



# UNION NEWS

**JULY 2011**

**There is an Election coming.....** To vote you need to be on the roll. National/Act get elected when workers don't enrol and vote. **TO ENROL RING 0800 36 76 56.** Two votes this year - **Vote MMP** (I want to keep a system where my vote counts) - **Vote a PARTY/CANDIDATE.** Labour/Greens support fairer taxes, fairer workplace laws, safer workplaces, minimum wage to \$15.00 etc.

## THE NZ MEAT INDUSTRY - SLAUGHTERINGS (000 HEAD)

Year /Sept	Lambs	Sheep	Cattle	Calves	Deer	AVERAGE EXPORT CARCASE WEIGHTS [KG]				
						Year /Sept	Lambs	Sheep	Cattle	Calves
<b>2010</b>	<b>21,411</b>	<b>3,927</b>	<b>2,378</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>17.63</b>	<b>24.74</b>	<b>258.0</b>	<b>16.40</b>
2009	22,641	4,234	2,433	1,552	344	2009	17.67	24.56	261.3	16.33
2008	27,108	6,604	2,371	1,448	605	2008	16.49	23.21	259.5	16.7
2000	26,050	4,583	2,179	1,099	404	2000	16.61	23.53	259.8	16.45

**2011 - 42nd week (23 July 2011):** The lamb kill in the North Island is 11.3% (968,210) behind the same time in 2010. South Island is 9.9% (1,078,567) behind. Mutton kill in the NI is up 20.4% (346,642) and the SI is up 19.4% (333,098). Total beef in the NI is 1.3% (20,758) ahead and SI is 0.3% (1,718) ahead. Calf season has just commenced, NI is down -0.7% and the SI is up 9.7% (4,680). The lamb/mutton slaughter figures show a disturbing downward trend. Meat companies unfortunately have decided to increase the number of slaughter chains in NZ, increase the speed of the chains, introduce shift work and Affco has decided to build a high capacity chain doing 10.5/minute x 2 shifts in Wairoa (currently 3.2/minute x2 chains x2 shifts), Affco Chairman Sam Lewis said in December 2009, talking about sheep/lamb numbers "the East Coast is no different and a series of droughts and adverse weather events have left the region as one of the worst hit in the country". **The end losers of the "Capacity**

### Inflation/ CPI 5.3%

For every \$1 paid to you, your purchasing power of that \$1 has declined 1.1%  
 Sept 2010 ¼, 2.3%  
 Dec ¼, 0.8% Mar  
 2011 ¼, 1% June ¼  
 = **5.3%** for the year



**War" between the NZ meat companies will be meat workers families, banks, truck drivers and farmers.**

### COMMODITY PRICES

Meat, pelts, dairy and wool continue to drive up the commodity price index to record levels. Lamb has risen the most over the last 3 years

## RED MEAT SECTOR STRATEGY REPORT by DELOITTE - March 2011

There are 24,000 meat process workers, 14,000 sheep/cattle/deer farmers and 20 meat companies owning 60 processing plants.

Strategy's Vision - 'Improve the long term profitability of all participants in the red meat sector and thereby enhance the reinvestment and sustainability of the sector'.

Unfortunately after all the consultation discussions with

interested stakeholders of the red meat industry not one participant thought to have any dialogue with the NZ Meat Workers Union.

Meat workers and their union representatives have a vested interest in the red meat industry.

Deloitte looked at the supply/value chain - from the farm through the meat plants onto the ships and into NZ export markets all over the world.

There have been numerous reports from Dept of Labour, Ministry of Agriculture including Deloitte's identifying opportunities where costs can be reduced and where collaboration at different points along the chain can add value.

Significantly, this report does not focus on meat workers wages and productivity as the problem for adding value for all NZ'ers.