



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
South Dakota Field Office • Sioux Falls, SD



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HOG NUMBERS ABOVE LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, March 31, 2006 -- The state's **March 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs** was 1.44 million head, up 6 percent from one year ago but 3 percent below last quarter, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Breeding stock totaled 155,000 head, up 7 percent from March 2005. **Market hogs** totaled 1,285,000 head, up 6 percent from last year.

The **December through February pig crop** was 714,000 head, up 5 percent from 677,000 head last year. During the quarter 76,000 sows farrowed, up 6 percent from 2005. Pigs per litter averaged 9.40, unchanged from the previous year. Producers intend to farrow 83,000 sows during March through May, 11 percent above the actual farrowings a year ago. Intentions for June through August are 80,000 sows, up from 71,000 actual farrowings one year earlier.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2006/hgpg0306.pdf>