

2009 Pork Industry Profile

About Ontario's Hog Industry

- 2,300 pork producers in Ontario marketed 5.05 million hogs in 2009, approximately 6.1% fewer than 2008.
- Ontario's pork industry contributed \$4.0 billion and 27,000 jobs from "farm to fork" to the provincial economy in 2009.
- Statistics Canada numbers for Oct 1, 2008:
 - 11.8 million pigs in Canada;
 - 3.0 million pigs in Ontario (349,000 sows & gilts, 6,600 boars);
- 38% of Ontario's pork producers market less than 500 hogs per year.
- Pork producer numbers, like all farm numbers, have continually declined, down by 89% from the highest number of 20,354 pork producers in 1979.
- The largest numbers of producers market between 500 and 3000 hogs per year. This is not surprising, as today's farmers tend to specialize in one commodity, rather than the mixed farming of the past.
- Over 98% of Canada's farms are still family owned and operated. Ontario's swine industry remains dominated by the family farm. The diversity of the 2,300 producers is their strength, but also makes it hard to describe "average" or "typical" farms.

Market Hog Prices:

- Total value of sales for market hogs in 2009 was \$573.9 million, down \$115 million (16.7%) from a year ago.
- Average pool price was \$116 per 100 kg, down \$2 from 2008;
- Average pool plus price was \$117/ckg, down \$7 with 2008;
- Average contract price was \$115/ckg, down \$7 with 2008.
- Average cost to produce a hog in Ontario was \$161/ckg, down \$6 from 2008.

North American & Export Markets:

- Ontario's share of the North American hog market was 3.9% in 2009.
- Ontario exported over 750,000 pigs weighing less than 50 kg.
- Ontario meat processors handled 92.3% of all hog sales; while U.S. purchased 3% and 4.7% were sold to Quebec and other provinces.
- Canada imported 136 million kg of pork, down 9% from 2008. From January to November, Canada exported 981.8 million kg of pork, down 3% from 2008.
- The U.S. and Japan are our major pork export markets with 30% going to the US, and 21% to Japan. Hong Kong, South Korea, and Russia rounded out the top 5 in 2009.