



News Release

In Cooperation with Clemson University

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SOUTH CAROLINA HOG INVENTORY UNCHANGED

Hogs and pigs on **SOUTH CAROLINA** farms as of December 1, 2007, are estimated at 295,000 head, unchanged from December 1, 2006, according to the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office. Of the total hog inventory on December 1, 29,000 were breeding hogs, down 1,000 from 2006 and 266,000 were market hogs, up 1,000 from a year earlier.

Sows farrowed December 2006 - November 2007 was 52,000, down 5 percent from the previous year. The average litter rate for the year was 9.10 pigs per litter, compared to 9.24 a year ago. Total pig crop was 473,000, down 7 percent from the previous year.

The **UNITED STATES** 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.