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Hogs & Pigs

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Kansas Inventory Down 4 Percent From Last Year

The June 1 inventory of hogs and pigs on Kansas farms totaled 1.49 million head, down 4 percent from June 1, 2002 but up 1 percent from March 1, 2003.

Hogs and pigs kept for breeding purposes totaled 165,000 head, unchanged from 2002. Breeding stock accounted for 11 percent of all hogs and pigs. Market hogs accounted for the remaining 89 percent of the total inventory, at 1.325 million head. Market hog inventory was down 4 percent from a year ago. Market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds, at 435,000 head, were 15 percent below a year ago, and 8 percent below June 1, 2001. The 60-119 pound weight group totaled 295,000 head, 5 percent below a year ago but unchanged from June 1, 2001. The 120-179 pound weight groups totaled 240,000 head, 2 percent below a year ago but unchanged from June 1, 2001. The over 180 pound weight group totaled 355,000 head, up 11 percent from last year but unchanged from June 2001.

March-May Pig Crop

The March-May pig crop in Kansas totaled 689,000 head, 4 percent below a year ago. Sows farrowed during this period, at 81,000 head, were down 1 percent from the same period a year ago with an average pigs per litter rate of 8.50. The pigs per litter rate was down 3 percent from last year's average of 8.75.

Farrowing Intentions

Kansas farmers intend to farrow 82,000 sows in the June-August quarter, unchanged from the preceding year. For the September-November quarter, expected farrowings are estimated at 84,000 sows, 6 percent above last year.

Hogs And Pigs Inventory, June 1, Seventeen Major States

State	2002	2003	2003 % of 2002	State	2002	2003	2003 % of 2002
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*		*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*
Arkansas	595	260	44	N. Carolina	9,900	9,600	97
Colorado	750	720	96	Ohio	1,500	1,450	97
Illinois	4,250	4,000	94	Oklahoma	2,440	2,290	94
Indiana	3,200	3,000	94	Pennsylvania	1,070	1,050	98
Iowa	15,600	15,500	99	S. Dakota	1,270	1,320	104
Kansas	1,550	1,490	96	Texas	990	910	92
Michigan	920	900	98	Wisconsin	530	480	91
Minnesota	5,900	6,200	105				
Missouri	3,050	2,900	95	Other States	3,823	3,716	97
Nebraska	2,950	2,950	100	U. S.	60,288	58,736	97

U.S. Inventory Down 3 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2003 was 58.7 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2003 but down 3 percent from June 1, 2002. Breeding inventory, at 5.94 million head, was down 4 percent from June 1, 2002 and down slightly from March 1, 2003. Market hog inventory, at 52.8 million head, was down 2 percent from June 1, 2002 but up 1 percent from March 1, 2003.

Pig Crop

The March 2003-May 2003 U.S. pig crop, at 25.1 million head, was down 3 percent from 2002 and down 2 percent from 2001. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.82 million head, 4 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.88 pigs saved per litter for the March 2003-May 2003 period, compared to 8.82 pigs for the same period last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

Farrowing Intentions

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.83 million sows farrow during the June-Aug 2003 quarter, 2 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2002 and 2001. Intended farrowings for September-November 2003, at 2.79 million sows, are 1 percent below the same period in 2002 and 3 percent below 2001.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 35 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 32 percent last year.

Hogs And Pigs: Inventory, June 1

Item	Kansas			United States		
	2002	2003		2002	2003	
	Number (000)	Number (000)	% of 2002	Number (000)	Number (000)	% of 2002
All Hogs & Pigs	1,550	1,490	96	60,288	58,736	97
Breeding	165	165	100	6,209	5,940	96
Market	1,385	1,325	96	54,078	52,796	98
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight Group:						
Under 60 pounds	510	435	85	20,186	19,617	97
60 - 119 pounds	310	295	95	13,588	13,113	97
120 - 179 pounds	245	240	98	10,884	10,697	98
180 pounds & over	320	355	111	9,420	9,369	99

Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs Per Litter, And Pig Crop

Item	Kansas			United States		
	2002	2003		2002	2003	
	Number (000)	Number (000)	% of 2002	Number (000)	Number (000)	% of 2002
March - May						
Sows Farrowing	82	81	99	2,943	2,821	96
Pig Crop [1]	718	689	96	25,959	25,053	97
Pigs per Litter [2]	8.75	8.50	97	8.82	8.88	101
June - August						
Expected Farrowings	82	82	100	2,887	2,827	98
September - November						
Expected Farrowings	79	84	106	2,817	2,794	99

[1] Number of pigs born March-May that were still on hand June 1 or had been sold.

[2] Number of pigs.

Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for June 2002 through March 2003 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, import, and export data in U.S. level balance sheets. Based on the findings of this review, a slight adjustment of less than one-half percent was made to the March 1, 2003 inventory.

Pigs Per Litter: By Size of Operation, United States, 2002 - 2003

Pig Crop	Pigs Per Litter on Operations Having					
	1-99 Head	100-499 Head	500-999 Head	1,000-1,999 Head	2,000-4,999 Head	5,000+ Head
	Number	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*
2002						
Dec-Feb [1]	7.30	7.80	8.30	8.60	8.70	8.90
Mar-May	7.70	8.10	8.30	8.70	8.70	8.90
Jun-Aug	7.60	7.80	8.40	8.70	8.80	9.00
Sep-Nov	7.50	8.20	8.40	8.60	8.70	9.00
2003						
Dec-Feb [1]	7.60	8.00	8.20	8.70	8.80	8.90
Mar-May	7.60	8.00	8.40	8.70	8.70	9.00

[1] December preceding year.

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MARKET IMPLICATIONS - Provided by Jim Mintert, Extension Ag Economist at KSU - Research & Extension Service

Pork and hog prices rebounded sharply this spring, which was a welcome relief to hog producers following a dismal winter quarter. USDA's pork cutout averaged $6 cwt. during April-June, up 17% compared to spring 2002 and 13% higher than during January-March 2003. Similarly, national base hog prices averaged $56.26/cwt. (carcass weight) this spring, 19% higher than last year and national net hog prices (including premiums/discounts) averaged $58.81, 17% higher than a year ago.

The pork and hog price increase was partly a response to smaller domestic production. Weekly hog slaughter during April-June 2002 was 1.6% smaller than a year ago, which is in sharp contrast to January-March when slaughter was 1.7% larger than 2002's. Weights, however, were slightly heavier than in 2002, which offset a portion of the spring slaughter decline. As a result, pork production this spring declined just 1.1% below a year ago. The modest year-to-year production decline does not explain all of the price increase, suggesting that domestic pork demand improved during spring 2003 vs. 2002. Increasing pork demand could turn out to be a wild card in the hog price outlook during the rest of 2003.

The rise in hog prices finally pushed returns for average cost farrow-finish hog operations into the black during May. According to Iowa State's calculations, average cost farrow-finish operations consistently lost money starting in the fall of 2001 through April of this year. But that finally changed in May when returns averaged $7.70 per head. Look for returns to remain positive the rest of 2003 and the first half of 2004.

Today's **Hogs and Pigs** report confirmed that hog slaughter the rest of this year will be smaller than in 2002. Look for year-to-year hog slaughter declines of about 3% this summer and 2 to 3% this fall. Slaughter should also be smaller than during the prior year in early 2004, but producer farrowing intentions for this summer and fall were larger than the trade expected prior to the report's release. As a result, year-to-year declines in slaughter during early 2004 could be modest, averaging just 2%.

National average base hog prices this summer are expected to be higher than in the spring, likely averaging near $60 (carcass weight) for a July-September average. Fall quarter base prices are expected to decline seasonally, but still could average in the low $50's as slaughter and pork production continue to run below year earlier levels.