

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

6 August 2018

Weekly USMEF Audio Report: June Results Conclude Strong First Half for U.S. Red Meat Exports

In the attached audio report, **U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) Vice President of Communications Joe Schuele** (*pronounced shee-lee*) provides an overview of the January-June export results for U.S. beef, pork and lamb. He notes that strong June results capped a huge first half of 2018 for U.S. beef exports. With mainstay Asian markets Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan leading the way, beef exports are on a record pace and have already topped \$4 billion in value.

U.S. pork exports were lower than a year ago in May and June, but first-half volume and value remained ahead of last year's pace. U.S. pork faces significant headwinds in China and Mexico due to retaliatory duties, but first-half exports to Japan remained solid and shipments to Korea, Latin America, Southeast Asia and Oceania grew significantly year-over-year.

June exports of U.S. lamb were the largest of the year as lamb exports continue to rebound in 2018. Stronger variety meat demand in Mexico accounted for much of this growth, but muscle cut exports trended higher to the Caribbean, the United Arab Emirates, Canada, Singapore, the Philippines and Taiwan. Exports should receive an additional boost in the second half of the year from Japan, which reopened to U.S. lamb last month.

For more details on these results, please see this [USMEF news release](#) or feel free to contact me for more information.