

Livestock review

cattle... As of January 1, 2009, there were 185,000 total head of cattle and calves in Maryland. Beef cow numbers decreased to 39,000 head, down nine percent and milk cows dropped to 56,000 head, down two percent. Beef replacement heifers dropped from previous year by 1,000 to a total of 8,000 head, whereas, milk cow replacement heifers increased from last year by 2,000 to a total of 26,000 head. Steers over 500 pounds decreased to 15,000 head. The 2008 calf crop totaled 72,000 calves, down nine percent from 2007 crop.

In 2008, the average price for cattle decreased to \$86.70 per hundred weight from \$86.50 the previous year. Marketings decreased from 2007 to 79.2 million pounds. In 2008, total cash receipts for cattle and calves were \$70.1 million, a decrease of \$8.8 million from 2007.



hogs... The total inventory of all hogs and pigs as of December 1, 2008, was 31,000 head in Maryland, down six percent from a year earlier. The number of breeding hogs and market hogs each decreased by 1,000 head from previous year to 4,000 and 27,000 head, respectively. The number of sows farrowed increased by 500 head from last year to 8,500 head. In 2008, the pig crop increased to 68,000, up ten percent from 2007.

In 2008, the average price for hogs and pigs increased to \$42.20 per hundred weight from \$40.20 a year earlier. Cash receipts for hogs totaled \$7.40 million, an increase of 15 percent from 2007.

