



Press Release

PR-122-06

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On: MARCH HOG AND PIG INVENTORY
UP 2 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

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For Release: IMMEDIATELY (March 31, 2006)

Austin . . . The March 1, 2006 Texas hog and pig inventory, at 930,000 head, was up 2 percent from March 2005.

The number of breeding hogs totaled 100,000 head, up 5 percent from last year, according to figures released by the Texas Field Office.

The March 1 market hog inventory was up 2 percent from a year ago at 830,000 head, 89 percent of the total hog and pig inventory. The inventory of market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds, at 265,000 head, was down 10 percent from the previous year. The inventory of hogs weighing 60 to 119 pounds, at 190,000 head, was equal to the March 2005 inventory. Market hogs weighing 120 to 179 pounds totaled 195,000 head, a 22 percent increase from last year; hogs weighing 180 pounds or more, at 180,000 head, were up 6 percent from the previous year.

The December 2005-February 2006 Texas pig crop totaled 353,000 head, a decrease of 11 percent from last year. Pigs per litter averaged 8.60, down 7 percent from the previous year. State Director, Robin Roark, reported that 41,000 sows farrowed in Texas during December 2005 through February 2006, down 5 percent from last year.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2006, is estimated at 60.1 million head, up 1 percent from a year ago but down 2 percent December 1, 2005. The breeding hog inventory, at 6.03 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.1 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The U.S. pig crop for December 2005-February 2006, at 25.7 million head, was up 1 percent from 2005. U.S. producers intend to have 2.90 million sows farrow during the March-May 2006 period, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2005. Intended farrowings for June-August 2006, at 2.92 million sows, are up slightly from the same quarter in 2005.