



# NEWS RELEASE



## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### NEBRASKA HOG INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

LINCOLN, Neb., December 30, 2003--Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2003, was 2.9 million head, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. This was down 2 percent from December 1, 2002 and 3 percent below September 1, 2003. Breeding inventory, at 370,000 head, was up 1 percent from December 1, 2002 but down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2.53 million head, was 2 percent below last year and 4 percent below last quarter.

The September - November 2003 Nebraska pig crop, at 1.58 million head, was 2 percent more than 2002 and 10 percent above 2001. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 175,000 head, 3 percent above last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to have 170,000 sows farrow during the December 2003 - February 2004 quarter, 3 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period last year but unchanged from two years ago. Intended farrowings for March - May 2004, at 175,000 sows, are 3 percent below 2003 but unchanged from 2002.

### U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2003, was 60.0 million head. This was 1 percent above December 1, 2002, but slightly below September 1, 2003. Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2002, but 1 percent above last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.1 million head, was 1 percent above last year, but slightly below last quarter.

The September - November 2003 U.S. pig crop, at 25.3 million head, was 2 percent more than 2002, but 1 percent below 2001. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.84 million head, 1 percent above last year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.81 million sows farrow during the December 2003 - February 2004 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003, but 1 percent below 2002. Intended farrowings for March - May 2004, at 2.85 million sows, are 1 percent below the same period in 2003 and 3 percent below 2002.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2003/hgpg1203.pdf>