



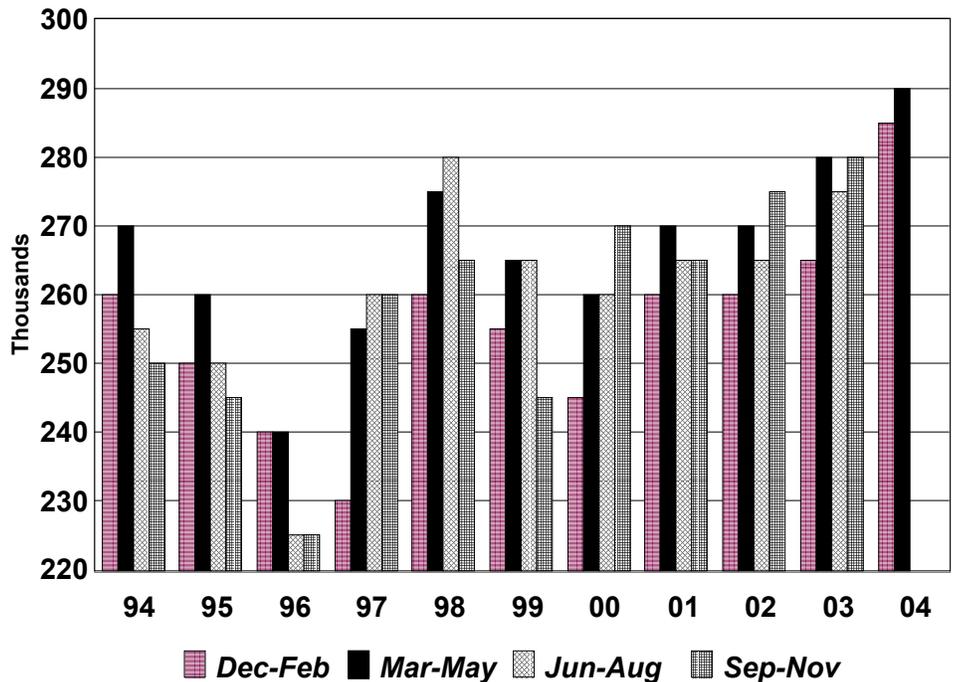
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MINNESOTA HOG NUMBERS UP 3 PERCENT

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 6,500,000 hogs and pigs on June 1, 2004, up 3 percent from a year earlier and up 2 percent from the March 1, 2004 figure, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is a record inventory for June 1. Breeding hogs totaled 600,000, unchanged from a year earlier and 5,900,000 were market hogs and pigs, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Market hogs in the under 60 pound weight group were up 3 percent from last year. Those in the 60-119 pound weight group were up 2 percent. Hog numbers in the 120-179 pound group were up 4 percent from last year, while the 180+ pound group were up 7 percent from a year ago.

**Sows Farrowed
Minnesota 1994-2004**



STATE PIG CROP UP 4 PERCENT

Minnesota's March-May 2004 pig crop totaled 2,596,000 head, up 4 percent from a year earlier and up 1 percent from the December 2003-February 2004 pig crop. This is a record pig crop for any quarter. The 290,000 sows that farrowed averaged 8.95 pigs per litter, unchanged from a year ago.

JUNE-AUGUST 2004 AND SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2004 INTENTIONS

Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 290,000 sows during the June-August 2004 quarter. If realized this would be up 5 percent from last year. Producers intend to farrow 285,000 sows during the September-November 2004 quarter. If realized, this would be up 2 percent from the previous year.

(See back page for U.S. highlights)

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2004 was 60.1 million head. This was 1 percent above both June 1, 2003 and March 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory, at 5.91 million head, was down 2 percent from June 1, 2003, and down slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.2 million head, was 1 percent above both last year and last quarter.

The March - May 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 25.5 million head, was down less than one-half of one percent from 2003, and down 2 percent from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.86 million head, 1 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.93 for the March - May 2004 period, compared to 8.88 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.87 million sows farrow during the June-August 2004 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2003 and 2002. Intended farrowings for September-November 2004, at 2.84 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2003, but up slightly from the same period in 2002.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 35 percent last year.

Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for June 2003 through March 2004 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review small adjustments were made within inventory components for March 2004. No adjustment was made to March 2004 total inventory.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter, and Pig Crop,
United States, December-November 2003-2004^{1/2/}**

Month	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Number	Number	1,000 Head	1,000 Head
Dec ¹	907	925	8.75	8.84	7,940	8,176
Jan	930	951	8.82	8.83	8,202	8,400
Feb	932	938	8.86	8.87	8,257	8,319
Mar	946	953	8.85	8.92	8,372	8,505
Apr	966	953	8.88	8.94	8,581	8,518
May	973	951	8.91	8.93	8,674	8,497
Jun	961		8.91		8,567	
Jul	974		8.90		8,670	
Aug	971		8.89		8,632	
Sep	962		8.91		8,575	
Oct	949		8.93		8,478	
Nov	930		8.93		8,305	
Total	11,401		8.88		101,254	

¹ December preceding year.

² Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.