle feed costs in Brazil stabilized at the end of 2022, and experts believe they will fall throughout 2023. Figure 2 below shows that the price of corn has begun a downward trend in 2022 and was BRL 85 (USD 16.3) per 60 Kg bag in January 2023. Market analysts point to a gradual reduction of these prices until the end of the year.

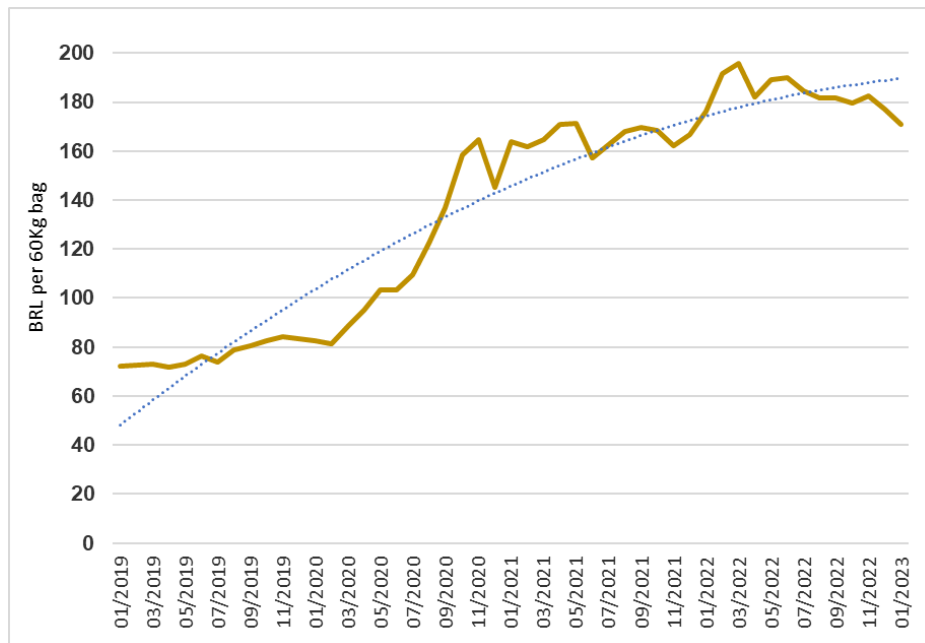
Figure 2
Corn Prices in Brazil (monthly)



Data source: CEPEA, corn price indicator Esalq/BM&F-Bovespa. Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Soybean prices have also fluctuated in 2022 yet began a downward trend in the second half of the year and reached BRL 170 (USD 32.7) per 60 Kg bag in January 2023. Like corn, experts believe these prices will continue to fall throughout 2023.

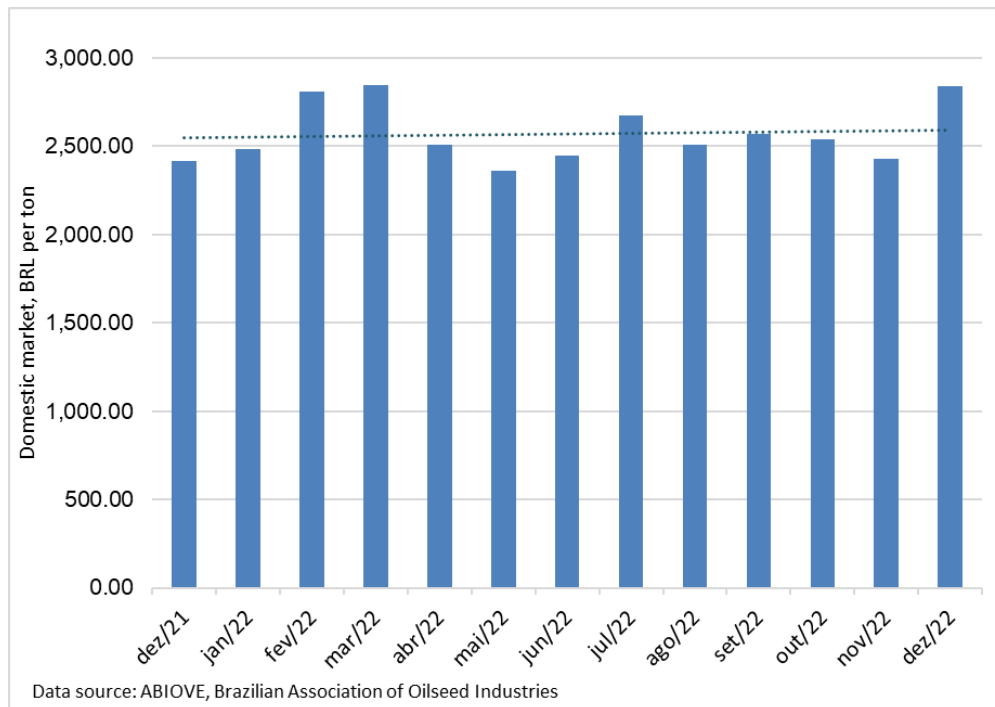
Figure 3
Soybean Prices in Brazil (monthly)



Data source: CEPEA, soybean price indicator Esalq–Parana. Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Soybean meal prices, however, have had some fluctuations along 2022, but remained rather stable along the year, as shown in Figure 4. These prices should also fall, together with the reduction in soybean prices.

Figure 4
Soybean Meal Prices in Brazil

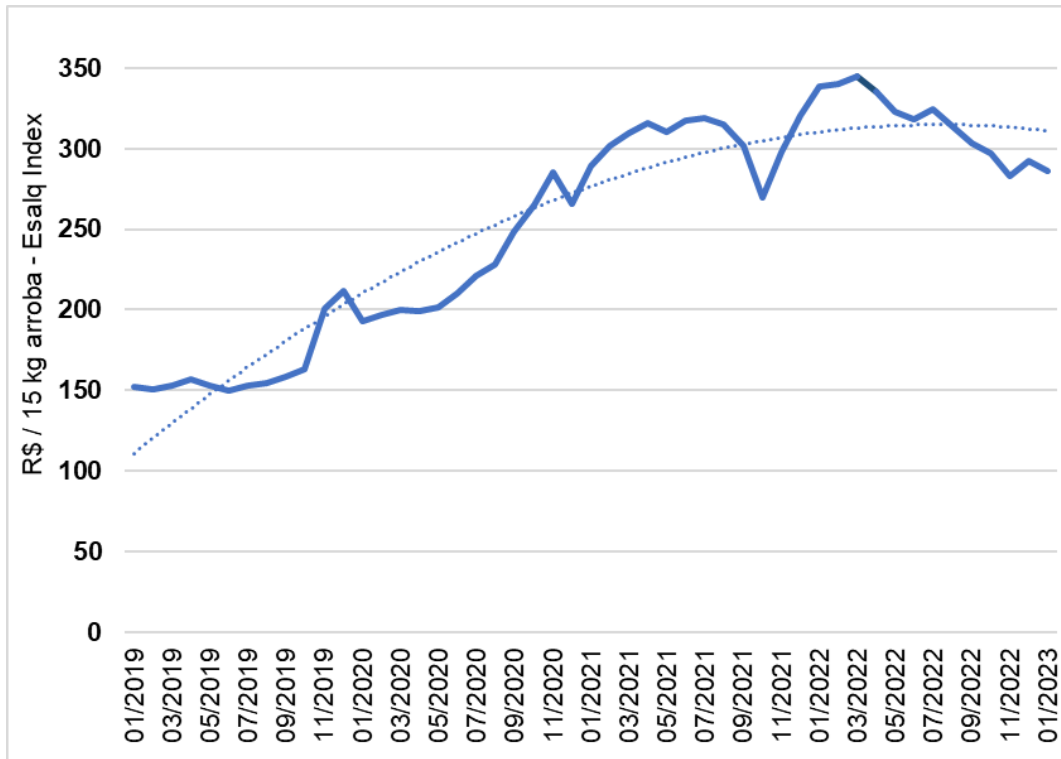


Data source: ABIOVE, Brazilian Association of Oilseed Industries. Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Most of Brazil's cattle uses open pastures, meaning that the influence of these two inputs on overall cattle production costs are rather limited. Nonetheless, maintaining pasture conditions often requires fertilizers, whose prices underwent significant increases in 2022. Fortunately, fertilizer prices fell in the last quarter of 2022, and experts believe they will continue falling in 2023. In January 2023, average prices of the main fertilizers were at around half the peak prices seen between May and July 2022. As explained the previous GAIN report ([BR2022-0054](#)), Brazil managed to secure sufficient fertilizers in 2022 by negotiating with various supplier-countries. Therefore, it is unlikely that 2023 will have risks of insufficient fertilizer supplies in the Brazilian market. It is worth noting that irrigation for cattle pastures is increasing in Brazil: over four years it grew from one percent to five percent of all irrigated land (eight million hectares) in the country.

As a consequence of elevated production costs, cattle animal prices were high in 2022, as shown in Figures 5 and 6 below. However, in line with the decreasing input costs, animal prices are expected to fall in 2023. Indeed, Figure 5 shows that the fed cattle prices began a downward direction July 2022. In January 2023, the average index was BRL 280 (USD 54 at the current exchange rate) per 'arroba' (unit of weight corresponding to 33 pounds).

Figure 5
Average Monthly Fed Cattle Prices

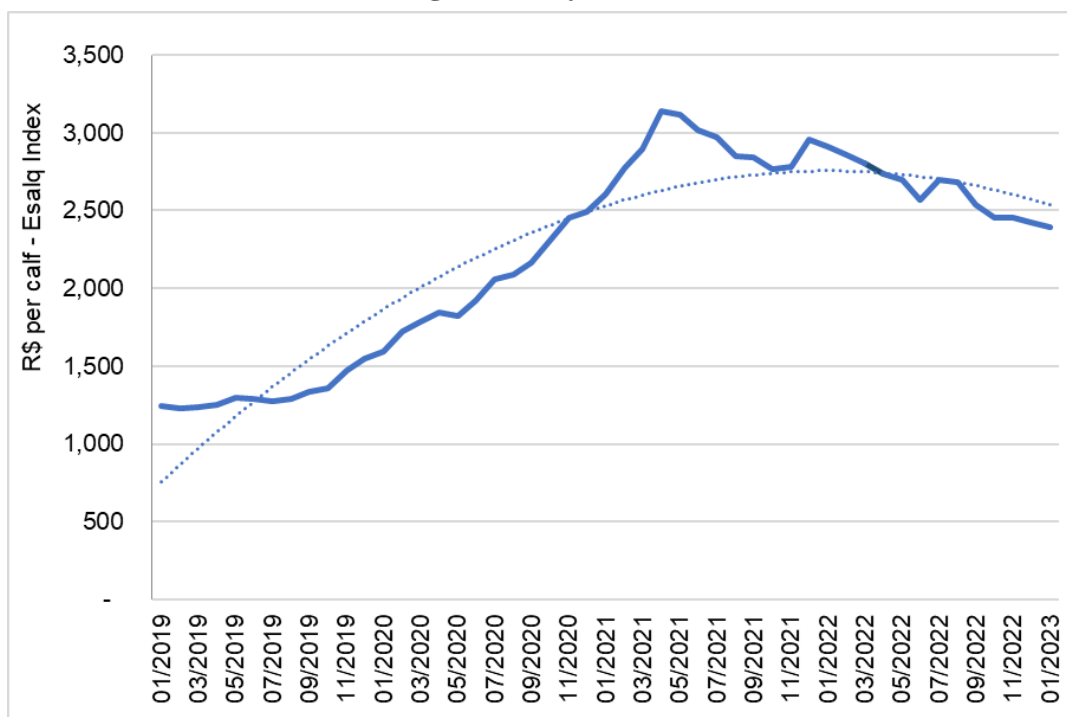


Data source: CEPEA, Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Figure 6 shows that calf prices in Brazil also began a falling trend in 2022, though starting from an earlier stage of the year. In January 2023, the price per calf was BRL 2,400 (USD 462). Experts believe this trend will continue in 2023.

Normally there is a difference in the prices of cattle in the center-west region and the southeast region, due to different factors. The ‘China-steer standard’ (i.e. that meets the requirements of the Chinese importers) usually receives higher prices due to the export values received in US dollars. In 2021, the difference in cattle prices between these two regions was R\$ 17 per arroba, while in 2022 the difference grew to R\$ 38 per arroba. Since mid-2022, the prices of cattle in Center-West have been around BRL 270 per arroba, while in Sao Paulo state prices are BRL 280-300 per arroba. Sao Paulo state has more slaughterhouses focused on exports, compared to the center west region, so the slaughterhouses in Sao Paulo are willing to pay higher prices for cattle that have the proper standard for exports (especially the ‘China-steer’) – which explains part of the regional difference in prices. The other reason was the elevated logistical costs in 2022 – which are less burdensome to beef producers in Sao Paulo state that are located close to the ports.

Figure 6
Average Monthly Calf Prices



Data source: CEPEA, Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Many cattle producers in Brazil have very tight profit margins. In São Paulo state, the average revenue per animal is around BRL 5 (USD \$1) per arroba above the production costs. Given all of the associated risks of operating in this market, the chances of making a profit are slim. On the other hand, producers in the Center-west are receiving a larger profit margin, due to the larger scale of their operations, the lower input costs that are acquired in the region, and the higher prices received from exports.

Sanitary Risks

The risk of diseases breaking out in Brazil's cattle is almost negligible. Diseases, such as foot-and-mouth disease, have been under control over the years, as both the private sector and government take the respective measures seriously.

As stated in the previous GAIN report ([BR2022-0054](#)), Brazil decided in April 2022 to classify the states of Espírito Santo, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Federal District and Tocantins, as 'free from FMD (Foot-and-Mouth-Disease)' without vaccination. Although this was positive news, much celebrated by the livestock sector, it brings a certain risk. In order to maintain the threat of the disease under control, a very rigorous monitoring and control system needs to be kept in place. The goal is for Brazil to become completely free of FMD without vaccination by 2026. Currently, in Brazil, only the states of Santa Catarina, Paraná, Rio Grande do Sul, Acre, Rondônia and parts of Amazonas and Mato Grosso have the OIE certification of FMD-free without vaccination.

Regional Context

In 2022, all of cattle-growing regions of the country faced challenges of rising input and operational costs, increasing loan interest rates, decreasing domestic demand for beef and uncertain foreign demand for Brazilian exports. Yet, each region faces different situations. As in 2022, cattle growers in the south continue facing issues with dry weather: in January 2023, dry weather caused losses to cattle ranchers, as their animals did not fatten appropriately during the slaughtering stage, and poor pasture conditions posed difficulties for animal reproduction stages. On the other hand, in the center-west region, the largest cattle-growing region that accounts for 35 percent of national production, producers are having fewer difficulties facing the current challenges, in part because of their larger structures and availability of financial resources. In addition, given that they rely more on pastureland for cattle grazing, and less on cattle feeding or confinement, the pressure from the high feed costs has been and will continue to be lower. Nonetheless, the larger focus of these cattle ranchers on exports means that they face risks related to the international markets and trade operations. In 2023, Post does not anticipate any significant changes in the quantities or composition of cattle production in the different regions of the country.

Cattle Confinement Expansion to Remain Limited

In 2022, cattle confinement (in feedlots) fell around seven percent in terms of volume, to around 6.1 million head (around eight percent of total cattle head), mainly due to the elevated costs of animal feed. However, in 2023, there are indications that cattle confinement will expand. The elevated animal feed costs, along with the general high operational costs in 2022 made the confinement activity more expensive and less profitable. As calf prices are on a downward trend, which is expected to continue in 2023, confinement becomes more profitable to cattle producers. Also, animal feed costs are also on a downward trend (as seen in the section above), meaning that confinement becomes more financially viable.

For 2023, Post anticipates a small increase in confined cattle, up to 6.6 million cattle head, eight percent larger than the previous year. In Brazil, confined cattle represent around 1 - 1.2 million tons of beef produced. In 2023, the main states that use confinement should continue to be Mato Grosso, São Paulo and Goiás.

There has been a slow movement towards the usage of confinement operations in the major cattle regions of the country. A few Brazilian experts say that confinement in the finishing stages of the cattle cycle can reduce cattle lifecycle by one year, thereby reducing maintenance costs, and generating more fat in the meat, which results in better quality. Also, it reduces the number of heavy animals on pastureland. In the smaller to medium sized confinement properties, better management and planning are required. The tight operational margins require such professionalism in the business operations. Also, given that confinement operations are still relatively new in Brazil, there is much space for improvement, especially through technical training and adoption of best practices, whether Brazilian or foreign.

Slaughter and Supply

Post expects that slaughter rates in 2023 will increase by 2.8 percent, due to lower animal prices and constant elevated demand. The expectation is that 43.2 million head be slaughtered in 2023, with an increase of 2.1 percent in cow slaughter. The consequence in the final part of the year (and in 2024) is that there should be a lower availability of cattle in the market. In turn this should lead to a downward trend in the cattle production cycle. As cattle prices are on a downward trend since Q3 2022, cattle owners increase the slaughter of female cattle/cows, which consequently leads to lower animal availability thereafter.

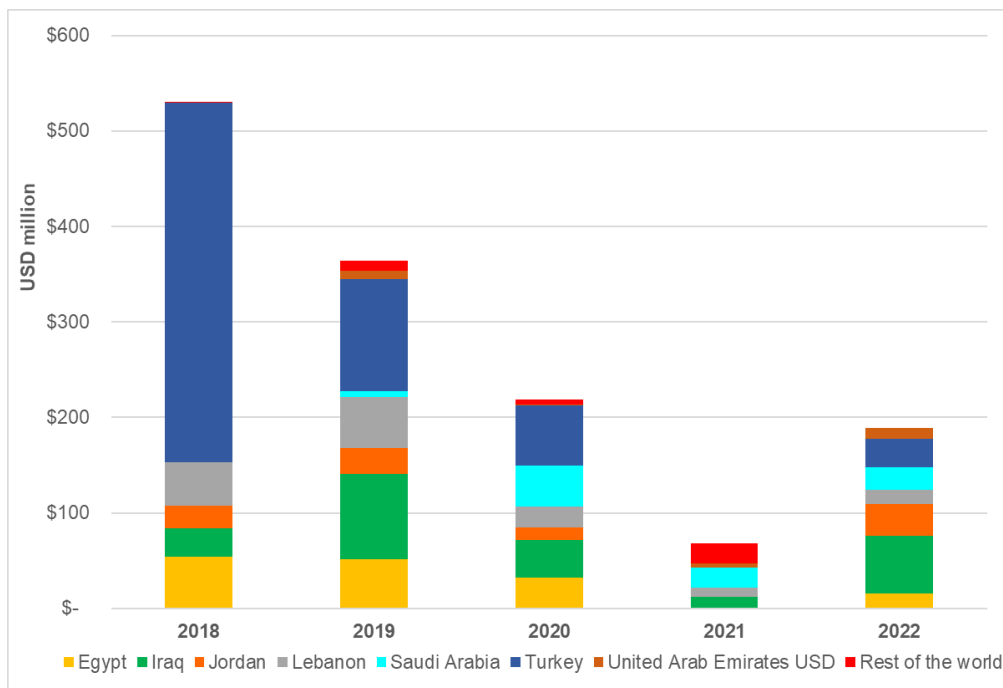
As described above, in 2023, animal prices paid by slaughterhouses is expected to fall to lower levels – similar to those of 2020. The knock-on effect will be lower prices of beef and beef products at the retail level.

1.2 – Trade

Exports

After the pandemic crisis, as economies recover, the demand for live cattle grew. Indeed, as Figure 7 shows, Brazil exported many more live cattle animals in 2022 compared to the previous year. Brazil's live cattle exports were USD 190 million, almost 150 percent larger than 2021. Nonetheless, in 2023 Post believes exports of live cattle will increase only slightly, around seven percent. Brazil's exports are under tariff HS Code 0102.29.90 – 'Other live cattle', and sold mainly to developing countries, especially in the Middle East, as shown in the graph below.

Figure 7
Brazilian Exports – Bovine Animals



Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor. Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Imports

Brazil imports a very small volume of live animals, mostly for improved genetics for breeding. In 2022, as in 2021, all of the imports were supplied by the United States. In terms of value, imports in 2022 were USD 534 thousand, which is 34 percent smaller than 2021. In 2021, Brazil imported 72 units of cattle from the United States, and 59 heads in 2022, under the tariff HS Code 0102.21.90 ('Other pure-bred cattle, for breeding'). Brazil has also been a long-time importer of bovine genetics and a traditional market for U.S. cattle genetics exports. Genetic improvement by artificial insemination is a technique being used in Brazil to enhance productivity.

Table 1
Brazilian Imports – Live Cattle (in USD)

Country	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	98,015	10,000	24,000	113,458	429,679	805,464	534,366
Argentina	15,050	35,085	33,225	-	60,781	-	-
Uruguay	1,898,092	104,835	20,868	15,982	-	-	-
Total	2,011,157	149,920	78,093	129,440	490,460	805,464	534,366

Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor

2. BEEF

Production, Supply and Distribution

Meat, Beef and Veal	2021		2022		2023	
	Jan 2021		Jan 2022		Jan 2023	
Brazil	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
(* 1000 MT CWE)						
Slaughter (Reference) (1000 Head)	40100	40100	42,250	42,250	43100	43420
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	9750	9750	10350	10350	10560	10570
Total Imports	62	62	72	72	75	66
Total Supply	9812	9812	10422	10422	10635	10636
Total Exports	2320	2320	2898	2898	3000	3012
Human Dom. Consumption	7492	7492	7524	7524	7635	7624
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	7492	7492	7524	7524	7635	7594
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution	9812	9812	10422	10422	10635	10636

Note: On February 23rd, Brazil suspended its beef exports to China after detecting an isolated, atypical case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). This suspension is a requirement of a bilateral agreement. Despite the ongoing suspension, the forecast is based on past behavior.

2.1 – Production

Brazilian beef production in 2023 is expected to increase 2.1 percent, reaching 10.57 million tons Carcass Weight Equivalent (CWE). The increase in production is expected due to the elevated global demand, constant demand from Brazilian consumers, and because of higher cattle availability for slaughter. At the end of 2022, the average weight per animal that arrived at the slaughterhouses was slightly lower than the average of recent years, because of the increasing slaughter rate and the elevated feed costs.

The higher availability of cattle and elevated beef prices provided an incentive for slaughterhouses to increase their beef production in 2022. Indeed, beef production grew over six percent in 2022. In 2023, slaughterhouses should continue to have such an incentive, and profit from larger beef production.

2.2 – Consumption

Post forecast beef consumption to increase 1.3 percent in 2023, to 7.6 million tons. Considering that the Brazilian economy is expected to grow only between 0.8 and 1 percent in 2023, the average family income will unlikely be sufficient to allow for significant increases in beef

consumption. Nonetheless, as explained above, the prices of beef should be lower than in 2022, meaning that more people could afford this more expensive meat option.

In 2023, the consumption of beef, pork and chicken should remain similar to that of 2022. In the initial months of 2023, consumption of beef and pork are expected to be slightly higher, due to the lowering of prices. Beef prices have remained high for a long time, so the sector is anxious for the lowering of retail prices to lead to an increase in its consumption. Experts of the poultry sector expect market prices of chicken meat to continue elevated in 2023, meaning that beef and pork should maintain an advantage in the market among Brazilian consumers. The retail prices of beef went through a small decrease in the second half of 2022, similar to the case of pork. On the other hand, chicken prices continued rising throughout 2022.

2.3 – Trade

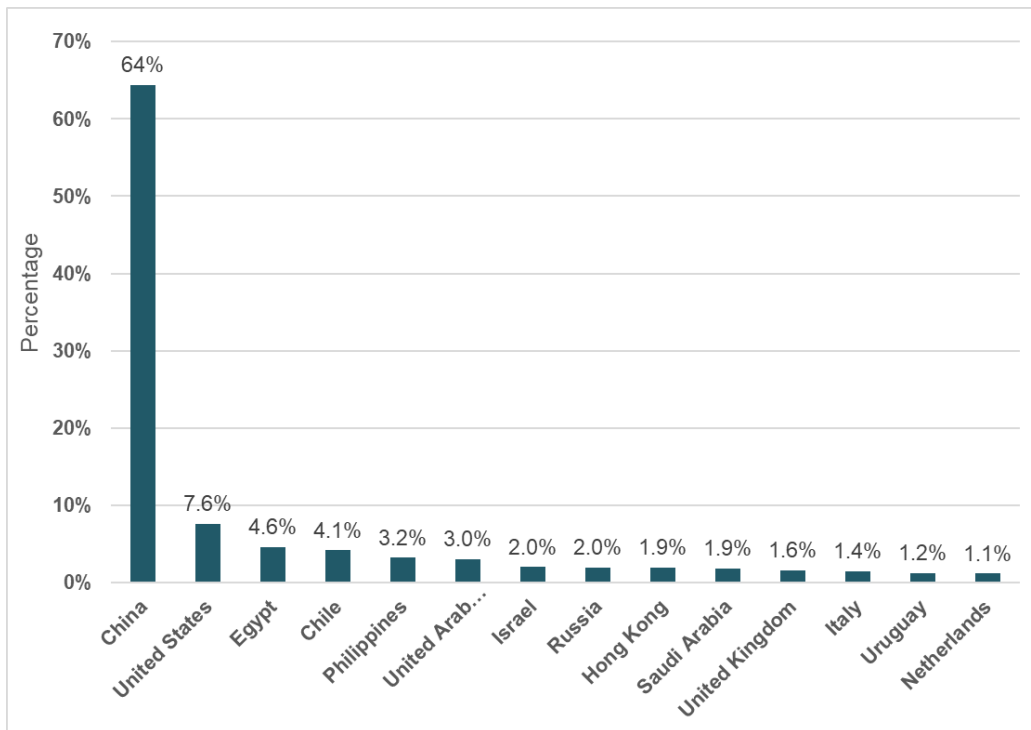
Exports

For 2023, Post forecasts a 3.9 percent increase in beef exports, to 3.01 million tons CWE, mainly due to the elevated global demand for beef, together with the new market access recently obtained by Brazil, and new ones to occur along the year. The foreign market is gaining importance for Brazilian beef exports: in 2021, exports represented 24.4 percent of total beef production, while in 2022 it represented 28 percent, and is expected to be 28.3 percent in 2023.

There is much expectation from the sector that Brazil continues exporting large volumes of beef in 2023. There is optimism related to the new markets that were opened over recent months for beef exports, including Mexico, Turkey, Indonesia, among others. Indonesia and China recently authorized several processing plants to export beef to their markets, representing large populations. In January 2023, Russia – through its customs union Eurasian Customs Union - opened a beef quota of 100 thousand tons, available to all countries. Brazil is expected to meet most of the quota, considering its favorable prices.

Indeed, Brazilian beef prices ensure its competitive advantage in the global market. Export prices of beef fell from USD 7,000 per ton, in June 2022, to around USD 5,000 per ton in December. Part of the reason was that in the last quarter of 2022 China began renegotiating its contracts with Brazilian beef exporters. The most likely trend for these prices is downwards, given that in 2023 there will be increasing availability of cattle and beef in Brazil.

Figure 14
Brazilian Beef Exports – destinations by percentage – Jan-Aug 2022

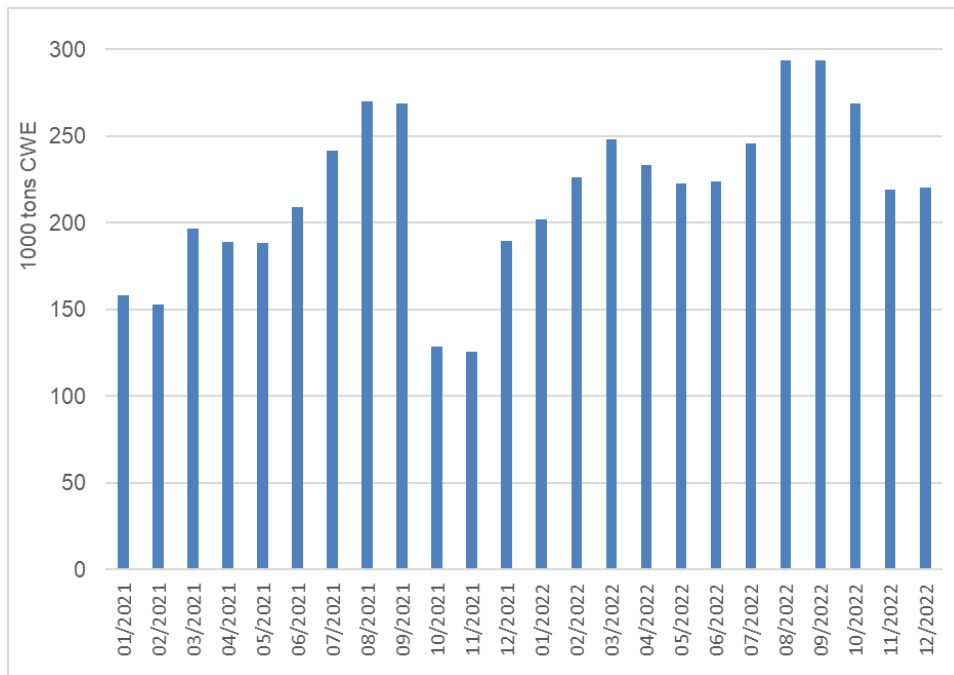


Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor

In 2022, Brazil exported a total of 2.9 million tons of beef CWE, which is 25 percent greater than 2021's volume. The value of these exports reached US\$ 12.9 billion in 2022, which is 41 percent larger than in 2021. As Figure 15 shows, the top markets for Brazilian beef in 2022 were, in order: China, United States, Egypt, Chile, the Philippines and the United Arab Emirates. Chinese demand in 2022 accounted for 64 percent of the total exports, followed by the United States with 7.6 percent, and Egypt in the third position with 4.6 percent of all Brazilian beef exports. Although beef exports to the United States in the first half of 2022 were impressive – around 33 percent larger than the same period in 2021 – this performance fell in the second half of the year. The total amount exported in volume was 4.3 percent lower than in 2021.

In 2023, China's imports are expected to decrease somewhat because the country will become less dependent on imports. China's domestic production is expected to increase from 7.1 million tons of beef in 2022 to 7.5 million tons in 2023. The graph below shows how Brazil's beef exports fluctuate along the year, partly due to the variations in China's demand. For instance, the sudden drop in exports in Q3 2021 was because of China's import suspension on Brazil's beef exports. Also, China's reduced demand for beef in the end of 2022 is reflected in the falling amounts of Brazil's exports in the graph below.

Figure 15
Brazilian Beef Exports per month



Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor.

After China stopped importing beef from Brazil at the end of 2021, the sudden drop in demand forced Brazil to develop new export destinations, which it managed to do, as the increasing export volumes to Philippines, the United States, Egypt and Israel in Table 2 show. On February 23rd of 2023, Brazil suspended its beef exports to China after detecting a cow with bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). There were indications that it was an isolated and atypical case, which represents no risk to other cattle or consumers. However, the suspension is a requirement of a bilateral agreement between Brazil and China. Experts believe the suspension will last around a month's time, given that China has strong interest in continuing to import Brazilian beef, and because of the favorable diplomatic relations between the two countries. A one-month suspension in beef exports to China would represent a loss of around 200 thousand tons CWE, however, the net loss to Brazil should be about half the amount because (i) part of the suspended exports would be exported to China as soon as the suspension is lifted (which is what happened in 2021), and (ii) Brazilian exporters would divert some of the beef to other countries.

In 2022, the revenues from beef exports have increased at a higher rate (+ 41 percent) than the export volumes (+ 25 percent), because beef prices increased during the year. Beef prices are expected to remain relatively high in 2023, although prices began a downward trend at the end of 2022.

Table 2
Brazilian Exports – Beef (1000 tons CWE)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
China	287,299	438,323	676,835	1,181,438	983,584	1,683,474
United States	61,458	56,425	68,316	97,112	207,709	198,793
Hong Kong	340,572	381,223	305,817	285,173	184,811	49,665
Chile	88,086	156,201	150,318	123,128	150,513	108,344
Egypt	200,642	236,590	210,168	166,671	94,427	119,057
Un. Arab Emirates	29,773	52,118	98,261	54,435	65,954	78,157
Philippines	13,421	37,388	47,923	54,147	63,178	83,886
Saudi Arabia	56,593	57,522	57,238	54,813	53,851	48,378
Israel	24,749	24,654	34,966	33,128	46,427	52,362
Italy	39,948	44,083	43,215	37,012	40,119	37,120
Russia	187,680	4,964	86,623	72,300	38,078	51,522
United Kingdom	44,476	48,467	42,378	43,767	37,691	41,275
Singapore	24,435	24,547	28,305	28,142	34,335	29,259
Uruguay	5,883	18,730	38,379	35,925	31,145	32,592
Netherlands	30,416	31,071	25,541	30,215	30,389	29,752
Other countries	367,885	408,550	399,807	241,975	257,523	254,292
Total	1,803,316	2,020,856	2,314,090	2,539,381	2,319,734	2,897,928

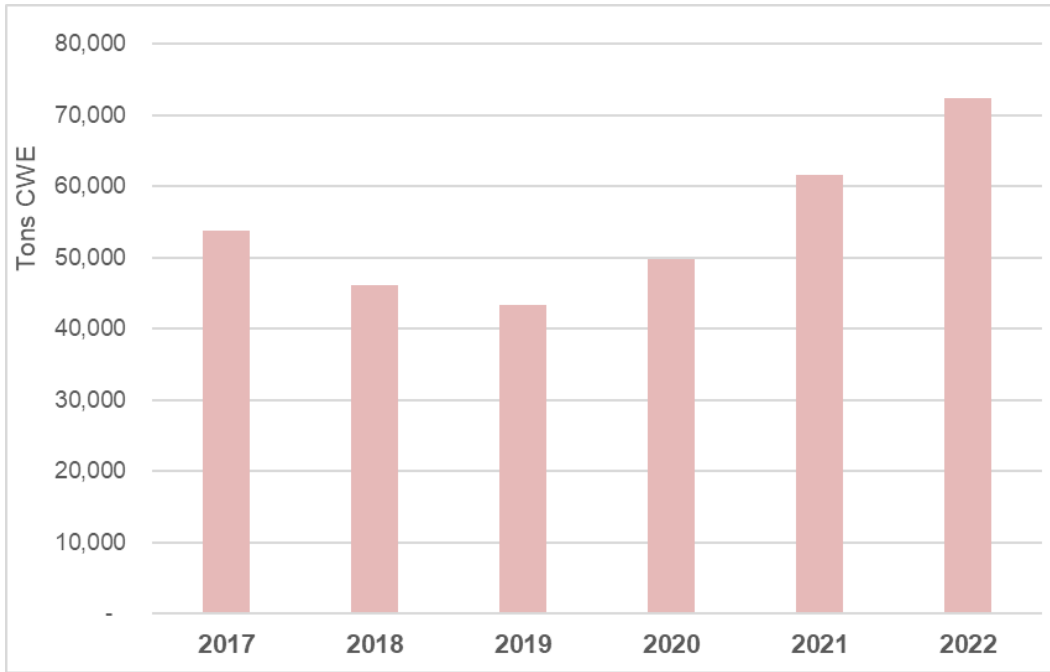
Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor

Imports

Brazil's beef imports represent a tiny amount (0.8 percent) of its domestic supply, and only 2.5 percent of the volume it exports. Brazil's main suppliers of beef are the neighboring countries of Paraguay, Argentina, and Uruguay. Beef imports from these markets benefit from lower transportation costs, as well as Mercosur's duty-free import regime. Together, these three countries represented 97 percent of imports in 2022. Brazil also imported beef from Australia, the United States and Poland. Exports from the United States increased noticeably in 2022, compared to 2021, with an increase in 126 percent in volume and by 177 percent in USD value. Nonetheless, the value of USD 1.88 million in 2022 represent only 0.5 percent of the imports.

In 2022, total import value grew 40 percent to USD 382 million. In 2023, however, beef imports are expected to be lower than 2022's volume. Post forecasts a seven percent reduction, resulting in a volume of 66 thousand tons. The larger domestic production expected for the year, together with the growing options of premium cuts made from Brazilian producers, will lower demand for imported beef. There are increasing Brazilian producers of gourmet prime beef. The large beef companies (like Marfrig and JBS) have developed categories of prime-quality meats to sell to the niche market. These companies sell increasingly more to domestic consumers, while imported prime cuts are more often sold to restaurants.

Figure 16
Brazilian Beef Imports (Tons CWE)



Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor

3. SWINE

Production, Supply and Distribution

Animal numbers, Swine	2021		2022		2023	
Market Begin Year	Jan 2021		Jan 2022		Jan 2023	
Brazil	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
<i>(* 1000 head)</i>						
Total Beginning Stocks	37350	37350	35688	35688	34250	34250
Sow Beginning Stocks	3010	3010	2980	2980	3040	3014
Production (Pig Crop)	44515	44515	44850	44850	46000	45915
Total Imports	2	2	2	2	3	2
Total Supply	81867	81867	80540	80540	80253	80167
Total Exports	2	2	3	3	3	3
Sow Slaughter	140	140	150	150	140	140
Other Slaughter	44900	44900	45000	45000	45680	45700
Total Slaughter	45040	45040	45150	45150	45820	45840
Loss and Residual	1137	1137	1137	1137	1130	1074
Ending Inventories	35688	35688	34250	34250	33300	33250
Total Distribution	81867	81867	80540	80540	80253	80167

3.1 – Production

In 2023, Post forecasts swine production to increase by 2.4 percent, reaching 45.9 million head. Although swine production remains a risky and almost unprofitable activity, there are two main factors that should lead to this increase in animal production. The demand for pork meat in the global market is elevated, while the demand in the Brazilian market is foreseen to remain relatively warm, and the prices of swine animals is due to increase during 2023.

Another important factor to consider is production cost, especially animal feed, which represents over 80 percent of the total cost of production for swine producers in Brazil. However, these indicators so far are nebulous, as prices of corn and soybeans remain stable and there are conflicting forces that may pressure prices upwards or downwards over the coming months. The risk of a production fall of these two crops in the south of Brazil, due to the drought in January, together with increasing foreign demand for these crops, would lead to higher prices. However, the prospects of larger harvest in Brazil's total production of these two crops, together with the falling trend of production costs, pressure their prices downwards.

In 2023, the high prices of corn and soybeans made most swine producers have difficulty closing their balance sheets with a positive profit margin. The market anticipates that those margins may improve in the middle of 2023 onwards.

In first half of 2022, swine prices were very low (below BRL 6 [USD 1.1] per Kg), as exports fell, causing much financial despair to producers. In the second half of 2022, exports increased and domestic production fell, leading to increases in pork prices.

These are the factors most likely to influence the production of swine in 2023.

Economy and Market demand

As described in the Cattle section of this report, Brazil's economy is expected to grow a modest one percent in 2023. A positive aspect of this rather gloomy outlook is that the lower income available in most households may force them to purchase the cheaper protein option in the market, namely pork. Indeed, during the economic crisis of the pandemic, the consumption of pork increased in Brazil, especially because of rising prices of beef and chicken meat. The new Brazilian government which took office in January 2023, is set to adopt an economic policy that stimulates consumption in general, including food, which may favor pork sales.

In 2023, the prices of chicken and beef are likely to undergo small reductions throughout the year. In order to remain competitive in the Brazilian market, the prices of pork meat need to also be reduced. Brazilian consumers have a preference for beef, considered a noble meat, then chicken, and lastly pork. Therefore, unless there is a financial incentive, most Brazilian consumers will not prefer pork over the other protein options. Nonetheless, over recent years, the sector began offering a greater variety of pork cuts, which are raising the consumers' interest in trying them. As a pork sector representative said, a recent study showed that once consumers try a 'picanha suina', i.e. a rump-steak of pork, 80 percent of them would continue buying the pork cut. In other words, there is much room for companies to promote pork meat among Brazilian consumers.

Production Costs

The Brazilian swine sector experienced high inflation rates in 2022 related to production costs, especially for feed inputs, animal transportation costs, and operation costs. In 2022, corn prices oscillated between BRL 84 and 100 (USD 16 to 19) per 60-kilogram (kg) bag, compared to the average of BRL 40 (USD 7.7) per bag before the pandemic crisis; soybean prices have remained relatively stable between BRL 180 and BRL 195 (USD 34.6 and 37.5) per 60-Kg bag, compared to the average of BRL 80 (USD 15.3) per bag before the pandemic crisis. Such elevated feed costs pressure the overall production costs, which have increased from BRL 7 (USD 1.35) per Kg in December 2021 to BRL 7.9 (USD 1.52) per Kg in March 2022. Despite the fluctuations, the average costs remained around 12 percent higher than the average of 2021.

Swine producers' profit margins improved somewhat in 2022 because corn and soybean prices decreased slightly in 2022. The larger swine availability has reduced hog animal prices by around 15 percent. In 2022, higher prices of pork meat resulted in many swine producers choosing to slaughter their sows in order to receive more favorable revenues. The sow population slaughtered in this period represented around 11 percent of the total swine population, which is significant. The resulting drop in animal supply in the market in 2022 caused upward pressure on animal prices.

In 2022, Brazil’s general inflation continued to be high, although the official statistics registered a six percent figure for the year. The main production related costs remained at elevated levels, including electricity costs, transportation costs, feed prices, animal transportation costs, among other items relevant for livestock production. According to Brazil’s agriculture research agency, Embrapa, corn costs began to decrease in 2022, from BRL 2 (USD 0.38) per Kg to BRL 1.60 (USD 0.3) per Kg in December, as the table below shows. On the other hand, soybean prices fluctuated in 2022 and reached BRL 2.93 (USD 0.56) per Kg in December. Similarly, hog prices fluctuated and finished the year at BRL 5.95 (USD 1.1) per Kg. The average production costs in 2022 were higher than in 2021, having increased from BRL 7.48 (USD 1.4) per Kg in January to BRL 8.07 (USD 1.5) per Kg in December, i.e. a 15 percent increase. Overall, Brazilian swine producers faced high costs in their production along the year, resulting in lower profit margins. In 2023, financial margins of swine and pork producers should fluctuate at a level slightly below those of 2022.

Table 3
Prices of Inputs and Production Costs - Swine

Prices for Santa Catarina State - R\$/Kg													
	Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hog Live Weight	2020	4.61	4.54	4.64	4.58	4.51	4.51	4.67	4.88	5.23	5.63	6.76	6.84
	2021	6.66	6.44	6.37	6.17	6.41	6.36	6.45	6.45	6.41	6.35	6.27	6.24
	2022	5.91	5.27	5.10	5.50	5.10	5.10	5.61	5.72	5.73	5.74	5.93	5.95
Corn	2020	0.81	0.84	0.84	0.83	0.83	0.82	0.86	0.94	1.01	1.22	1.42	1.35
	2021	1.46	1.48	1.52	1.71	1.77	1.61	1.73	1.79	1.72	1.67	1.61	1.63
	2022	2	1.78	1.78	1.62	1.60	1.59	1.53	1.57	1.58	1.60	1.61	1.60
Soybean Meal	2020	1.49	1.46	1.60	1.86	1.92	1.91	1.95	1.98	2.07	2.6	2.89	2.76
	2021	2.89	3.13	2.95	2.64	2.66	2.50	2.54	2.39	2.3	2.29	2.22	2.23
	2022	2.61	2.85	3.00	2.80	2.61	2.65	2.69	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.8	2.93
Production Costs (full cycle)	2020	4.27	4.32	4.44	4.6	4.64	4.62	4.73	5.04	5.37	6.17	6.77	6.56
	2021	6.63	6.88	6.87	7.03	7.3	6.82	7.1	7.12	6.87	6.8	6.65	7.00
	2022	7.48	7.64	7.9	7.49	7.34	7.34	7.63	7.64	7.8	7.85	7.99	8.07

Data Source: EMBRAPA Avian and Swine Central Intelligence

As Table 4 shows, Embrapa’s index for swine production costs, called *ICPSuínos*, indicates a 15 percent growth in swine production costs in 2022, while feed costs increased 13 percent. Nutrition expenses account for 80 percent of total production costs.

Table 4
Swine Production Costs - 2022

Swine Production Costs - December 2022		
Item	Jan-Dec 2022	Percentage of total
Nutrition (feed)	13.2%	79.6%
Maintenance/ Financial/ Funrural	20.9%	3.2%
Transportation	5.70%	2.7%
Labor	20.60%	3.3%
Capital Cost	55.9	4.1%
Others	10.80%	2.2%
Depreciation	78%	3.6%
Sanitary	-42.70%	0.7%
Electric Energy/ Heating	7.50%	0.53%
Total	+15.3%	100%

Data Source: EMBRAPA Swine and Poultry, ICPSuíños.

Swine producers in the South are rather pessimistic regarding the operational costs in 2023, expecting financial margins to remain very thin throughout the year. Besides the mild climatic risks that experts foresee for the year, there are risks of elevated animal feed costs. Both poultry and swine face similar problems in the South relating to high cost of production – especially the feed costs. To address this, the private sector created a working group in early 2022 to discuss ways to increase animal feed during winter periods. Producers therefore developed programs to stimulate production of wheat and triticale to use as feed. Also, a new project is underway to grow irrigated corn.

The tight financial margins of operations are especially thin for independent swine producers, i.e. those that are not integrated to the large companies with slaughterhouses. Nonetheless, in second half of 2022, despite the elevated production costs, the growth in exports allowed for better, despite small, profit margins.

Weather conditions

As described in the cattle section of this report, Brazil’s agriculture is likely to suffer some consequences of the *La Niña*, most likely droughts and excess rain in different regions of the country. Nonetheless, the effects are due to be milder in 2023, compared to 2022. Although *La Niña* is expected to influence the weather until February 2023, the effects should be mild on soybean and corn production, given that the regions most affected are in Rio Grande do Sul and the northeast, both of which produce a relatively small portion of these crops.

Sanitary Risks

Though relatively small, the risk of diseases breaking out in Brazil's swine sector is not completely negligible. Although in 2022 there were no serious sanitary outbreaks or issues, African Swine Fever (ASF) disease is a constant threat, given that it may arise at any time - although the last time ASF was detected in Brazil was in the early 1980s. As explained in the previous GAIN report, swine related diseases have been under control for many years, due to the rigorous vaccination, sanitary requirements, the government control mechanism, and the investments made by the private sector. Since 2021, the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture continues to implement its national plan to monitor swine diseases (*'Plano Integrado de Vigilância de Doenças dos Suínos'*), seeking to strengthen the country's capacity of early detection of ASF, Classical Swine Fever and Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS).

Geography of Brazil's Swine Production

In terms of the main swine production regions of Brazil, there has been no noticeable change during 2022, and Posts anticipates that this will continue in 2023. The three largest swine-producing states are in the south of the country: Santa Catarina, Paraná, and Rio Grande do Sul, with 19 percent, 18 percent and 14 percent, respectively (in 2022). Together, they are responsible for over half of the total pig population in Brazil. In terms of slaughter, Embrapa's data indicates that these states are responsible for 72 percent of all swine slaughter in Brazil. The only noticeable change in terms of swine production is that Paraná increased its production last year and is set to become the main pork meat producer in Brazil in 2023, overtaking the state of Santa Catarina.

3.2 – Trade

Exports

In 2023, there are so far no foreseen issues that could influence Brazilian exports of live swine. Regardless of whether Argentina resumes its imports, Brazil's exports should remain relatively similar to the quantities of 2022. Post expects the 2023 live swine exports to be around 3 thousand head, the same as 2022.

Brazil's exports of swine in 2022 increased 33 percent to 3,288 animals, which is relatively small (representing around USD 5 million). Although Argentina stopped importing swine from Brazil in 2022, Brazil managed to export its animals to other countries. Over recent years, Argentina was the largest importer of Brazilian swine. The other countries that buy from Brazil are mainly in South America, especially Paraguay, Bolivia and Uruguay. In 2022, Paraguay was the largest importer of live swine from Brazil, accounting for 85 percent of the total number of animals and value. Bolivia was the second main importer, accounting for 11 percent of Brazil's exports. It is unclear which countries will be the main buyers of Brazilian swine in 2023, as it will depend –primarily on whether, and when, Argentina may decide to resume its imports of live swine.

Imports

Brazil imports a relatively small volume of live swine, having imported just under USD 3 million in 2022. As with live cattle, Brazil's imports of live swine are focused on genetic improvement. Brazil only imported live swine for purebred breeding (HS Code 010310). The amount of imports in 2022 was almost the same as the previous years, and Post expects the volume to remain similar in 2023, equivalent to around 2 thousand head, as there are no clear factors that should cause an increase or decrease in such imports. Among Brazil's traditional suppliers, the United States supplied over 29 percent of total imports in 2022, compared to an average of 46 percent over the past six years. Imports from the United States were 17 percent higher in 2022, in relation to the previous year.

Table 6
Brazilian Imports – Live Swine (in USD)

Country	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Denmark	313,236	-	991,774	658,165	1,452,422	1,213,733
Canada	178,106	164,283	231,884	425,390	701,542	485,070
United States	520,274	786,460	986,230	1,202,174	462,541	649,765
France	369,447	238,200	219,682	-	292,618	292,726
Norway	-	-	-	-	158,083	274,891
Total	1,381,063	1,188,943	2,429,570	2,285,729	3,067,206	2,916,185

Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy, via Trade Data Monitor

4. PORK

Production, Supply and Distribution

Meat, Swine	2021		2022		2023	
	Jan 2021		Jan 2022		Jan 2023	
Brazil	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
(* 1000 MT CWE)						
Slaughter (Reference)	45040	45040	45150	45150	45820	45840
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	4365	4365	4350	4350	4435	4455
Total Imports	3	3	2	2	2	2
Total Supply	4368	4368	4352	4352	4437	4457
Total Exports	1321	1321	1319	1319	1370	1405
Human Dom. Consumption	3047	3047	3033	3033	3067	3052
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	3047	3047	3033	3033	3067	3052
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution	4368	4368	4352	4352	4437	4457

4.1 – Production

In 2023, Post forecasts pork production to increase 2.8 percent to 4.46 million tons CWE, up from 4.35 million tons in 2022. The increase is due to the growing demand for pork, especially from abroad, and the rising prices of swine animal and pork, leading producers to increase their production.

Pork producers that sell in Brazil are recovering from their losses in 2022, while those that exported faced less difficulties. The lower amount of pork produced in Brazil in the first half of 2022 made pork prices rise from March to December 2022. Experts say that the indicators point to a higher valuation of pork in the Brazilian market in 2023. This will also allow the market to adjust itself in terms of supply and demand.

Experts believe that in 2023 swine production will only be profitable if the animal feed prices fall during the year. Prices of corn and soybean in Brazil have been relatively stable, since the last quarter of 2022.

Although there were fears that China's lower demand during 2022 could harm Brazilian pork exports in 2023, the situation has changed as exports to China picked up from September onwards. Also, Brazil found new export markets and recently opened more markets for pork meat. Further, the domestic demand for pork provided relief to slaughterhouses. In 2023, the Brazilian currency exchange rate is anticipated to continue at a favorable level for Brazilian exporters, while domestic demand should remain relatively high, thereby providing incentives for pork production.

4.2 – Consumption

Post forecasts 2023 domestic pork demand to grow 0.6 percent, reaching 3.05 million tons. Post's forecast is based on the slow economic recovery of Brazil and the competitiveness of pork in the Brazilian meat market, compared to beef and chicken. Considering that the prices of the alternative animal protein options are expected to remain high in 2023, Brazilian consumers with lower spending capacity will continue preferring to buy pork.

Nonetheless, the growth in consumption will likely be limited because pork is still not a favorite option of meat for many Brazilian families. Most consumers prefer beef and chicken meat, often choosing chicken when the prices of beef are elevated. It will take years for the pork sector to convince Brazilian consumers to increase pork consumption, despite campaigns like the Brazilian Association of Animal Protein - ABPA's promoting the benefits of pork.

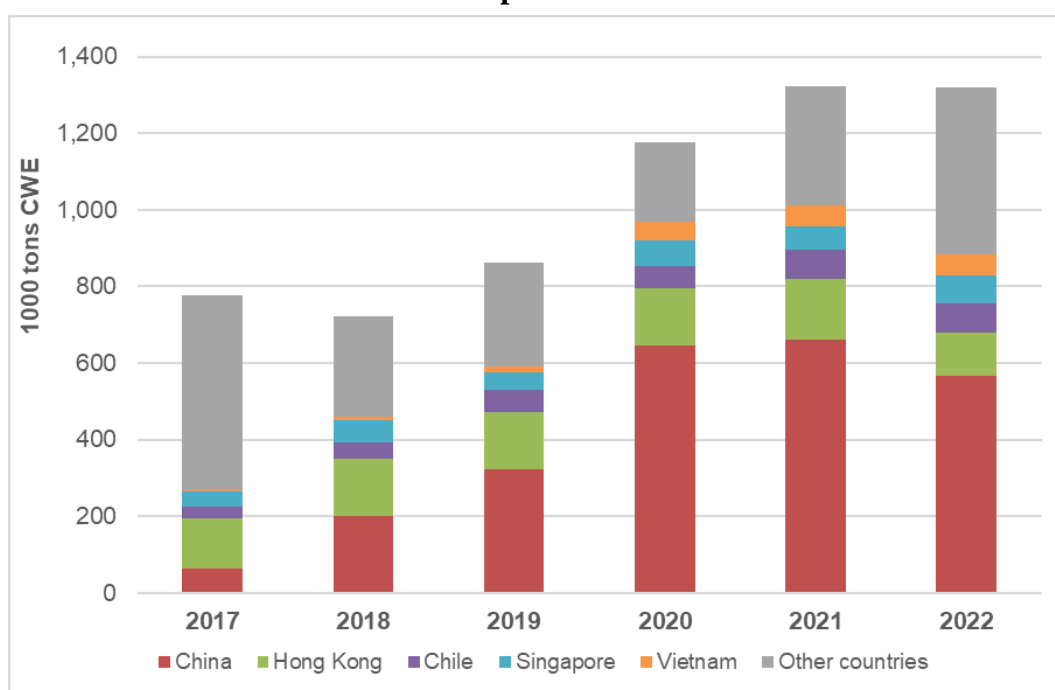
In 2022, around 70.1 percent of total pork production in Brazil was consumed domestically, while 29.9 was exported. According to Post's forecast for 2023, the proportion is likely to change to 68.5 percent in domestic consumption and 31.5 percent in exports. Despite this relative decrease in domestic sales, the pork sector has been developing more varieties of pork meat cuts, which are increasingly attracting new consumers. The sector hopes that over the years these efforts will lead to an increase in domestic demand for pork meat.

4.3 – Trade

Exports

Post forecasts Brazil’s pork exports to grow by 6.5 percent in 2023 to 1.41 million tons CWE. This significant increase is expected after a disappointing 2022, when exports fell 1.6 percent in relation to the previous year. Although Post’s forecast in the previous report ([BR2022-0054](#)) was only a three percent increase in exports in 2023, the changes in the market over recent months led to this elevated revised number.

Figure 17
Brazilian Exports – Pork Meat



Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy via Trade Data Monitor. Chart: OAA-Brasilia.

Although China’s pork imports are anticipated to be relatively lower in 2023, new market openings and export destinations will ensure that Brazil’s export performance improves significantly. In 2022, China reduced its pork imports from Brazil by 14 percent, compared to 2021; exports to Hong Kong fell by twice the percentage, i.e. 28 percent, yet it remained the second main destination, importing 113 thousand tons. China’s share was 43 percent of Brazil’s export destinations, while Hong Kong fell to 8.5 percent. On the other hand, pork exports increased to Singapore, the Philippines, Japan and Russia. As shown in Figure 17, in 2022 there has also been a greater diversification of pork exports to new destinations: the volume to ‘other countries’ increased 41 percent. Brazilian exporters sought new buyers abroad after China’s imports stabilized in 2020-21.

Figure 17 also shows that pork exports have been growing since 2018, except in 2022 when the volume remained at almost the same level as that of 2021. The graph also demonstrates the importance of China as a buyer of Brazilian pork. As pointed out above, the diversification of the export destinations is also visible.

In 2023, the prospects for pork exports are very optimistic: China is expected to increase its imports from Brazil, Canada and Mexico authorized new Brazilian export plants, South Korea and Vietnam lowered their import tariffs, and there is a rising demand from new markets, such as Thailand. As for the European Union, which used to be an important buyer of Brazilian pork, if their demand recovers from the current low point, it would be a great opportunity for Brazilian pork exporters. The Brazilian pork association’s (ABPA) forecast for 2023 is a 12 percent increase in volume.

Monthly data shows an increase of exports to China since August 2022. The price of USD 2,687 per ton, in December 2022, was very high, 26 percent higher than that of December 2021. These may be an indication that exports to China will continue growing over the initial months of 2023. Similar to the case of beef, China’s behavior in the market has a direct influence in the Brazilian swine and pork sector.

Imports

Brazil is a small importer of pork and in 2022 only imported 2,130 tons (CWE) of pork from four countries, 26 percent less than 2021. These imports were worth USD 17.6 million, which is in line with the average value of recent years. In 2023, it is anticipated that pork imports will be only slightly less than 2022’s volume. Most of the imported pork was HS Code 021019 (Meat of swine, nesoi, salted, in brine, dried or smoked), mainly from Italy and Spain.

Table 8
Brazilian Imports – Pork Meat (in Tons CWE)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Italy	933	870	1098	884	1304	1173
Spain	685	876	865	618	746	892
Portugal	67	67	84	60	50	64
France	3	4	3	6	5	2
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0
Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chile	180	0	0	0	0	0
Paraguay	0	0	0	176	779	0
Total	1,869	1,816	2,049	1,744	2,883	2,130

Data Source: Brazil Ministry of Economy via Trade Data Monitor

Attachments:

No Attachments