



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW ENGLAND FIELD OFFICE
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USDA TO CONDUCT ANNUAL HOGS AND PIGS SURVEY

Concord, New Hampshire –The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is gearing up to conduct its largest quarterly survey of the pork industry. The December Hog and Pig survey is the only chance to officially measure the New England hog industry in 2011. During the first two weeks of December, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact pork producers for the Hogs and Pigs Survey. They will be asked to report their market hog and breeding stock inventories as well as their farrowing intentions as of December 1.

Gary Keough, Director of the NASS New England Field Office, noted that all information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only State and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified," he said.

To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate, we offer the option of responding by mail, telephone, Internet, or personal interview.

Survey results are published in NASS's quarterly *Hogs and Pigs* report, to be released December 23. NASS also publishes national estimates of the number of hog operations by size group in the *Farms, Land in Farms, and Livestock Operations* report in February. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS New England Field Office at 1-800-642-9571.

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