

## Glossary

**All-in/all-out** housing commingles pigs of a similar age and weight and keeps them together as they move through each production phase. Marketing is done a room at a time, and rooms are washed and disinfected after each group of pigs leave to help decrease the spread of infectious diseases.

**Commercial seed stock** producers specialize in the production and sale of high-quality breeding hogs.

**Contract production** is an arrangement in which a pig owner (**contractor**) engages a producer (**grower**) to take custody of the pigs and care for them in the producer's facilities with other inputs often furnished by the pigs' owner. The producer is paid a fee for the service provided.

**Farm Resource Regions** portray the geographic distribution of U.S. farm production by identifying areas where similar types of farms intersect with areas of similar physiographic, soil, and climatic traits (USDA, ERS).

**Hog operations** are defined as farms that had a hog inventory of 25 head or more on the acres operated at any time during survey years 1992, 1998, and 2004. Hog operations include independent hog producers and growers who produced hogs under contract.

**Hundredweight gain** equals hundredweight of hogs sold or removed under contract less hundredweight of hogs purchased or placed under contract, plus hundredweight of inventory change each year, expressed as:

$$\text{CWTGAIN} = (\text{CWTSR} - \text{CWTPP}) + (\text{CWTEINV} - \text{CWTBINV})$$

where CWTGAIN is hundredweight gain, CWTSR is hundredweight of sales and contract removals, CWTPP is hundredweight of purchases and contract placements, CWTEINV is hundredweight of inventory on December 31, and CWTBINV is hundredweight of inventory on January 1.

**Operating costs** are the costs for purchased input items that are consumed during one production period. These include feed; feeder pigs; veterinary and medical services; marketing; custom services and supplies; fuel, lubrication, and electricity; repairs; hired labor; and operating capital.

**Ownership costs** are the costs associated with the ownership of depreciable assets, such as farm tractors and hog-production facilities. These include depreciation, interest, property taxes, and insurance.

**Phase feeding** feeds hogs or pigs diets of varying protein and energy content at different stages, or phases, of their life to more closely match the diet with their changing nutritional requirements.

**Phase of production** refers to one of four commonly used categories that describe stages in the hog-production process: (1) breeding and gestation—the breeding of females and their maintenance during the gestation period;

(2) farrowing—the birth of baby pigs until weaning; (3) nursery—the care of pigs from immediately after weaning until about 30-80 pounds, and; (4) growing/finishing—the feeding of hogs from 30-80 pounds to the slaughter weight of 225-300 pounds.

**Terminal crossbreeding** programs concentrate on using all possible heterosis of the breeds and thus capitalize on breed strengths. These programs use two-, three-, or four-breed first-cross females that excel in maternal traits bred to boars from breeds that are superior for growth and carcass traits. All the progeny from these matings are marketed and not kept for replacement gilts.

**Total economic costs** are the full ownership costs (cash and noncash) for being engaged in the enterprise. These include both operating and ownership costs, plus opportunity costs for unpaid labor and land, and costs for general farm overhead items.

**Type of hog producer** is a classification that defines the hog operation according to the phases of production conducted on the operation and the type of product produced. Some operations in each survey could not be classified using the following criteria:

**Farrow-to-finish** operations are those on which pigs are farrowed and then finished to a slaughter weight of 225-300 pounds. Using the survey data, these operations were defined as farms on which more than 75 percent of pigs came from onfarm farrowings and more than 75 percent of the value of hogs and pigs left the operation through market hog sales or contract removals.

**Farrow-to-feeder** operations are those on which pigs are farrowed and then sold or removed under contract at or after weaning at a weight of about 30-80 pounds. Using the survey data, these operations were defined as farms on which more than 75 percent of pigs came from onfarm farrowings and more than 75 percent of the value of hogs and pigs left through feeder pig sales or contract removals.

**Farrow-to-wean** operations are those on which pigs are farrowed and then sold or removed under contract after an early weaning at a weight of about 10-20 pounds. Using the survey data, these operations were defined as farms on which more than 75 percent of pigs came from onfarm farrowings and more than 75 percent of the value of hogs and pigs left through weanling sales or contract removals.

**Feeder-to-finish** operations are those on which feeder pigs are obtained from outside the operation, either purchased or placed under contract, and then finished to a slaughter weight of 225-300 pounds. Using the survey data, these operations were defined as farms on which more than 75 percent of pigs came from feeder pig purchases or contract placements and more than 75 percent of the value of hogs and pigs left through market hog sales or contract removals.

**Wean-to-feeder** operations are those on which weanlings (10-20 pounds) are obtained from outside the operation, either purchased or placed under contract, and then fed to a feeder pig weight of about 30-80 pounds. Using the survey data, these operations were defined as farms on which more than 75 percent of pigs came from weanlings purchased or placed under contract and more than 75 percent of the value of hogs and pigs left through feeder pig sales or contract removals.