



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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October 7, 2004 - For Immediate Release - Please Inform Others

USDA MAKES ANNUAL COUNT OF HOGS AND PIGS

USDA's Hog and Pig survey is the only chance to officially measure the New England hog industry in 2004. This annual survey is part of a National study to establish official USDA estimates for hog inventories as of December 1 and farrowings for the previous 12 months in all States. In December, approximately 300 farmers in the six New England States will be asked about inventories and farrowings on their hog operations. Farmers selected for the survey will receive a letter requesting their help in late November. Most information will be collected by telephone interviewers from the New England field office in Concord, New Hampshire. This project helps livestock producers nationwide make both short and long-term planning decisions on purchases, sales, and capital investments. The results of the survey are used by farmers, grower associations, extension specialists, suppliers, lenders, and lawmakers when reviewing farm practices and policies. As with all surveys conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, individual operator information is kept **strictly confidential** and is exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports are only used in combination with other reports to establish State and National estimates.

National survey results will be released in the **Hogs and Pigs** report from Washington, D.C. at 3:00 p.m. on December 29, 2004. All reports are available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/ within minutes of the scheduled release time. New England statistics based on this survey will be reprinted in the January issue of the monthly **Ag Review**. This monthly New England newsletter is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and complimentary copies are also mailed to survey participants upon request.

[The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, it is responsible for agricultural statistics in all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at nass-nh@nass.usda.gov. All National statistics and State level newsletters are available through free e-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/.]

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