



Press Release

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On: DECEMBER HOG AND PIG INVENTORY
DOWN 6 PERCENT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

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Austin . . . The December 1, 2005 Texas hog and pig inventory, at 930,000, was down 6 percent from the December 2004 number.

The number of breeding hogs totaled 100,000 head, equal to last year's estimate, according to figures released by the Texas Field Office.

The December 1 market hog inventory totaled 830,000 head, 89 percent of the total hog and pig inventory. The inventory of market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds, at 270,000 was down 10 percent from the previous year. The inventory of hogs weighing 60 to 119 pounds, at 195,000 head, was down 2 percent from the December 2004 inventory. Market hogs weighing 120 to 179 pounds, totaled 180,000 head, 12 percent below last year, and hogs weighing 180 pounds or more, at 185,000 head, were equal to the previous year's estimate.

The 2005 Texas pig crop totaled 1.6 million head, 6 percent below the 2004 pig crop. From December 2004 through November 2005, pigs per litter averaged 9.15, up 4 percent from the previous year. State Director, Robin Roark, reported that 175,000 sows farrowed in Texas during December 2004 through November 2005, compared to 195,000 the previous year.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2005 is estimated at 61.2 million head, up slightly from a year ago but down 1 percent from the September 1, 2005 inventory. The breeding hog inventory, at 6.01 million head, was up 1 percent from last year. Market hog inventory, at 55.2 million head, was up slightly from last year.

The U.S. pig crop for September-November 2005 was 26.1 million head, up 1 percent from the previous year. U.S. producers intend to have 2.88 million sows farrow during the December 2005-February 2006 period, up 1 percent above actual farrowings during the same period in 2005.