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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture

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WEST VIRGINIA HOG INVENTORY

WEST VIRGINIA - Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2007, was 9,000 head, down 18 percent from December 1, 2006. Of the 9,000 head, 2,000 were for breeding; unchanged from 2006. The breakdown of the remaining 7,000 market hogs and pigs was as follows: 1,000 head were under 60 pounds; 2,000 were from 60-119 pounds; 2,000 were from 120-179 pounds; and 2,000 were 180 pounds and over.

Annual pig crop totaled 14,400 head, 6 percent below the 2006 pig crop. Sows farrowing from December 2006 through November 2007 totaled 1,900 head, down 14 percent from the previous year. Pigs per litter averaged 7.58 pigs, up 8 percent from the 2006 average which was 7.00 pigs per litter.

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.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 38 percent last year.

Revisions - All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2006 through September 2007 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, adjustments of less than two percent were made to the June 2007 and September 2007 total inventory. An adjustment of less than three percent was made to the March-May 2007 pig crop while an adjustment of slightly more than one-half of one percent was made to the June-August 2007 pig crop.