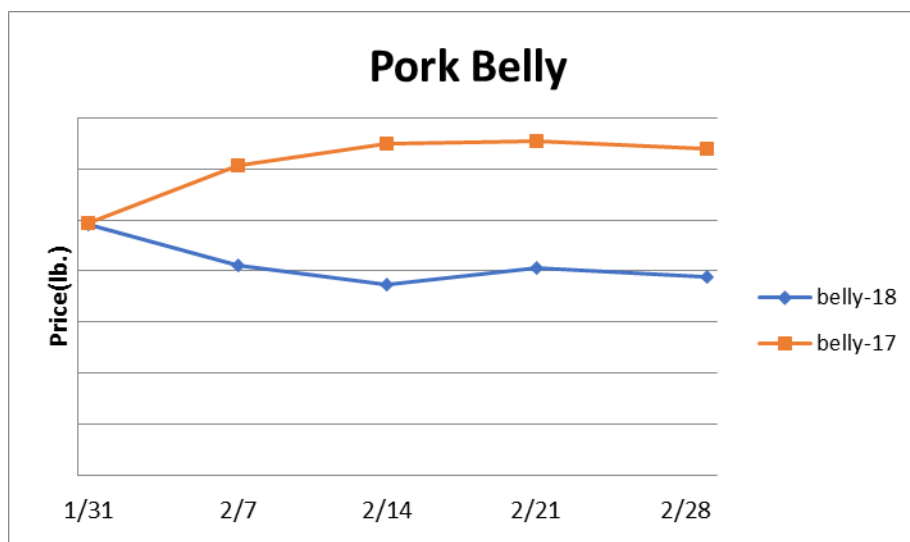


# Pork

Pork output last week fell .5% but was 5.4% better than the same week in 2017. Hog slaughter was the smallest in four weeks. Pork production will seasonally drop this spring but is forecasted by the USDA to be 4.9% more than last year during Q2. Pork belly prices have begun to weaken on news that January 31<sup>st</sup> holdings were a whopping 219.2% larger than last year and the biggest since July. January retail bacon prices were up 9.2% from last year. This factor, and big yearly output gains, should weigh heavy on belly prices this spring.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Hogs	Decreasing	Ample	Lower
Sow	Decreasing	Ample	Higher
Belly (bacon)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Sparerib(4.25 lb & down)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ham (20-23 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ham (23-27 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Loin (bone in)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Babyback Rib (1.75 lb & up)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin (1.25 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Boston Butt, untrmd (4-8 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Picnic, untrmd	Decreasing	Good	Higher
SS Picnic, smoker trm box	Decreasing	Good	Higher
42% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
72% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Lower



March 1, 2018