

USDA Releases Fourth Report from Swine 2006 Study

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has released the fourth descriptive report from its Swine 2006 study entitled, *Part IV: Changes in the U.S. Pork Industry 1990–2006*. Produced by APHIS' National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), the report identifies changes in the U.S. swine industry from 1990 to 2006, specifically those identified in four NAHMS swine studies: the 1990 National Swine Survey, Swine '95, Swine 2000 and Swine 2006. The report also provides a worldwide snapshot of trends in the swine industry.

The NAHMS Swine 2006 study was designed to serve as a basis of information for education and research programs on the nation's swine population. Seventeen states, accounting for 94 percent of U.S. swine operations with 100 or more pigs and 94 percent of the U.S. swine inventory, participated in Swine 2006. Here are a few highlights from Part IV of the Swine 2006 study:

- The number of U.S. swine sites has decreased steadily since 1990. In 2000, the number of swine sites in the United States had decreased by two-thirds of the 1990 number. In 2006, the number of swine sites was less than one-fourth the number reported in 1990.
- Since 1990, the number of pigs born alive per litter has increased by 1.33 piglets per litter, and total born per litter has increased by 1.50 piglets per litter. The number of pigs weaned per litter increased by about one pig per litter from 1990 to 2006.
- Stillbirths and mummies, as a percentage of the total born per litter, increased steadily from 1995 to 2006. In all four NAHMS swine studies, producers identified piglets lain upon as the leading cause of preweaning deaths.

- The percentage of sites that used artificial insemination as the predominant mating technique in sows and gilts increased from year 2000 (24.3 and 28.7 percent, respectively) to year 2006 (40.1 and 41.8 percent, respectively).
- The percentage of sites that used continuous flow management in the grower/finisher phase decreased steadily from 75.1 percent of sites in 1990 to 26.1 percent in 2006.
- Regular use of influenza vaccines more than doubled in breeding females between 2000 and 2006.

Part IV: Changes in the U.S. Pork Industry 1990–2006 is available at the NAHMS Web site: <http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov>.

Note to Stakeholders: Stakeholder announcements and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS home page at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov> and click on the "Newsroom" button. For additional information on this topic, contact Lindsay Griffin at (970) 494-7410 or e-mail: lyndsay.m.griffin@aphis.usda.gov.

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