



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Upcoming survey information is contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA TO CONDUCT QUARTERLY HOGS AND PIGS SURVEY

HARRISBURG, PA, November 3, 2009 –The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is gearing up to conduct its largest quarterly survey of the pork industry. During the first two weeks of December, USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact nearly 13,000 pork producers, including contractors, for the Hogs and Pigs Survey.

“Through these quarterly surveys, NASS can measure and report trends in the U.S. pork industry over the course of the year,” said Kevin Pautler, Director, NASS Pennsylvania Field Office. “The program enables NASS to provide timely, accurate and unbiased data that all sectors of the U.S. pork industry depend on to help make sound business decisions,” added Pautler.

Producers will be asked to report their market hog and breeding stock inventories, as well as their farrowing intentions as of December 1, 2009. Information provided by survey respondents is confidential by law. “NASS uses the information for statistical purposes only, thereby safeguarding the privacy of all responses,” he stated.

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

Survey results are published in NASS’s quarterly *Hogs and Pigs* report, to be released December 30, 2009. NASS also publishes national estimates of the number of hog operations by herd size groups and percent of inventory in the *Farms, Land in Farms and Livestock Operations* report in February, 2010. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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