



MARKET NEWS for pigmeat

Market analysis

4 May

Week 19

MARKET SITUATION

The market situation remains unchanged compared with last week.

Europe: Necks continue to trade at rising price levels, while trade in fresh hams and other cuts is taking place at unchanged prices.

UK: The bacon market, a continued calm demand is reported.

Asia: The demand remains stable from those markets that can no longer import Spanish pigmeat.

Slaughterings in Denmark

Weekly slaughter figures from slaughterhouses reporting to L&F's slaughter database. Condemned pigs/sows are not included in the slaughter figures.

	Week 14	Week 15	Week 16	Week 17	Week 1-17 2026:25
Total intake	177.865	270.950	328.290	336.526	+9,0 %



US

Futures prices

Chicago (\$ pr. 100 lbs carcass weight)	Lean Hog			Pork Cutout		
	24/4	24/4	Change	24/4	24/4	Change
May 2026	92,83	94,30	-1,47	108,78	108,78	0,00
June 2026	101,28	101,90	-0,62	116,35	116,35	0,00
July 2026	103,38	104,90	-1,52	117,90	117,90	0,00
Aug. 2026	103,85	105,58	-1,73	116,75	116,75	0,00
Oct. 2026	89,25	91,15	-1,90	109,15	109,15	0,00
Dec. 2026	81,73	83,48	-1,75	97,00	97,00	0,00
Feb. 2027	84,93	86,50	-1,57	99,60	99,60	0,00
April. 2027	89,00	90,40	-1,40	101,70	101,70	0,00
May 2027	91,90	93,35	-1,45	107,08	107,08	0,00
June 2027	99,30	100,55	-1,25	112,43	112,43	0,00
July 2027	99,35	100,75	-1,40	113,78	113,78	0,00
Aug. 2027	98,75	99,95	-1,20	112,63	112,63	0,00

Conversion to DKK/kg:
 1 lb = 0.4536 kg
 1 USD = 6.3849 DKK

African swine fever

Below is shown the latest update from the European Commission's reporting system on cases of African swine fever for EU countries, Serbia, Ukraine, Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia.

Countries	Period 23. Apr. - 29. Apr.		YTD 1. Jan. - 29. Apr.		2025		2024	
	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar
Estonia		2		54	11	259		36
Latvia		15	1	319	12	1.266	7	961
Lithuania		39		639	9	788	8	561
Poland		105		1.056	18	3.351	44	2.311
Italy		30	1	541	1	667	31	1.205
Ukraine		1	2	6	19	34	70	15
Czech Republic						1		27
Romania	2	1	79	253	472	281	220	186
Hungary				396		823		474
Bulgaria				277		939	1	717
Slovakia		3		92	1	185	1	165
Serbia	2	1	24	62	233	62	310	101
Moldova		1	9	17	52	26	13	6
Montenegro								1
Bosnia and Herzegovina			1	4	52	27	33	38
Croatia			1	77	53	255	6	39
North Macedonia						8	4	51
Kosovo								
Belgium								
Spain*		13		270		27		
Germany		43		354		1.992	10	966
Sweden								8
Greece				1	4	77	5	21
Albania							1	3
Total	4	254	118	4.418	937	11.068	764	7.892

* Data from the World Organisation for Animal Health.

Foot-and-mouth disease

Below is shown the latest update from the European Commission's reporting system on cases of foot-and-mouth disease for EU countries and Turkey.

Lande	Period 23. Apr. - 29. Apr.	YTD 1. Jan. - 29. Apr.	2025	2024
Slovakia			6	
Cyprus	2	104		
Greece	12	60		
Tyrkey		53	1.712	97
Germany			1	
Hungary			5	
Total	14	217	1.724	97

GERMANY

New case of African swine fever in North Rhine-Westphalia

The federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia has detected a case of African swine fever (ASF) in a wild boar outside the previously defined core area. The finding has been confirmed by the Friedrich Loeffler Institute and has led to intensified searches for dead wild boar using both dogs and drones, as well as the maintenance of current restrictions in the area.

Since the first ASF case in the state in June 2025, around 600 wild boar have tested positive, while more than 45,000 animals have tested negative as part of an extensive surveillance programme.

To strengthen disease control, the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia has decided to double the bounty for hunting wild boar in the most affected areas. Hunters in the core area and restriction zone II can now receive up to EUR 200 per culled wild boar, while the bounty in zone I is increased to EUR 150.

The current hunting and control strategies have already had an effect. Since summer 2025, more than 13,500 wild boar have been culled in the districts of Olpe, Siegen-Wittgenstein and Hochsauerlandkreis. The authorities emphasise that continued close cooperation with hunters is required.

GERMANY

Decline in German pig imports in the first quarter of 2026

According to AMI, Germany imported 10 per cent fewer pigs in the first quarter of 2026 compared with the same period last year, confirming the downward trend seen since 2025.

Imports continue to consist mainly of piglets, but also include breeding animals and slaughter pigs. Denmark and the Netherlands remain the main suppliers.

While imports from Denmark increased by 7 per cent, deliveries from the Netherlands fell by 12 per cent due to lower pig production in the country.

AMI expects total German pig imports in 2026 to be lower than the year before.

GERMANY

Video surveillance introduced at larger slaughterhouses in Germany

According to the German pig producers' organisation ISN, the German federal government has approved an amendment to the Animal Welfare Act introducing mandatory video surveillance at larger slaughterhouses. The proposal originates from the German Ministry of Agriculture and aims to strengthen animal welfare and close existing regulatory and control gaps. ISN refers to the publication *Agra Europe*, which reports that the legislative amendment is expected to enter into force on 1 January 2027.

The requirement for video surveillance will apply to slaughterhouses with an annual capacity of at least 1,000 livestock units, corresponding, for example, to 1,000 head of cattle or 5,000 slaughter pigs. Smaller slaughterhouses are generally exempt; however, the federal states will also have the option to impose video surveillance on these facilities if there is suspicion of violations of animal welfare regulations.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, the new scheme means that the majority of all slaughterings in Germany will in future be covered by video surveillance. The objective is to increase transparency in slaughter processes and ensure that any violations of animal welfare legislation can be identified and addressed more effectively.

GERMANY / PHILIPPINES

Germany and the Philippines enter into regionalisation agreement

The Philippine Department of Agriculture has confirmed that, following several years of negotiations, the Philippines and Germany have entered into a regionalisation agreement on African swine fever (ASF). The agreement means that German pigmeat can once again be exported to the Philippines after a pause of almost seven years.

Under the agreement, ASF is recognised as not being classified with a uniform risk across the whole of Germany, which makes it possible to resume trade and thereby reopen the Southeast Asian market for German exporters. According to several international media outlets, this represents a significant milestone for the German pigmeat industry, as the Philippines was among Germany's most important export markets for pigmeat before the import ban was introduced in 2019.

The agreement with the Philippines follows Germany's regionalisation agreement with South Korea, which led to the reopening of the South Korean market in November 2025. In addition, in February this year Germany signed a letter of intent with China to initiate work towards a similar regionalisation agreement on ASF.

TAIWAN / PHILIPPINES

Taiwan resumes pigmeat exports to the Philippines

Taiwan will reopen exports of pigmeat to the Philippines on 14 May 2026 after once again achieving African swine fever (ASF)-free status. This was announced by Taiwan's Prime Minister, Cho Jung-tai.

The Philippines imposed an import ban on live pigs and pigmeat products from Taiwan in December 2025 after the country detected its first ASF outbreak in October of the same year. The outbreak was limited to a single herd, which was subsequently eradicated, and Taiwan is now once again free of the disease.

The Prime Minister describes the Philippine decision as encouraging and stresses that the government will work together with the industry to expand exports of Taiwanese pigmeat to additional markets globally. Following the renewed recognition of ASF-free status, Singapore has also announced that imports of pigmeat from Taiwan will resume.

PHILIPPINES

Continued increase in pigmeat imports in the first quarter of 2026

Official figures for the Philippines' pigmeat imports show a marked increase in the first quarter of 2026 compared with the same period in both 2025 and 2024. In particular, imports of fresh/chilled and frozen pigmeat increased significantly during the first three months of the year.

The development is largely driven by a sharp increase in imports from Brazil, which has more than tripled its exports to the Philippines over the past two years. This is partly linked to the fact that, during this period, the Philippines has opened its market to a larger number of Brazilian exporting companies. Imports of by-products also continued to increase in the first quarter of 2026, albeit at a more moderate pace than for fresh/chilled and frozen pigmeat.

The Philippines' growing import needs should be seen in light of the country's ongoing challenges with African swine fever, which was first detected in 2019. Since then, domestic pig production has been significantly reduced, and pigmeat imports began to increase markedly from 2022 as part of efforts to cover the shortfall in domestic supply.

0203				
Fresh/frozen pigmeat				
Tons	Jan. - Mar. 2024	Jan. - Mar. 2025	Jan. - Mar. 2026	%change 26:25
Brazil	30.123	58.977	101.661	72,4
Denmark	2.528	3.624	7.723	113,1
Canada	14.004	9.639	5.034	-47,8
Netherlands	4.271	5.636	4.215	-25,2
Spain	7.016	5.540	3.800	-31,4
France	3.926	2.224	3.527	58,6
USA	1.887	1.928	1.893	-1,8
Belgium	1.141	1.266	1.813	43,2
UK	1.217	790	491	-37,8
Sweden			229	
Australia	542	174	221	27,0
Russia			165	
Chile	108	82	162	97,6
Others	359	87	308	254,0
Total	67.122	89.967	131.242	45,9

020649				
By-products				
Tons	Jan. - Mar. 2024	Jan. - Mar. 2025	Jan. - Mar. 2026	%change 26:25
Spain	19.468	22.406	11.705	-47,8
Brazil	1.919	7.549	11.419	51,3
Netherlands	3.806	7.425	10.205	37,4
USA	5.861	7.701	8.266	7,3
Canada	4.105	3.259	7.466	129,1
France	3.182	3.550	4.549	28,1
Denmark	3.237	3.301	3.739	13,3
Belgium	2.346	3.969	3.512	-11,5
UK	2.845	2.774	3.143	13,3
Ireland	784	1.130	1.909	68,9
Australia	1.100	1.708	1.642	-3,9
Chile	101	265	1.539	480,8
Sweden		51	688	1249,0
Austria	217	610	651	6,7
Argentina			422	
Portugal			128	
Total	48.971	65.697	70.982	8,0

CHINA

China to purchase pigmeat to stabilise the market

China will support local authorities in purchasing frozen pigmeat for commercial storage as part of efforts to stabilise the market, according to Reuters.

JAPAN

Slightly increasing pigmeat imports

Below are figures showing Japan's total imports of pigmeat, including fresh/frozen pigmeat, for January–March 2026 compared with the same months in 2025.

Overall, a slightly larger volume of pigmeat was imported in the first quarter of 2026 compared with the same quarter in 2025. Imports increased in particular from the US, Canada, Brazil and Mexico, while imports from several European countries, including Denmark, declined.

Japan closed its market to imports from Spain following the outbreak of African swine fever at the end of November 2025. However, Japan accepted that Spanish pigmeat already en route to Japan could be delivered. As a result, pigmeat imports from Spain continued in 2026, but at a significantly lower level than in 2025.

Total pigmeat			
Tons	2026 Jan.-Mar.	2025 Jan.-Mar.	%change 2026:25
USA	76.054	70.405	8,0
Canada	72.045	58.113	24,0
Brazil	32.538	27.531	18,2
Mexico	31.630	25.312	25,0
Spain	20.918	40.774	-48,7
Chile	11.860	11.197	5,9
Denmark	8.477	10.868	-22,0
France	4.095	3.768	8,7
China	3.886	3.585	8,4
Ireland	2.569	2.038	26,1
Netherlands	1.793	3.061	-41,4
Thailand	1.710	1.895	-9,8
Finland	462	391	18,2
UK	310	503	-38,4
Austria	189	319	-40,6
Portugal	189	245	-22,9
Belgium	160	100	59,7
South Korea	72	110	-35,3
Taiwan	43	30	40,6
Others	138	141	-2,2
Total	269.135	260.385	3,4

0203 Fresh/frozen pigmeat			
Tons	2026 Jan.-Mar.	2025 Jan.-Mar.	%change 2026:25
Canada	69.311	55.821	24,2
USA	53.535	47.602	12,5
Brazil	31.353	25.609	22,4
Mexico	27.912	22.409	24,6
Spain	20.484	40.256	-49,1
Chile	8.548	8.365	2,2
Denmark	6.518	9.536	-31,6
France	3.995	3.650	9,5
Netherlands	1.778	3.061	-41,9
Ireland	914	792	15,4
Finland	393	277	42,2
UK	310	503	-38,4
Austria	168	288	-41,7
Portugal	166	230	-27,8
Belgium	159	93	70,7
Australia		15	
Total	225.543	218.505	3,2

Pigmeat imports January–March 2026

0203				
Fresh/frozen pigmeat				
Tons	Jan. - Mar. 2024	Jan. - Mar. 2025	Jan. - Mar. 2026	%change 26:25
Brazil	27.015	28.417	23.026	-19,0
China	7.963	9.073	9.020	-0,6
Netherlands	2.700	4.485	3.072	-31,5
Russia	1.889	4.001	2.898	-27,6
Spain	1.064	944	2.089	121,3
Germany	1.026	3.485	2.026	-41,9
Vietnam	2.625	2.068	1.840	-11,0
Poland	1.323	2.326	1.687	-27,5
USA	734	610	905	48,4
Canada	363	270	495	83,3
Japan	209	343	264	-23,0
Thailand	365	362	209	-42,3
Belgium	96	189	139	-26,5
Argentina	25		55	
Chile	26	12	49	308,3
Australia	82	46	44	-4,3
Mexico	399	44	44	0,0
Denmark	96	13	36	176,9
Others	264	160	77	-51,9
Total	48.264	56.848	47.975	-15,6

020649 Pig by-products				
Tons	Jan. - Mar. 2024	Jan. - Mar. 2025	Jan. - Mar. 2026	%change 26:25
Brazil	6.043	5.020	4.849	-3,4
Germany	1.366	1.356	2.993	120,7
Netherlands	1.562	2.576	2.831	9,9
Poland	1.631	1.857	2.450	31,9
Canada	698	699	859	22,9
Spain	264	516	275	-46,7
Ireland	385	429	228	-46,9
Denmark	110	137	148	8,0
Hungary			75	
Japan	88	96	68	-29,2
Argentina	54		67	
Russia	219	133	55	-58,6
Sweden	73	66	52	-21,2
Ukraine			50	
USA	209	27	47	74,1
Romania			26	
Austria		48	24	-50,0
China			21	
UK	199	96	21	-78,1
Total	13.056	13.397	15.140	13,0

US

Aujeszky's disease detected in US herds

Aujeszky's disease (pseudorabies) has been detected in commercial pig herds in the US for the first time since 2004.

The disease poses no risk to humans or food safety but may cause significant economic losses. Authorities have implemented tracing, transport restrictions and increased monitoring.

US

Proposal for new Farm Bill approved by the House of Representatives

Last week, the proposal for a new Farm Bill was approved by the House of Representatives.

The proposal includes a provision (the Save Our Bacon Act) that would effectively override California's Proposition 12 and thereby limit individual states' ability to introduce specific animal welfare requirements. The proposal now moves to the Senate, where a majority must also be secured for it to be adopted.

It is uncertain in advance whether the necessary majority can be achieved in the Senate unless the wording relating to Proposition 12 is removed.

The vote in the Senate is expected to take place sometime in June. If the Senate adopts a version without Proposition 12, a conference process will be initiated in Congress (the Senate and the House of Representatives).

If the above timetable is delayed, consideration of a new Farm Bill will most likely not resume until after the midterm elections in November.

Disclaimer:

This publication has been translated using AI. Although the translation has been quality checked, errors or inaccuracies may occur.

If you have any questions regarding the content, please contact Chief Consultant Jens Ring or Kirsten Vernon Kristiansen.

✉ jer@lf.dk | kvkr@lf.dk