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PRESS RELEASE

Production and supply in the Community's livestock sector

The Statistical Office of the European Communities has just published issue No. 5/1964 of its "Agricultural Statistics" series, which includes aggregate figures for livestock and livestock products in the Community. There are sections on production of milk, meat and eggs, and milk and meat supply balance-sheets and balance-sheets covering the utilization of full milk and skimmed milk are also given. The figures refer to the EEC as a whole and to the individual Member States. They are the continuation of series already published.

The "Agricultural Statistics" series gives an uninterrupted picture of the development of production since 1950 and of supply since 1955/56.

The figures show that by 1963 livestock production had ceased to grow in EEC: the overall figures for this year are virtually the same as those reached in 1962.

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Total livestock in EEC ('000 units)	53 769	53 201
Meat production in EEC ('000 metric tons)	10 575	10 552
Milk production in EEC ('000 metric tons)	65 662	65 804

The total stock of animals declined by 1%, with only fowls and pigs increasing in number. Total meat production marked time at rather more than 10 million metric tons, with a decline of pork and veal production offset by a further sharp increase (6%) in the production of poultrymeat. Milk production was again 65 800 000 metric tons, although the actual number of dairy cows declined. The average yield per cow in the Community rose by 2% from 2 981 kg to 3 007 kg.

Although meat production (1962/1963 comparison) remained unchanged, figures show that between July 1961 - June 1962 and July 1962 - June 1963 meat consumption rose from 56 kg to 58 kg per head of the population.

The figures for the individual countries for 1962/63 are as follows:

Germany F.R. France Italy Netherlands BLEU 64 kg 78 kg 33 kg 48 kg 65 kg

In France more than twice as much meat (78 kg per head) was consumed as in Italy. The general increase in consumption was mainly accounted for by heavier consumption of beef.

Among dairy products, consumption of butter, cheese and sterilized milk rose. Consumption of fresh milk declined and that of condensed milk increased.