



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110

Upcoming survey information is contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

Contact: Marc Tosiano, 717-787-3904  
[nass-pa@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-pa@nass.usda.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## USDA to Conduct First Hogs and Pigs Survey of 2009

HARRISBURG, PA, Jan 29, 2009 - - U.S. hog and pig inventories have maintained at near record highs for the past three years. In March, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct its first quarterly hogs and pigs survey of 2009 to see if the trend continues this year.

During the first two weeks of the month, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact nearly 9,000 pork producers, including contractors, in the 30 largest hog-producing states. They will be asked to report their market hog and breeding stock inventories as well as their farrowing intentions.

"Through the hogs and pigs surveys, NASS measures and reports conditions and trends in the U.S. pork industry over the course of the year," said Marc Tosiano, director of the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office. "The quarterly surveys enable NASS to provide timely, accurate and unbiased data that all sectors of the U.S. pork industry here and overseas depend on to help make sound business decisions," added Tosiano.

NASS makes participation in the survey as simple as possible. "The option of responding by mail, telephone, internet, or through a personal interview makes it easier for producers to participate," Tosiano said. "And as with most NASS surveys, information will only be published on a state and national level ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified."

Survey results will be published in the quarterly *Hogs and Pigs* report, to be released March 27. The report will include inventory and breeding information for each of the 17 largest hog producing states. These and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

For more information, call the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

###

*Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).*