USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

**Livestock, Poultry, and
Grain Market News
Division**

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Use of Automated Data Access

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) offers customers several options to automatically download large amounts of Market News data published in market reports. Through our Web Service, customers can access Livestock Mandatory Reporting data published on our DataMart platform. Customers can also access some datasets with the Application Programming Interface (API) feature on our My Market News platform.

While this technology improves data accessibility, certain issues arise. Mainly, an overuse of the systems given the vast amount of customers who frequently download Market News data. Recently, our systems have received data queries from single IP addresses in excess of 1,000 times each day while market reports publish at most twice daily. Often these high frequency requests occur due to simple coding errors.

Overloading these systems with frequent automated requests unnecessarily taxes computing resources. These constant requests consume all the network bandwidth, create website performance issues often causing the website to crash, and reduce data availability to other customers attempting to reach the site.

To mitigate overloading the systems, AMS will temporarily block IP addresses found taxing the systems with high frequency requests. If you find DataMart or the API unavailable, or notice performance issues on your Web Service queries, it is possible your IP address has been blocked. Please email Wash.LPGMN@ams.usda.gov for assistance restoring your access.

We ask that all of our customers use these systems judiciously to ensure everyone has uninterrupted access to Market News datasets and reports. To learn more about Web Service, visit: https://mpr.ams.usda.gov/mpr/webServiceGuide.pdf. To learn more about My Market News, visit: https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/.