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Joe Schuele

In this US Meat Export Federation report President and CEO Dan Halstrom discusses the latest monthly red meat export results which included a new value record for beef exports.

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Dan Halstrom

The November export results were again a lot of positive momentum on the beef side, 7% growth at a 123,000 tons, you know another billion dollar month in terms of value will be a record for the year, well over 10 billion when we get the December stats in. But the exciting thing on the beef side is the broad based growth, the same theme we've talked about the last several months, Japan up 15%, Korea 23%, China basically double the volume versus a year ago. You look at Central America and South America, Caribbean all showing significant growth despite some of the headwinds like these logistics issues.

Beef variety meats definitely are important, once again, another record and broad based I mean, we're seeing Asia, Latin America, Middle East all contributing to this demand for beef variety meats. The November stats on pork while down slightly, still a very big month at 238,000 tons. Right now we're sitting about even with a year ago, last year's record and we're up 7% on the value side, about \$7.5 billion.

So as we all knew China would be down, down about 25% year to date. That trend continued in November, but it's being offset and the market that is leading the way on that is Mexico. We were up 34% for the month of November at 87,000 tons so very close to the old record. And year to date, we will be setting a record.

But really the story is about Latin America. I mean, you've got Central America and South America led by Columbia. And in November the Asian market that is leading away of course is Korea. We have 24% growth. One of the segments that's leading this growth is the chilled pork going into the retail sector which is encouraging to see.

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For more information please visit USMEF.org For the US Meat Export Federation. I'm Joe Schuele.