

INDUSTRY NEWS

China Livestock | Animal Health | Animal Nutrition

Feed production reached 27.53million tonnes in April

The national feed production was 27.53 million tonnes in April, with a YoY increase of 9.0% , including 25.7 million tonnes compound feed, 0.61 million tonnes premix feed and 1.07 million tonnes concentrate feed.

Compound feed price for fattening pigs, layer and broiler was CNY 3.29 per kg, CNY 3.09 per kg and CNY 3.46 per kg, a YoY decrease of 3.6%, 2.5% and 4.1%, respectively.

Concentrate feed price for fattening pigs, layer and broiler was CNY 5.05 per kg, CNY 3.62 per kg and CNY 4.18/kg, a YoY decrease 2.6%, 1.5% and 3.8%, respectively.

Premix feed price for fattening pigs, layer and broiler was CNY 4.61 per kg, CNY 4.53 per kg and CNY 5.19 per kg, a YoY decrease 4.7%, 4.1% and 8.2%, respectively. (Source: China Feed Industry Association, 16th May, 2025)

China's sow inventory remain stable in April



At the end of April the sow inventory was 40.38 million, down slightly from the previous month and up 1.3% year-on-year.

In the first 4 months of 2025, the scaled slaughterhouse slaughtered 121.34 million pigs, a YoY increase of 10.9%.

In April, the pig grain ratio was 6.69, with a month on month decrease of 6.7% and a YoY increase of 13.1%.

The cost per head of backyard and scaled pig farms was CNY 2,123 and CNY 2,033 respectively, with a YoY increase of 0.7% and 3.3% respectively.

The net profit per head of backyard and scaled pig farms was CNY 50 and CNY 86 respectively, with a month on month decrease of 6.9% for backyard farm and 2.7% increase for scaled pig farms. (Source: MOA, 21th May 2025)





Meat imports to China reach 2.16 millions tonnes in first 4 months of 2025

China imported 2.16 million tonnes of meat (including offal) in first 4 months of 2025. The value was CNY 56.39 billion, a YoY decrease of 2.9% in volume and increase 0.8% in value.

Pork imports were 0.76 million tonnes, with a value of CNY 11.31 billion, an increase on the previous year of 1.8% in volume and 4.7% in value.

Poultry meat imports were 138,994 tonnes, with a value of CNY 2.65 billion, an increase on the previous year of 22.6% in volume and 9.0% in value.

Beef imports were 0.9 million tonnes, with a value of CNY 33.12 billion, a decrease on the previous of 10.4% in volume and 3.6% in value.

Lamb imports were 148,961 tonnes, with a value of CNY 4.07 billion, an increase on the previous of 3.3% in volume and 25% in value. (Source: China Custom, 18th May, 2025)

Note: beef and pork includes offal

China's broiler industry: rising output, falling profits

In 2024, China slaughtered 13,394 million broiler chickens, surpassing 2020 to set a new historical high. Among them, the slaughter volume of white-feather broiler chickens reached 73.94 million, accounting for 55% of China's broiler market share.

Despite the record-high output, profits from white-feather broiler farming were disappointing. From 2023 to 2024, the annual return of white-feather broiler farming averaged CNY 0.37 /kg and CNY 0.25/kg, respectively, while in January-February 2025, farming returns dropped further to CNY 1.02/kg. This means that for more than two years, white-feather broiler farming in China has been mostly unprofitable.

White-feather broiler farms are operating at a loss due to high costs and weak broiler prices. With total broiler and white-feather broiler breeding volumes at record highs and imports of cheaper chicken products increasing, the price of China's white-feather broiler remains under pressure.

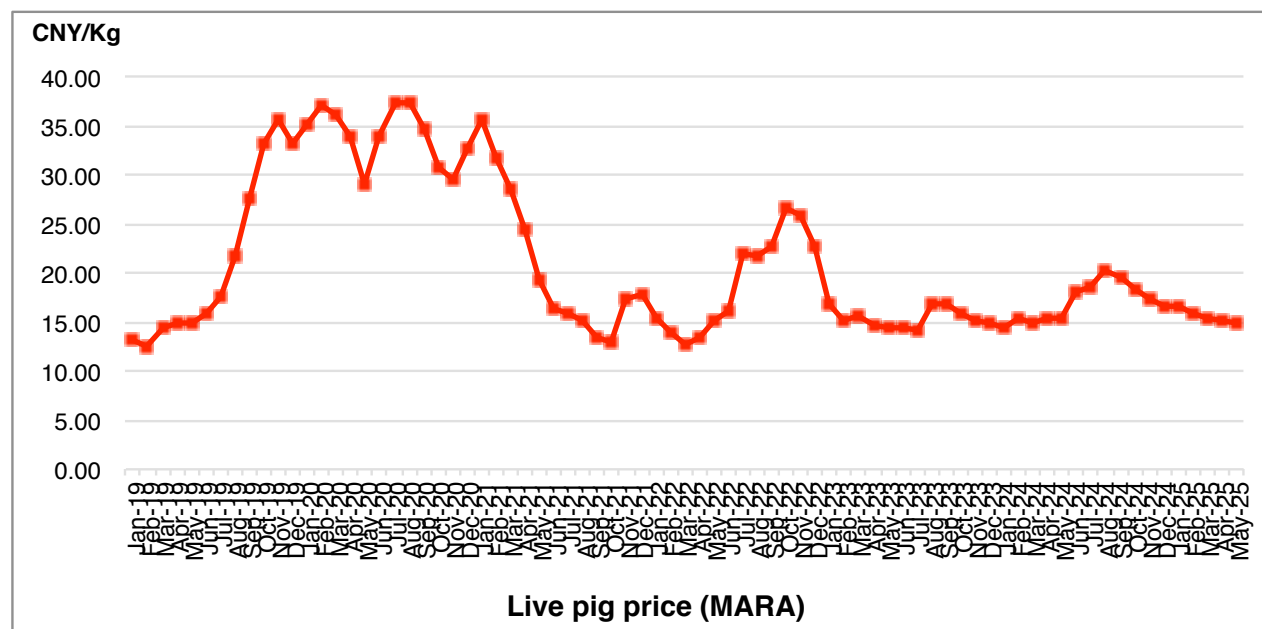
Large-scale farming has become China's main mode of white-feather broiler farming. The integrated farming model (which controls the full industrial chain) and the company-farmer contract farming model (in which companies provide chicks, feed, and technology to contract farms and purchase their mature chickens) have become the dominant business models in the country.

According to the China Animal Husbandry Association, in 2023, integrated enterprises (which include both self-breeding and self-feeding operations, as well as full industrial chain models) accounted for approximately 60%-65% of white-feather broiler production, an increase of five percentage points from 2022. By 2024, the share of integrated farming is expected to reach 65%-70%. The annual production capacity growth of leading enterprises is projected to exceed 10%, while the exit rate of small and medium-sized independent farmers is likely to continue rising. (Source: EFL AG-DATA, 14th May 2025)



Live pig price in May 2025

Average live pig prices in China was CNY 15.01/kg in May, which was 1.3% lower than the previous month and 2.0% lower than the same period last year. (Source: MARA, May 2025)



Chicken and egg price in May 2025

China retail chicken and egg average price in China was CNY 22.83/kg and CNY9.20/kg in May, chicken price was 0.4% lower than the previous month and 2.1% lower than the same period of last year. Egg price was 1.9% lower than the previous month and 5.0% lower than the same period last year. (Source: MARA, May 2025)

