

South Dakota HOGS AND PIGS

News Release

March 24, 2005

HOG NUMBERS ABOVE LAST YEAR

SIoux FALLS, March 24, 2005 –The state's March 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs was 1.36 million head, up 9 percent from one year ago and 2 percent above last quarter, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Office.

Breeding stock totaled 145,000 head, the same as March 2004. **Market hogs** totaled 1,215,000 head, up 10 percent from last year.

The December through February **pig crop** was 677,000 head, up 5 percent from 644,000 head last year. During the quarter 72,000 sows farrowed, up 3 percent from 2004. Pigs per litter averaged 9.40, up from 9.20 the previous year. Producers intend to farrow 73,000 sows during March through May, 4 percent above the actual farrowings a year ago. Intentions for June through August are 73,000 sows, up from 68,000 actual farrowings one year earlier.

*The complete report can be accessed at www.usda.gov/nass/
or call Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at
605-323-6500*