

## USDA Releases Third Report from Swine 2006 Study

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has released the third descriptive report from its Swine 2006 study entitled, *Part III: Reference of Swine Health, Productivity, and General Management in the United States, 2006*.

The report is part of the fourth national study of the U.S. swine industry and serves as a basis of information for education and research programs on the nation's swine population. APHIS' National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), in collaboration with 17 participating states, produced the report. These participating states accounted for 94 percent of U.S. swine operations with 100 or more pigs, and 94 percent of the U.S. swine inventory was located on these operations. A few highlights from the third descriptive report of the Swine 2006 study include:

- Reproductive failure and performance were the two most common reasons breeding-age females were culled (36.9 and 23.7 percent of culled females, respectively). Reproductive failure and poor performance accounted for 60.6 percent of all culled females.
- Crushing by sow and starvation accounted for approximately 7 out of 10 (71.7 percent) preweaning deaths from June through November 2006. Disease-related causes, such as scours and respiratory problems, led to 15.9 percent of preweaning deaths.
- More than half of all sites (56.1 percent) had nursery-age pigs from June through November 2006.
- The majority of grower/finisher deaths (60.1 percent) were due to respiratory problems.

- For sites with total confinement housing, square feet per animal ranged from 3.5 in the nursery to 53.6 in the gestation facility.
- More than 60 percent of the sites that had one or more buildings used to house swine indicated that all of the buildings were constructed and maintained to keep out birds, cats and dogs.
- Market hogs were sold or shipped by 80.2 percent of sites, comprising more than half of off-site shipments (56.8 percent).
- Only 5.3 percent of shipments traveled 300 miles or more.

*Part III: Reference of Swine Health, Productivity, and General Management in the United States, 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 Teresa Howes at \(970\) 494-7410 or e-mail: \[teresa.k.howes@aphis.usda.gov\]\(mailto:teresa.k.howes@aphis.usda.gov\).](#)

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