

August 1995 Pig Population Survey

Further drop in the pig population in the EU Pigmeat production still abundant, although declining

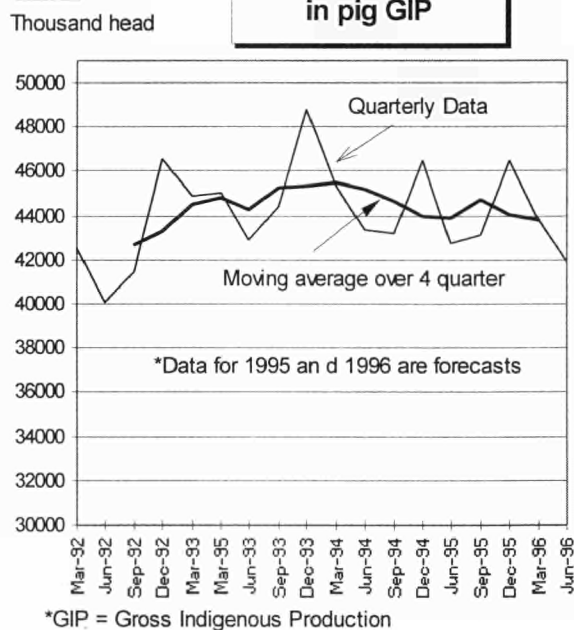
Pigmeat production in the European Union, which had stabilised in 1994 after a long period of growth, turned down in 1995. The estimated 1.4% reduction on 1994 should continue throughout the first half of 1996. According to the survey of pig farmers carried out in August, the breeding population declined by 3% in one year, which has already led to a reduction in the number of piglets available for fattening. At Community level, however, pigmeat should remain in abundant supply and exports will hold the key to balancing the market.

The survey conducted in the summer of 1995 confirmed the gradual decline in the pig population which began some 15 months ago. In August, there were 118.6 million pigs in the European Union of fifteen, 1.1% fewer than in August 1994.

The decline in breeding numbers is more marked. In one year, the total number of sows fell by nearly 2.5%, and that of young breeding sows by just under 4%. Since spring 1993, when the sow population peaked at 12.1 million head in the EU of twelve, numbers have fallen by some 600 000 head. While the decline is still far from general, no single country is reporting significant increases in its sow population. The logical consequence is that piglet and



Quarterly evolution*
in pig GIP



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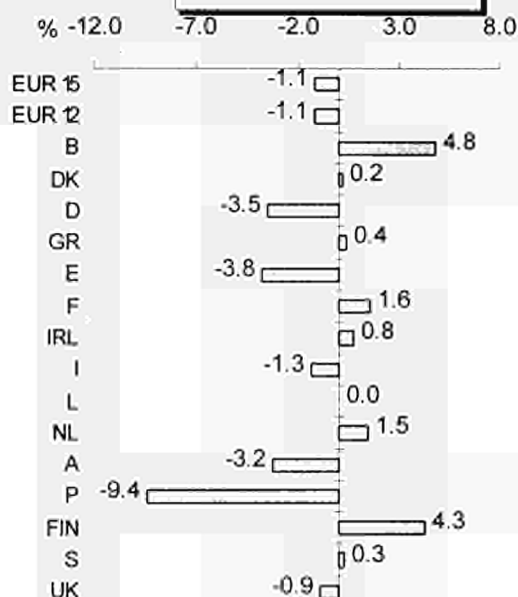
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Change in pig population (95/94 August)



young pig numbers are also down (-2.2%). In Spain, the numbers in these grades are down by as much as 9%.

A high number of fattening pigs

There is no doubt that this pattern, which for the moment is particularly marked in holdings specialising in producing piglets, will follow through into fattening houses in coming months. These were still busy in summer in most countries. In the European Union of twelve, the number of fattening pigs (50 kg and over) in piggeries in August was never as high as this year (40.7 million). The number of fattening pigs peaked at 41.3 million head in December 1993.

In several large pigmeat producing countries, the fattening pig population increased by 4% or more after the break in 1994. This was true of Belgium, Denmark, Spain, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. In France, too, the fattening pig

Methodological note

France has renewed the samples of pig population surveys. This led to a revision of statistical series concerning this sector.

PIG POPULATION

1000 HEAD

	EUR 15	EUR 12	B	DK	D
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1 TOTAL

8/92	-	110619	7090	10553	26910
8/93	-	113461	7165	11254	26755
8/94	119917 !	112577	6798	10892	25346
8/95	118612 *	111334 *	7127 *	10916 *	24466
% 8.95/8.94	-1.1 !	-1.1 *	-4.8 *	0.2 *	-3.5

1.1 PIGLETS (<20 KG)

8/92	-	30881	1943	3242	7473
8/93	-	31980	2024	3375	7392
8/94	33786 !	31645	1932	3393	6815
8/95	33150.8 *	30891 *	1949 *	3333 *	6575
% 8.95/8.94	-1.9 !	-2.4 *	0.9 *	-1.8 *	-3.5

1.2 YOUNG PIGS (20-50 KG)

8/92	-	28007	1775	3264	6840
8/93	-	28636	1825	3462	6903
8/94	30339 !	28450	1698	3358	6518
8/95	29578 *	27816 *	1801 *	3295 *	6251
% 8.95/8.94	-2.5 !	-2.2 *	6.1 *	-1.9 *	-4.1

1.3 PIGS FOR FATTENING (>50 KG)

8/92	-	39250	2561	2876	9533
8/93	-	40331	2526	3198	9443
8/94	42660 *	40167	2432	2953	9238
8/95	43095 *	40683 *	2648 *	3110 *	8989
% 8.95/8.94	1.0 *	1.3 *	8.9 *	5.3 *	-2.7

1.3.1 - PIGS FOR FATTENING (50-80 KG)

8/92	-	23088	1446	2292	5695
8/93	-	23245	1481	2548	5640
8/94	24261 *	22778	1325	2354	5358
8/95	24527 *	23138 *	1519 *	2480 *	5076
% 8.95/8.94	1.1 *	1.6 *	14.7 *	5.4 *	-5.3

1.3.2 - PIGS FOR FATTENING (80-110 KG)

8/92	-	13542	1083	573	3626
8/93	-	14247	995	637	3576
8/94	15332 *	14453	1048	589	3614
8/95	15829 *	14890 *	1088 *	620 *	3636
% 8.95/8.94	3.2 *	3.0 *	3.8 *	5.3 *	0.6

1.3.3 - PIGS FOR FATTENING (>110 KG)

8/92	-	2620	32	11	212
8/93	-	2839	50	13	227
8/94	3068 *	2935	59	10	265
8/95	2740 *	2654 *	40 *	10 *	277
% 8.95/8.94	-10.7 *	-9.6 *	-31.5 *	0.0 *	-4.6

* PROVISIONAL OR ESTIMATED DATA

- UNAVAILABLE

! ESTIMATED BY EUROSTAT

SCHWEINEBESTAND

EFFECTIFS PORCINS

1000 STÜCK

1000 TETES

GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	
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INSGESAMT

TOTAL

1

1048	17748	13250	1399	8181	68	13936	-	2581	-	-	7855	8/92
1121	18975	13762	1513	8260	69	13878	3807	2800	-	-	7909	8/93
1117 !	19238	14898	1535	8142	67	13912	3828	2787 !	1235 !	2277 !	7844	8/94
1121 !	18501 *	15133 *	1547 *	8040 *	67 !	14119 *	3707	2525 !	1287 *	2284 !	7772 *	8/95
0.4	-3.8	1.6	0.8	-1.3	0.0	1.5	-3.2	-9.4	4.3	0.3	-0.9	% 8.95/8.94

FERKEL (<20 KG)

PORCELETS (<20 KG)

1.1

346	4800	3216	394	1460	25	5048	-	785	-	-	2148	8/92
347	5310	3325	424	1443	25	5347	1094	799	-	-	2169	8/93
363 !	5560	3507	433	1483	24	5204	1081	794 !	452 !	608 !	2137	8/94
361 !	5115 *	3532 *	413 *	1510 *	24 !	5320 *	1037	730 !	446 *	777 !	2029 *	8/95
-0.6	-8.0	0.7	-4.6	1.8	0.0	2.2	-4.1	-8.0	-1.3	27.8	-5.1	% 8.95/8.94

JUNGSCHWEINE (20-50 KG)

JEUNES PORCS (20-50 KG)

1.2

268	4202	3827	420	1688	15	2834	-	708	-	-	2167	8/92
316	4600	3921	467	1755	16	2427	1047	750	-	-	2194	8/93
286 !	4678	4195	467	1665	15	2568	1059	767 !	257 !	573 !	2235	8/94
286 !	4257 *	4367 *	488 *	1666 *	15 !	2524 *	1014	690 !	272 *	476 !	2176 *	8/95
0.0	-9.0	4.1	4.5	0.1	0.0	-1.7	-4.2	-10.0	5.8	-16.9	-2.6	% 8.95/8.94

MASTSCHWEINE (>50 KG)

PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (>50 KG)

1.3

273	6623	4841	409	4319	18	4494	-	711	-	-	2592	8/92
300	6781	5154	444	4350	19	4675	1264	864	-	-	2577	8/93
298 !	6724	5746	462	4279	18	4629	1286	834 !	361 !	846 !	2554	8/94
303 !	6977 *	5790 *	472 *	4144 *	18 !	4811 *	1256	751 !	400 *	756 !	2669 *	8/95
1.8	3.8	0.8	2.3	-3.2	0.0	3.9	-2.3	-10.0	10.7	-10.7	4.5	% 8.95/8.94

- MASTSCHWEINE (50-80 KG)

- PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (50-80 KG)

1.3.1

190	4125	2665	303	1435	12	2611	-	460	-	-	1854	8/92
206	3889	2828	334	1392	12	2554	765	568	-	-	1793	8/93
201 !	3779	3133	340	1318	12	2602	784	580 !	235 !	464 !	1776	8/94
205 !	4006 *	3137 *	357 *	1364 *	12 !	2707 *	758	522 !	255 *	376 !	1753 *	8/95
1.7	6.0	0.1	5.1	3.5	0.0	4.0	-3.3	-10.0	8.3	-18.9	-1.3	% 8.95/8.94

- MASTSCHWEINE (80-110 KG)

- PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (80-110 KG)

1.3.2

78	2207	1987	98	1297	5	1693	-	217	-	-	677	8/92
87	2610	2099	101	1279	5	1879	457	253	-	-	726	8/93
88 !	2629	2323	113	1258	5	1847	458	222 !	113 !	307 !	717	8/94
89 !	2655 *	2376 *	114 *	1337 *	5 !	1916 *	455	200 !	134 *	349 !	854 *	8/95
2.1	1.0	2.3	0.7	6.3	0.0	3.7	-0.7	-9.9	18.3	13.6	19.1	% 8.95/8.94

- MASTSCHWEINE (>110 KG)

- PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (>110 KG)

1.3.3

5	291	188	8	1587	1	190	-	34	-	-	61	8/92
7	282	228	9	1680	1	242	42	43	-	-	58	8/93
9 !	315	291	9	1703	1	180	44	32 !	13 !	75 !	61	8/94
9 !	317 *	277 *	2 *	1443 *	1 !	189 *	43	29 !	11 *	31 !	62 *	8/95
0.0	0.4	-4.9	-83.3	-15.3	0.0	4.8	-2.3	-10.9	-12.6	-58.9	1.6	% 8.95/8.94

* VORLÄUFIGE ODER GESCHÄTZTE ANGABE

! NICHT VERFÜGBAR

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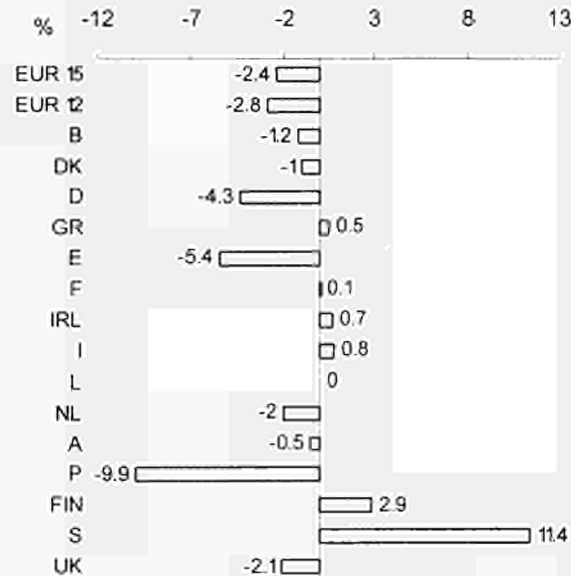
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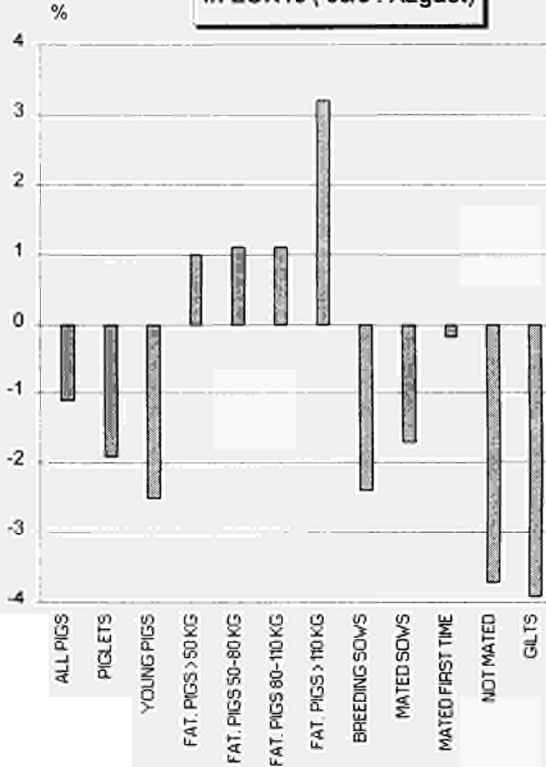
population continues to increase (+0.8%), but it is tending to stabilise. It should be recalled that France's pig population has had the highest increase in the EU since 1990 (+25%). In Italy, on the other hand, the decline which began in 1994 has continued, as it has in Germany, in both the old and new *Länder*.



Change in Stock of breeding sows (95/94 august)



Change in pig population in EUR15 (95/94 August)



PIG POPULATION

1000 HEAD

	EUR 15	EUR 12	B	DK	D
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1.4 BREEDINGS PIGS >= 50kg

8/92	-	12481	812	1171	3063
8/93	-	12514	789	1219	3017
8/94	13133	12316	737	1188	2775
8/95	12789*	11944*	728*	1178*	2651
% 8.95/8.94	-2.6	-3.0	-1.1	-0.8	-4.4

1.4.1 - BOARS

8/92	-	477	21	37	96
8/93	-	464	20	37	95
8/94	488	458	17	35	86
8/95	442*	414*	17*	36*	79
% 8.95/8.94	-9.4	-9.6	-0.6	2.9	-8.3

1.4.2 - BREEDING SOWS

8/92	-	12004	791	1134	2968
8/93	-	12051	769	1182	2922
8/94	12645	11858	720	1153	2689
8/95	12347*	11530*	711*	1142*	2573
% 8.95/8.94	-2.4	-2.8	-1.2	-1.0	-4.3

1.4.2.1 - MATED SOWS

8/92	-	7956	562	727	1952
8/93	-	8110	552	764	1931
8/94	8522	7999	508	762	1793
8/95	8376*	7812*	517*	750*	1726
% 8.95/8.94	-1.7	-2.3	1.8	-1.6	-3.7

1.4.2.1.1 - OF WHICH: SOWS MATED FOR THE FIRST TIME

8/92	-	1544	132	160	412
8/93	-	1491	121	158	388
8/94	1515	1419	99	143	347
8/95	1512*	1399*	105*	147*	344
% 8.95/8.94	-0.2	-1.4	6.7	2.8	-1.0

1.4.2.2 - BREEDING SOWS NOT MATED

8/92	-	4049	229	407	1015
8/93	-	3940	217	418	991
8/94	4123	3858	212	391	896
8/95	3970*	3718*	194*	392*	847
% 8.95/8.94	-3.7	-3.6	-8.4	0.3	-5.5

1.4.2.2.1 - OF WHICH: BREEDING GILTS NOT YET MATED

8/92	-	1345	94	160	350
8/93	-	1211	86	169	322
8/94	1307	1223	90	153	287
8/95	1256*	1165*	74*	164*	269
% 8.95/8.94	-3.9	-4.7	-17.8	7.2	-6.4

* PROVISIONAL OR ESTIMATED DATA

- UNAVAILABLE

† ESTIMATED BY EUROSTAT

SCHWEINEBESTAND

EFFECTIFS PORCINS

1000 STÜCK										1000 TETES		
GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	

ZUCHTSCHWEINE >= 50kg										REPRODUCEURS >= 50 kg			1.4
161	2123	1367	176	713	10	1560	-	377	-	-	948	8/92	
158	2284	1362	178	712	10	1429	402	387	-	-	969	8/93	
170	2276	1450	174	715	10	1511	402	392	165	250	918	8/94	
171	2152*	1444*	174*	720*	10	1464*	400	353	169*	275	898*	8/95	
0.5	-5.5	-0.4	0.3	0.6	0.0	-3.1	-0.5	-9.9	2.8	10.1	-2.2	% 8.95/8.94	

- ZUCHTEBER										- VERRATS			1.4.1
11	103	54	7	36	1	39	-	27	-	-	46	8/92	
10	102	51	6	38	1	27	15	28	-	-	48	8/93	
12	94	51	6	38	1	43	14	29	6	10	46	8/94	
12	88*	44*	5*	37*	1	25*	14	26	6*	7	44*	8/95	
0.0	-6.4	-14.4	-10.2	-1.9	0.0	-41.4	0.0	-10.3	1.3	-22.7	-4.3	% 8.95/8.94	

- ZUCHTSAUEN										- TRUIES D'ELEVAGE			1.4.2
150	2021	1312	170	677	10	1521	-	350	-	-	902	8/92	
148	2182	1311	172	674	9	1402	387	359	-	-	921	8/93	
158	2182	1399	168	678	9	1468	388	363	159	241	872	8/94	
159	2063*	1400*	169*	683*	9	1439*	386	327	163*	268	854*	8/95	
0.5	-5.4	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.0	-2.0	-0.5	-9.9	2.9	11.4	-2.1	% 8.95/8.94	

- GEDECKTE SAUEN										- TRUIES SAILLIES			1.4.2.1
86	1251	881	121	534	7	988	-	230	-	-	617	8/92	
85	1389	890	124	528	6	976	243	233	-	-	632	8/93	
91	1400	956	123	541	6	985	245	237	113	164	597	8/94	
90	1362*	962*	121*	543*	6	915*	249	213	113*	202	606*	8/95	
-1.1	-2.7	0.6	-1.2	0.4	0.0	-7.1	1.6	-10.2	0.0	23.2	1.5	% 8.95/8.94	

- DARUNTER: ZUM ERSTEN MAL GEDECKTE SAUEN										- DONT: TRUIES SAILLIES POUR LA PREMIERE FOIS			1.4.2.1
24	184	167	25	81	1	190	-	58	-	-	111	8/92	
21	193	172	23	70	1	170	43	61	-	-	113	8/93	
22	196	182	22	70	1	173	42	63	25	29	101	8/94	
22	181*	181*	24*	75*	1	157*	41	57	23*	49	106*	8/95	
0.0	-7.9	-0.6	9.7	6.5	0.0	-9.4	-2.4	-10.0	-7.6	69.5	5.0	% 8.95/8.94	

- NICHT GEDECKTE ZUCHTSAUEN										- TRUIES NON SAILLIES			1.4.2.2
64	770	431	49	142	3	533	-	120	-	-	285	8/92	
63	793	421	48	146	3	426	144	126	-	-	289	8/93	
67	782	442	45	137	3	483	143	126	45	77	275	8/94	
69	702*	438*	48*	140*	3	524*	137	114	50*	66	248*	8/95	
2.7	-10.2	-0.9	5.8	2.1	0.0	8.4	-4.2	-9.3	10.2	-13.8	-9.8	% 8.95/8.94	

- DARUNTER: NOCH NICHT GEDECKTE JUNGS AUEN										- DONT: JEUNES TRUIES NON SAILLIES			1.4.2.2.1
12	161	146	15	53	1	205	-	40	-	-	109	8/92	
12	163	140	15	48	1	107	34	39	-	-	111	8/93	
8	174	140	15	46	1	171	34	40	25	25	98	8/94	
8	146*	139*	17*	44*	1	176*	33	36	26*	31	92*	8/95	
0.0	-16.2	-0.6	14.2	-5.2	0.0	2.7	-2.9	-9.1	5.2	23.9	-6.1	% 8.95/8.94	

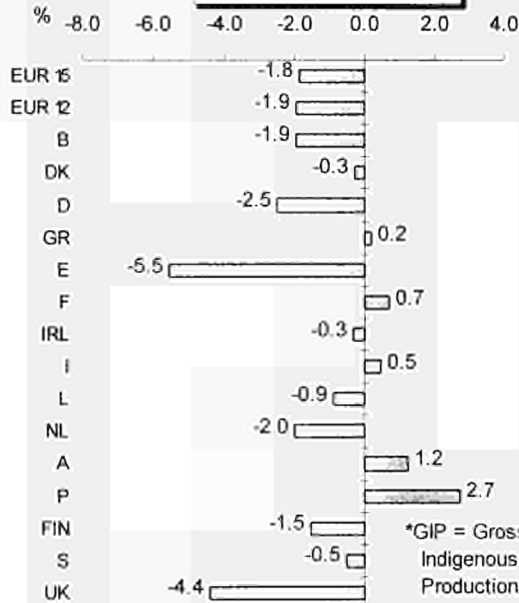
* VORLÄUFIGE ODER GESCHÄTZTE ANGABE
 -: NICHT VERFÜGBAR
 ! EUROSTAT SCHÄTZUNG

* DONNEE PROVISoire OU ESTIMEE
 -: NON DISPONIBLE
 ! ESTIMATION EUROSTAT





Evolution of pig GIP* from July 95 to June 96



In spite of the numbers of fattening pigs recorded in the August survey, production forecasts for 1995 as a whole are still down on 1994. The year-on-year Gross Indigenous Production by head should fall by 1.4%. Substantial drops (4% and over) are forecast in Germany, the United Kingdom and Belgium, which alone account for one-third of EU pig production.

Production decrease will go on

In the first half of 1996, the decline should be more pronounced (-2%) due, in particular, to marked cutbacks in slaughtering in Spain (-7%) and the Netherlands (-4%). Furthermore, the overall trend should remain generally downward: Denmark (-0.5%), Germany (-2%), and the United Kingdom (-3%). In France, after initially stabilising in the first quarter of 1996, production should begin to dip in the second quarter (-1.2%). Italy should see a slight rise (+1%) in early 1996, which should run on to the middle of the year. Only Belgium should see any noteworthy increase in production during this period (3.7%). At Community level, the market will always be well supplied, with a self-supply rate of around 104%. Against this background, it will be necessary to export to non-Member countries, with or without refunds.

GROSS INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION OF PIGS

1000 HEAD

	EUR 15	EUR 12	B	DK	D
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YEAR

1992	-	170663	9264	18443	40017
1993	-	180470	10582	19997	40771
1994	191025 *	179812 *	9945	20644	38909
1995	188422 *	177414 *	9332 *	20605 *	37468
%95/94	-1.4 *	-1.3 *	-6.2 *	-0.2 *	-3.7 *

12 MONTHS (1.7 TO 30.6)

1993/94	192788	181662	10164	20993	39639
1994/95	189844 *	178791 *	9684 *	20618 *	38035 *
1995/96	186393 *	175331 *	9496 *	20559 *	37100 *
%95/94	-1.5 *	-1.6 *	-4.7 *	-1.8 *	-4.0 *
%96/95	-1.8 *	-1.9 *	-1.9 *	-0.3 *	-2.5 *

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

1993	47028	44312	2624	5436	9902
1994	45999	43245	2450	5264	9329
1995	45811 *	43105 *	2327 *	5236 *	9200 *
%95/94	-0.4 *	-0.3 *	-5.0 *	-0.5 *	-1.4 *

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

1993	51472	48607	2692	5502	10236
1994	50654 *	47740 *	2647	5325	10079
1995	49430 *	46513 *	2418 *	5340 *	9650 *
%95/94	-2.4 *	-2.6 *	-8.7 *	0.3 *	-4.3 *

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH

1994	48136	45349	2438	5086	9976
1995	47748 *	45055 *	2319	5134 *	9327
1996	46504 *	43797 *	2395 *	5097 *	9150 *
%96/95	-2.6 *	-2.8 *	3.3 *	-0.7 *	-1.9 *

APRIL/MAY/JUNE

1994	46153	43394	2410	4969	9525
1995	45442 *	42750 *	2268 *	4895 *	9300
1996	44648 *	41915 *	2358 *	4886 *	9100 *
%96/95	-1.7 *	-2.0 *	4.0 *	-0.2 *	-2.2 *

* PROVISIONAL OR ESTIMATED DATA

- UNAVAILABLE

| ESTIMATED BY EUROSTAT

BRUTTOEIGENERZEUGUNG VON SCHWEINEN

PRODUCTION INDIGENE BRUTE DE PORCS

1000 STUECK

1000 TETES

GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	
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JAHR

ANNEE

2399	23900	21456	2745	10404	95	23918	5165	3449	2312	-	14573	1992
2322	25927	23711	2928	10589	108	24681	5293	4023	2235	3627	14831	1993
2268	26394	24422	3010 *	11088	109	23585	5268	4099	2172	3773	15339	1994
2247 *	26049 *	24882 *	3006 *	11103 *	111 *	23810 *	5111 *	4147 *	2117 *	3780 *	14655 *	1995
-0.9 *	-1.3 *	1.9 *	-0.1 *	0.1 *	1.8 *	1.0 *	-3.0 *	1.2 *	-2.6 *	0.2 *	-4.5 *	%95/94

12 MONATE (1.7 BIS 30.6)

12 MOIS (1.7 A 30.6)

2301	26359	24240	3034	10847	107	24487	5294	4199	2165	3667	15292	1993/94
2245 *	26498 *	24631 *	3004 *	11097	111 *	23790 *	5128 *	3980 *	2161	3764 *	15098 *	1994/95
2249 *	25030 *	24798 *	2994 *	11148 *	110 *	23320 *	5190 *	4088 *	2128 *	3744 *	14437 *	1995/96
-2.4 *	0.5 *	1.6 *	-1.0 *	2.3 *	3.7 *	-2.8 *	-3.1 *	-5.2 *	-0.2 *	2.6 *	-1.3 *	%94/93
0.2 *	-5.5 *	0.7 *	-0.3 *	0.5 *	-0.9 *	-2.0 *	1.2 *	2.7 *	-1.5 *	-0.5 *	-4.4 *	%95/94

JULI/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

JUILLET/AOUT/SEPTEMBRE

517	5893	6015	798	2057	26	6203	1272	1086	562	882	3755	1993
497	5902	6111	776	2228	26	5787	1279	1042	552	923	3833	1994
503 *	5954 *	6228 *	777 *	2216 *	26 *	5870 *	1260 *	1120 *	515 *	931 *	3648 *	1995
1.1 *	0.9 *	1.9 *	0.1 *	-0.5 *	0.0 *	1.4 *	-1.5 *	7.5 *	-6.7 *	0.9 *	-4.8 *	%95/94

OKTOBER/NOVEMBER/DEZEMBER

OCTOBRE/NOVEMBRE/DECEMBRE

773	7443	6180	778	3312	28	6549	1331	1087	556.3	978	4027	1993
759	7386	6266 *	776	3382	30	6063	1298	1031	573	1043	3996	1994
755 *	6885 *	6400 *	777 *	3400 *	30 *	6000 *	1300 *	1120 *	566 *	1051 *	3738 *	1995
-0.5 *	-6.8 *	2.1 *	0.1 *	0.5 *	0.0 *	-1.0 *	0.2 *	8.6 *	-1.2 *	0.8 *	-6.5 *	%95/94

JANUAR/FEBRUAR/MÄRZ

JANVIER/FEVRIER/MARS

557	6729	6199	725	2875	27	5948	1383	990	526.2	878	3799	1994
540 *	6966	6282 *	729 *	3012	26 *	6040 *	1313	969 *	520	860 *	3711 *	1995
541 *	6310 *	6270 *	723 *	3042 *	28 *	5800 *	1330 *	879 *	534 *	843 *	3563 *	1996
0.0 *	-9.4 *	-0.2 *	-0.8 *	1.0 *	7.7 *	-4.0 *	1.3 *	-9.3 *	2.7 *	-2.0 *	-4.0 *	%96/95

APRIL/MAI/JUNI

AVRIL/MAI/JUIN

454	6294	5846	733	2603	26	5787	1308	1036	521	929	3711	1994
448 *	6244 *	5972 *	723 *	2475	29 *	5900	1238 *	938 *	516	938 *	3558 *	1995
450 *	5881 *	5900 *	717 *	2490 *	26 *	5650 *	1300 *	969 *	514 *	919 *	3488 *	1996
0.5 *	-5.8 *	-1.2 *	-0.8 *	0.6 *	-10.3 *	-4.2 *	5.0 *	3.3 *	-0.5 *	-2.0 *	-2.0 *	%96/95

* VORLÄUFIGE ODER GESCHÄTZTE ANGABE

- : NICHT VERFÜGBAR

! EUROSTAT SCHÄTZUNG

* DONNEE PROVISOIRE OU ESTIMÉE

- : NON DISPONIBLE

! ESTIMATION EUROSTAT



MARKET

MARKT

MARCHE

MARKET

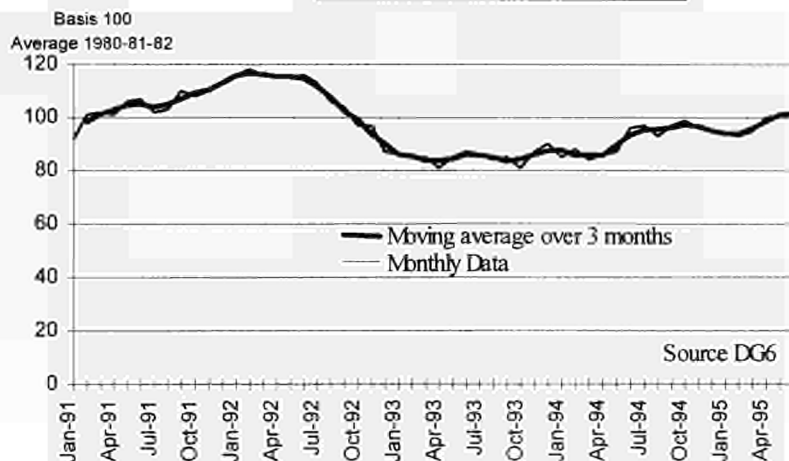
MARKT

MARCHE

Since the beginning of the 1995, in the EU, pigmeat prices have generally been higher than last year. In the first half of 1995 the index comparing the prices of pigs with the cost of the feedingstuffs needed to produce them increased by 6.5% in comparison to the year before. Compared with the average level of the 4 last years, the index rose by 1.5%



Rentability index of pig breeding



Source DG6

Reference price:

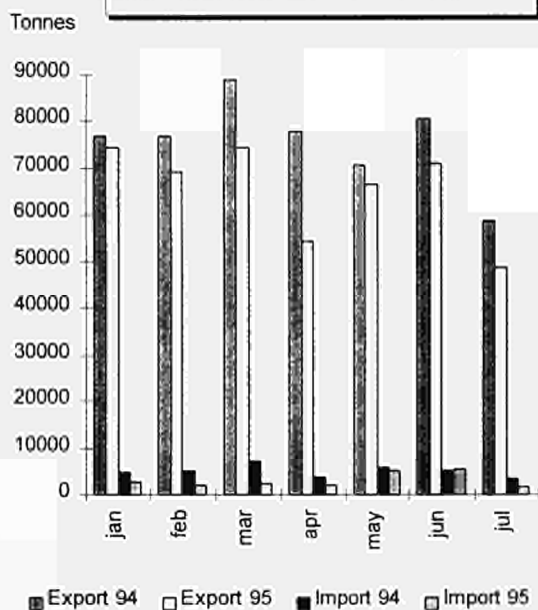
E instead of U

Since 1 July 1995, prices in the EU refer to class E rather than class U. Class E is more representative of the real pig population in most Member States, because it includes animals with a higher rate of lean meat than those in class U. This change of class pushed

the reference price in the EU up by around 7%. Regardless of this artificial increase, however, prices were fairly high, particularly in the third quarter of 1995, and fell slightly in October, although this drop at the end of the year is a seasonal development.



Imports and Exports of pigmeat trade with non-EU-member countries



Export certificates

The provisional figures for exports for the first eight months of the current year show a decline in the volume of exports to non-member countries on the same period in 1994. On the other hand, imports from those countries have declined, too.

Since 1 July 1995, subsidised exports have been subject to a system of export certificates. For the second half of 1995 and the first half of 1996 (12 months) 490 000 tonnes equivalent carcass weight of subsidised pigmeat can be exported. In the four months this system was in operation, export certificates were issued for 127 000 tonnes.