



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
HEARTLAND REGION – ILLINOIS FIELD OFFICE
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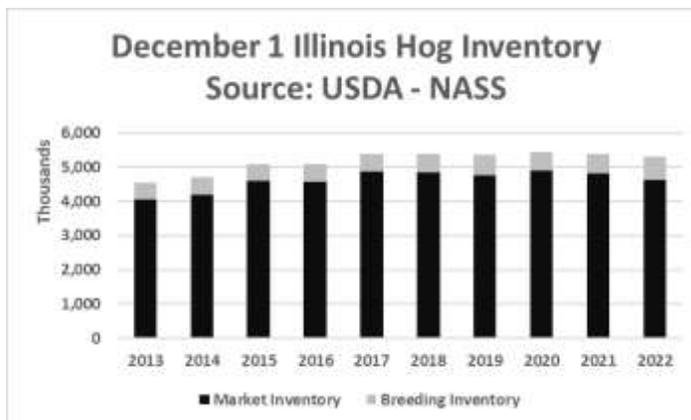
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USDA TO CONDUCT QUARTERLY HOGS AND PIGS SURVEY

Springfield, Illinois – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is contacting producers for the March Hogs and Pigs Survey. Each quarter this survey provides comprehensive information on market hog and breeding stock inventories as well as pig crop and farrowing intentions in the US.

“As a major hog producing state, it is important that Illinois hog inventory be accurately measured,” said Mark Schleusener, Illinois State Statistician. “I encourage all surveyed producers to respond to the March survey to ensure Illinois hog inventory continues to be accurately counted.” The data gathered in the March survey will allow NASS to accurately measure and report conditions and trends in the U.S. pork industry over the last three months. The information is used by all sectors of the industry, including producers themselves, to help make sound and timely business decisions.



NASS will mail the questionnaires to selected hog producers in February. Farmers are encouraged to respond online at agcounts.usda.gov, or by mail. Alternatively, NASS representatives will contact those who have not responded to arrange telephone interviews to complete the survey.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no

individual operation or producer can be identified, as required by federal law. NASS will publish the survey results in the Quarterly Hogs and Pigs report on March 30, available online at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

For assistance with the survey, or for more information, contact the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at (800) 551-1014 or nassfohlr@usda.gov.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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