



Released: March 28, 2008

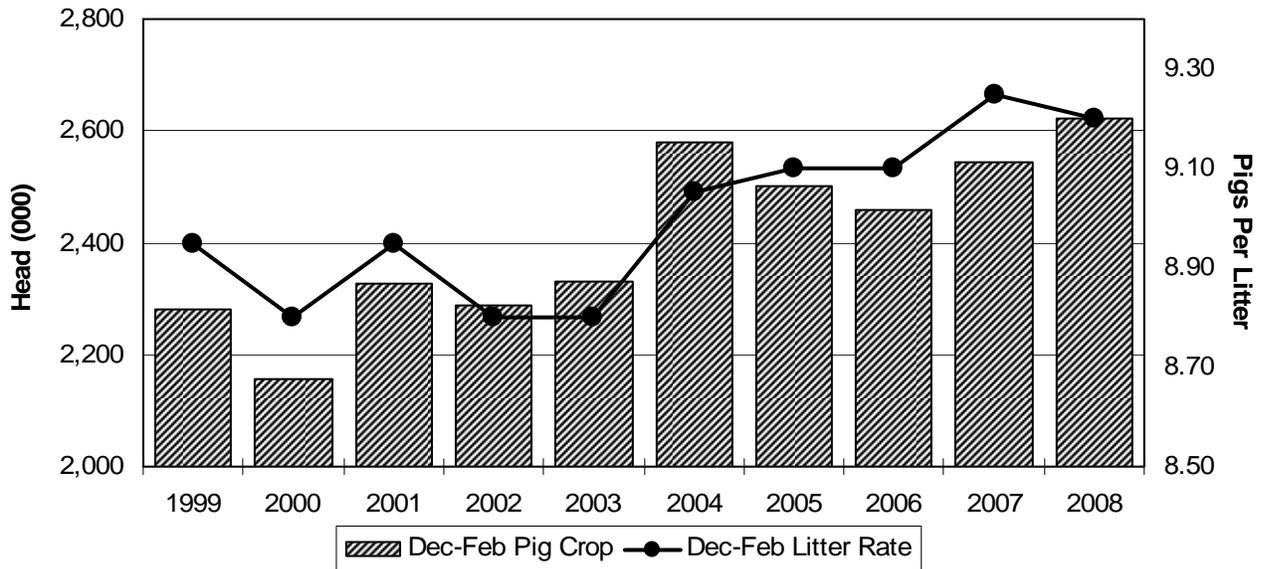
**MINNESOTA HOG INVENTORY DOWN 4 PERCENT FROM DECEMBER**

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 7.3 million hogs and pigs on March 1, 2008, up 6 percent from last year but down 4 percent from the December 1, 2007 figure of 7.6 million, according to the USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. This is a new record high inventory for March 1. Breeding hogs totaled 590 thousand head, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Market hogs and pigs at 6.71 million head, were up 7 percent from a year ago.

**STATE PIG CROP UP 3 PERCENT FROM 2007**

Minnesota's December 2007-February 2008 pig crop totaled 2.62 million head, up 3 percent from a year earlier but down 3 percent from the September 2007-November 2007 pig crop. This is a new record high pig crop for the December – February quarter. The 285 thousand sows that farrowed averaged 9.20 pigs per litter, down from 9.25 a year ago.

**December-February Pig Crop & Pigs Per Litter  
 Minnesota 1999-2008**



**MARCH-MAY 2008 AND JUNE-AUGUST 2008 INTENTIONS**

Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 280 thousand sows during the March-May 2008 quarter. If realized, this would be down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier. Producers intend to farrow 280 thousand sows during the June-August 2008 quarter. If realized, this would be down 5 percent from the same period in 2007.

*(See back page for U.S. highlights)*

## U.S. Hog Inventory Up 7 Percent

**U.S. inventory** of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2008 was 65.9 million head. This was up 7 percent from March 1, 2007, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2007.

**Breeding inventory**, at 6.14 million head, was up less than 1 percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 59.8 million head, was up 7 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

**The December 2007-February 2008 pig crop**, at 28.1 million head, was up 6 percent from 2007 and up 9 percent from 2006. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.05 million head, up 5 percent from 2007 and up 7 percent from 2006. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.21 for the December 2007-February 2008 period, compared to 9.09 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.30 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

### Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2007 through December 2007 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, an adjustment of slightly more than 2 percent was made to the September 1, 2007 total inventory along with an adjustment of slightly larger than 4 percent to the June-August 2007 pig crop. Adjustments of less than 3 percent were made to the December 1, 2007 total inventory and September-November 2007 pig crop.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter, and Pig Crop,  
United States, December-November 2007-2008<sup>1 2</sup>**

Month	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Dec <sup>1</sup>	960	1,014	9.08	9.19	8,712	9,318
Jan	972	1,020	9.10	9.20	8,841	9,387
Feb	973	1,017	9.09	9.23	8,843	9,389
Mar	1,023		9.14		9,346	
Apr	1,006		9.23		9,290	
May	1,004		9.22		9,260	
Jun	1,039		9.28		9,646	
Jul	1,036		9.29		9,620	
Aug	1,039		9.25		9,609	
Sep	1,048		9.26		9,704	
Oct	1,036		9.28		9,611	
Nov	1,015		9.24		9,375	
Total	12,151		9.21		111,858	

<sup>1</sup> December preceding year.

<sup>2</sup> Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.