



New England Agricultural Statistics

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

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October 4, 2006 - For Immediate Release - Please Inform Others

USDA MEASURES ANNUAL COUNT OF HOGS AND PIGS

Once again it's time to measure hogs and pigs on farms in New England and **your help is vital to the success of this nationwide project. USDA's Hog and Pig survey is the only chance to officially measure the New England hog industry in 2006.** 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. Results from USDA's 2005 Hog and Pig survey showed that on December 1, 2005, New England inventories of all hogs and pigs on farms totaled 28,800 head, unchanged from 2004. Massachusetts accounted for more than 45 percent of New England's hog inventory with 13,000 head. Other state's inventories on December 1, 2005 were Connecticut with 3,500 head, Maine with 5,000 head, New Hampshire with 3,200 head, Rhode Island with 1,800 head, and Vermont with 2,300 head.

Approximately 300 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.

The National survey results will be available in the **Hogs and Pigs Report** from Washington, D.C. at 3:00 p.m on December 27, 2006. All reports are available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov within minutes of the scheduled release time. New England statistics will be reprinted in our January issue of the monthly **Agricultural Review**. The monthly New England **Agricultural Review** is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.

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

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