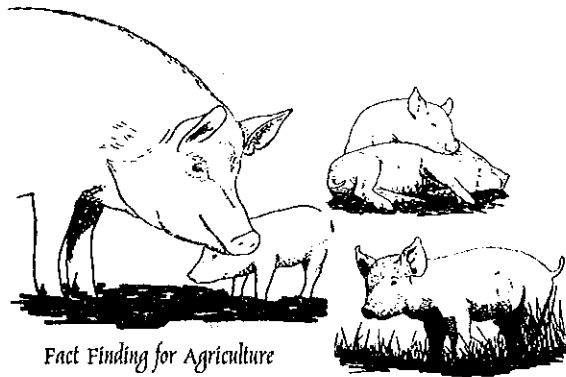


HAWAII HOGS December 1



Hawaii Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Development Division

U.S. Department of Agriculture

P.O. Box 22159

Honolulu, Hi 96823-2159

Phone (808) 973-9588

FAX (808) 973-2909

Release: February 11, 1998

Frequency: Annual

HOG INVENTORY AT ALL TIME LOW

According to the *Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service*, the total number of hogs and pigs on Hawaii farms on December 1, 1997 was **27,000** head compared with 28,000 a year earlier and 34,000 two years ago. The 27,000 hog inventory is a record low. The decline in inventory occurred in the breeding hog category, which decreased to 5,000 head, while the market hog herd remained unchanged at 22,000 head.

All islands, except for the Island of Oahu recorded declines in inventory. The largest decline occurred on Maui county following by the Island of Hawaii. The increase in herd size on Oahu can be attributed to the recovery by hog operators from the Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) virus, which seriously infected hog operations in the Waianae district on Oahu the previous year. PRRS, became a serious problem between the summer of 1996 into the first half of 1997, causing pregnant sows to abort or have still births and deaths of weak piglets soon after birth.

The 1997 pig crop totaled 38,000 pigs, a decrease of 7,000 and 13,000 pigs from 1996 and 1995, respectively. The decrease is attributed to the downsizing and closure of farms as well as to PRRS. Farmers project farrowing 3,000 sows during the next 6-month period covering December 1, 1997 to May 30, 1998. This is an anticipated increase of 200 and 300 sows from the previous 6 months (June 1, 1997 to November 30, 1997) and the same 6 month period a year earlier.

December 1, Inventory, State of Hawaii, 1995-97

Year	Total	Breeding	Market Hogs and Pigs				
			Total	Under 60 pounds 1,000 head	60 - 119 pounds	120 - 179 pounds	Over 180 pounds
1995	34.0	6.0	28.0	13.0	7.0	6.0	2.0
1996	28.0	6.0	22.0	9.0	6.0	5.0	2.0
1997	27.0	5.0	22.0	10.0	6.0	4.0	2.0

December 1, Total Hogs, by Island, State of Hawaii, 1995-97

Year	STATE	Hawaii	Kauai	Maui/Molokai/Lanai	Oahu
1995	34.0	2.1	3.7	7.8	20.4
1996	28.0	2.5	4.2	6.3	15.0
1997	27.0	1.3	3.5	4.5	17.7

Sows farrowing and pig crop, State of Hawaii, 1995-98

Year	Sows farrowing		Pig Crop		Pigs per litter	
	December - May ¹	June - November	December - May ¹	June - November	December - May ¹	June - November
1995	3.6	3.7	24	27	6.8	7.4
1996	3.6	4.2	24	21	6.8	6.5
1997	2.7	2.8	17	21	6.3	7.5
1998	3.0					

¹ December preceding year. ² Expected farrowing December 1996 - May 1997.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 7 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 1997, was 59.9 million head. This was 7 percent above December 1996.

- Breeding inventory, at 6.98 million head, is up 5 percent from December 1, 1996.
- Market hog inventory, at 52.9 million head was 7 percent above last year.

The September-November 1997 U.S. pig crop at 25.3 million head was 9 percent more than 1996 and 8 percent more than 1995.

- Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.93 million head, 8 percent above last year.
- The average pigs per litter continues to increase at a rapid pace, with an average of 8.63 pigs saved per litter for the September - November period.

U.S. producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the December 1997 - February 1998 quarter, 9 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period last year, and 6 percent higher than 1996. Intended farrowings for March - May 1998 at 3.04 million sows are 3 percent above both the 1997 and the 1996 period.

The number of operations with hogs totaled 138,690 during 1997, down 11 percent from last year and 24 percent below 1995. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 4 percent of the operations and 55 percent of the inventory. This is the second time operations with inventories over 2,000 head have controlled over 50 percent of the total inventory. Operations with over 5,000 head accounted for 35 percent of the total inventory.

December 1 Inventory, United States, 1995-97

Year	Total	Breeding	Market Hogs and Pigs				
			Total	Under 60 pounds 1,000 head	60 - 119 pounds	120 - 179 pounds	Over 180 pounds
1995	58,264	6,839	51,425	18,881	12,808	10,702	9,034
1996	56,141	6,667	49,474	18,439	12,221	10,291	8,522
1997	59,920	6,979	52,941	19,922	13,028	10,884	9,107

Sows farrowing and pig crop, United State, 1995-98

Year	Sows farrowing		Pig Crop		Pigs per litter	
	December - May ¹	June - November	December - May ¹	June - November	December - May ¹	June - November
1995	6,056	5,791	50,224	48,292	8.29	8.34
1996	5,712	5,475	48,200	46,756	8.44	8.54
1997	5,610	5,830	48,450	50,522	8.64	8.67
1998	5,957					

¹ December preceding year. ² Expected farrowing December 1997 - May 1998.

DONALD A. MARTIN
State Agricultural Statistician

NILS K. MORITA
Research Statistician

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics
Service
P.O. Box 22159
Honolulu, Hawaii 96823-2159

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE**