

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE PENNSYLVANIA FIELD OFFICE 2301 N. CAMERON ST. ROOM G-19, HARRISBURG, PA 17110



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 18, 2008 Contact: Marc Tosiano (717) 787-5147

USDA TO CONDUCT QUARTERLY HOG AND PIG SURVEY

HARRISBURG, PA - The U.S. Department of Agriculture is preparing to contact pork

producers nationwide for the quarterly Hogs and Pigs Survey.

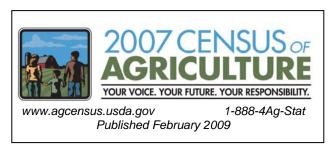
"Through this survey, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) measures and reports conditions and trends in the U.S. pork industry over the course of the year," said Marc Tosiano, director of the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office. "The quarterly survey enables NASS to provide the most accurate, timely data. The information is a critical decision-making tool for the pork industry."

During the first two weeks of June, NASS representatives will contact more than 9,000 pork producers nationwide, including contractors in the 30 largest hog-producing states. NASS will collect data about market hog, breeding stock inventories and farrowing intentions.

"We offer producers the option of responding by mail, telephone, Internet or during a personal interview, making their participation easier." Tosiano said.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in NASS's quarterly *Hogs and Pigs* report, to be released June 27. The report includes inventory and breeding information for each of the 17 largest hog producing states. This report, along with all NASS reports, is available online at <u>www.nass.usda.gov</u>.



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