



CANADIAN MEAT COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES VIANDES DU CANADA

FACT SHEET ON DAIRY COWS IN CANADA

How many dairy cattle are slaughtered each year in Canada?

With an average cull rate of 25% percent in a dairy herd this means that approximately 250,000 dairy cattle are sent to slaughter each year. Using only the middle meats from those animals adds up to just over 11,363 tonnes of meat from cull cows in Canada that would not be ground up for hamburger meat.

How many dairy and beef cows are slaughtered each year in Canada?

412,382 dairy and beef cows were slaughtered in Canadian Federally Inspected Establishment in 2012 and 501,212 in 2011. Using only the unground muscle meats from those animals averages over 20,000 tonnes of meat from cull cows in Canada that would not be ground up for hamburger meat.

What is the carcass weight of dairy cows in Canada?

On average culled dairy cattle yield a carcass weight of 650 pounds or 300 Kilograms

How much red meat comes from a dairy cow?

On average culled dairy cows yield 470 pounds of red meat weight (210 kilograms).

Does all red meat from dairy cattle in Canada go to hamburger meat?

NO, on average 100 pounds (45 kilograms) of the 470 pounds of red meat from each dairy cow is not ground up into hamburger meat. Important meats such as Ribeyes, Tenderloins, Strip Loins, Top Sirloin Butts, and Inside Rounds are sold to restaurant and food service outlets.

How many dairy farms are in Canada?

According to the Canadian Dairy Information Centre there are 12,529 dairy farms in Canada in 2013.

How many dairy cows are in Canada?

According to the Canadian Dairy Information Centre there are 960,600 dairy cows and 472,600 heifers on dairy farms in Canada in 2013.

How many veal calves are slaughtered each year in Canada?

223,571 calves were slaughtered in Canadian Federally Inspected Establishments in 2012. That was down slightly from 235,037 in 2011. Virtually 100% of the calves raised for veal in Canada are cull dairy calves.

What is average slaughter weight of veal calves in Canada?

The average slaughter weight of milk fed veal calves in Canada is 270 pounds or 122 kilograms. The average slaughter weight of grain fed calves in Canada is 360 pounds or 163 kilograms.

How much red meat comes from Canadian veal calves?

With an average carcass weight of 140 kilograms and a yield of 108 kilograms of red meat per carcass, Canada produced a total of 24,500 tonnes of total veal red meat per year.