



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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Montana 2007 Hog Inventory

For immediate release: December 27, 2007

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The inventory of all hogs and pigs in Montana on December 1, 2007 was 180,000 head, unchanged from a year ago, according to USDA, NASS, Montana Field Office. Breeding stock was unchanged at 18,000 head and market hog numbers were unchanged at 162,000 head.

There were 33,500 sows farrowed in Montana during the December 2006 through November 2007 season, down 1 percent from a year ago. The number of pigs per litter increased 5 percent to 10.06 and resulted in an annual pig crop of 337,000 head, a 4 percent increase from last year.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2007 was 65.1 million head. This was up 4 percent from December 1, 2006, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2007. Breeding inventory, at 6.16 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.0 million head, was up 5 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2007 pig crop, at 28.0 million head, was up 4 percent from 2006 and up 7 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.03 million head, up 3 percent from 2006 and up 4 percent from 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.24 for the September-November 2007 period, compared to 9.11 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.30 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.98 million sows farrow during the December 2007-February 2008 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, and up 5 percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for March-May 2008, at 3.04 million sows, are up slightly from 2007 and up 4 percent from 2006.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 38 percent last year.

Hogs & Pigs Inventory December 1, 2005-2007

	Montana				United States			
	2005	2006	2007	'07/'06	2005	2006	2007	'07/'06
	1,000 Head			Pct	1,000 Head			Pct
All Hogs & Pigs	175	180	180	100	61,449	62,490	65,110	104
Breeding Hogs	18	18	18	100	6,011	6,087	6,157	101
Market Hogs & Pigs								
Under 60 lbs	50	53	55	104	20,055	20,462	21,364	104
60-119 lbs	40	40	40	100	13,534	13,928	14,459	104
120-179 lbs	34	35	36	103	11,293	11,275	11,737	104
180 lbs & over	33	34	31	91	10,567	10,738	11,394	106
Total	157	162	162	100	55,438	56,402	58,953	105
Sows farrowed								
Dec-Nov 1/	33.0	34.0	33.5	99	11,535	11,629	11,960	103
Pig Crop								
Dec-Nov 1/	319	325	337	104	103,965	105,618	109,937	104
Pigs per Litter: (Actual number)								
Dec-Nov 1/	9.67	9.56	10.06	105	9.01	9.08	9.19	101
1/ December previous year.								