

# NEWS RELEASE



## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### NEBRASKA HOG INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

LINCOLN, Neb., December 28, 2004--Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004, was 2.85 million head, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. This was down 2 percent from December 1, 2003, unchanged from September 1, 2004, and the lowest December 1 inventory since 1975. Breeding inventory, at 355,000 head, was down 4 percent from December 1, 2003, down 1 percent from last quarter, and the lowest December 1 breeding inventory since this series began in 1963. Market hog inventory, at 2.5 million head, was 1 percent below last year but slightly above last quarter.

The September - November 2004 Nebraska pig crop, at 1.53 million head, was 8 percent less than 2003 and 6 percent below 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 170,000 head, 8 percent below last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to have 170,000 sows farrow during the December 2004-February 2005 quarter, 3 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period last year, and 6 percent below two years ago. Intended farrowings for March-May 2005, at 170,000 sows, are 3 percent below 2004 and down 8 percent from 2003.

### U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP SLIGHTLY

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004 was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

The September-November 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 25.6 million head, was up slightly from 2003, and up 2 percent from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down slightly from last year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2004-February 2005 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrows during the same period in 2004, and 3 percent above 2003. Intended farrowings for March-May 2005, at 2.87 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2004, and down 1 percent from the same period in 2003.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2004/hgpg1204.pdf>