

1988 □ 17

### August 1988: Another drop in the pig population

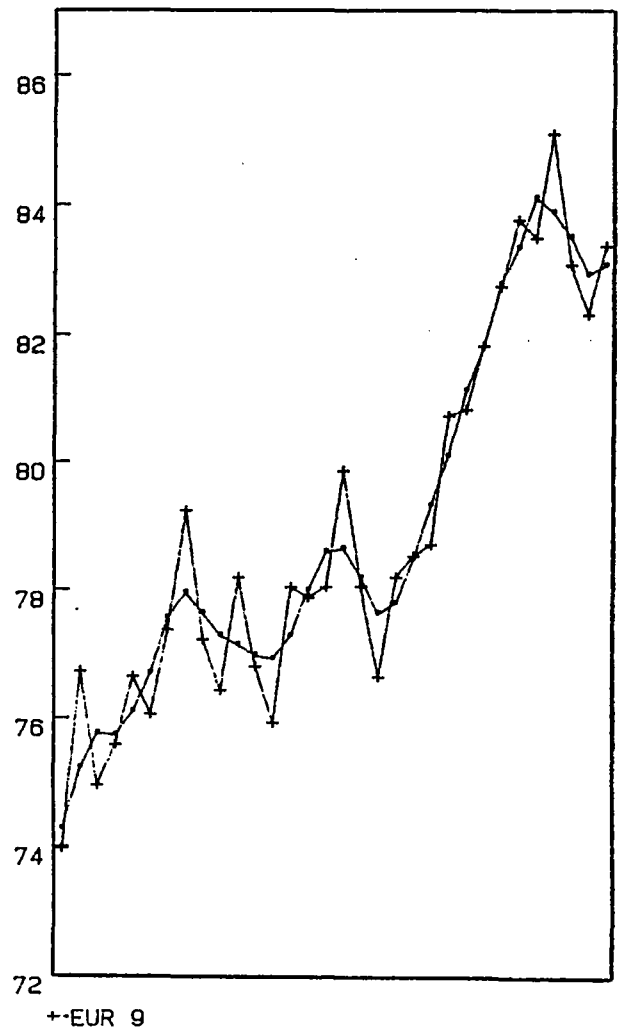
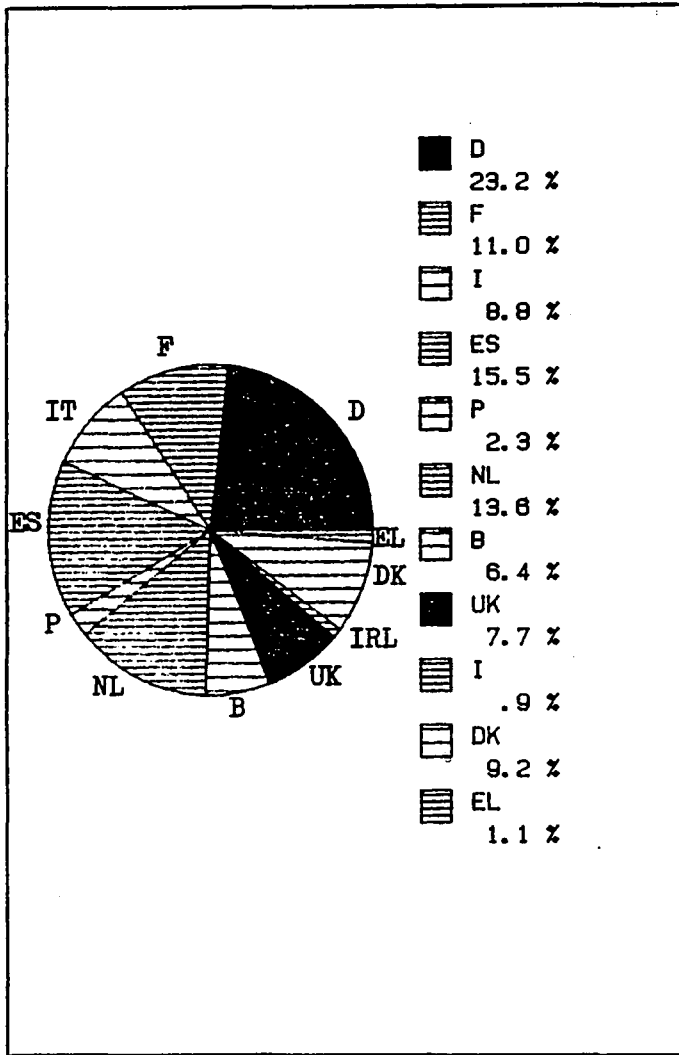
According to the results of the August survey, the pig population in the European Communities has once again dropped significantly, indicating that the end of the worst pig market crisis since 1974 may well be in sight. From the mid-70s onwards, the constant upward trend in the pig population was accompanied by a levelling-off of the previously customary variations within the pig cycle, but this trend has evidently now been halted. The return to generally more marked variations in the cycle seems to have been accompanied by a growing tendency towards parallel cycle phases across the nine Member countries, reflecting the tendency for national markets to merge into a common market.

The rapid expansion of the pig population over the past few years was influenced by several exceptional factors. In 1985, high selling prices in the internal market combined with higher demand on the world market brought about by the strength of the dollar. In 1986, a sharp drop in the price of feedingstuffs, which constitute around two-thirds of the price of pig feed, ensured continuing satisfactory results. The constant increase in supply brought about sharp cuts in market prices. In 1986, prices in the Community fell by around 6%, in 1987 by as much as 13% and again in 1988 by 5%. The combination of very low producer prices with an increase in the cost of feedingstuffs then led to the decline in population observed since the December 1987 survey, which has now become very marked.

In August 1988, the total pig population within the Twelve was 102.9 million, 2.8 million (2.6%) lower than in the previous year. If the Belgian results were adjusted (see below), this reduction would reach 3%. The Federal Republic of Germany, with the highest population in the Community, alone recorded a reduction in the number of pigs of 1.2 million (-4.7%). Reductions on a similar scale were recorded in the other main producer countries: France -6%, Spain -4.9%, Denmark -2.4% and the Netherlands -2.3%.



Schweinebestand  
 Pig population  
 Cheptel porcin



The figures for Portugal are particularly striking: the reduction there of 11% is four times the Community average. By contrast, the British pig population remained more or less stable with a reduction of -0.3%, but expansion over the past few years has generally been negligible.

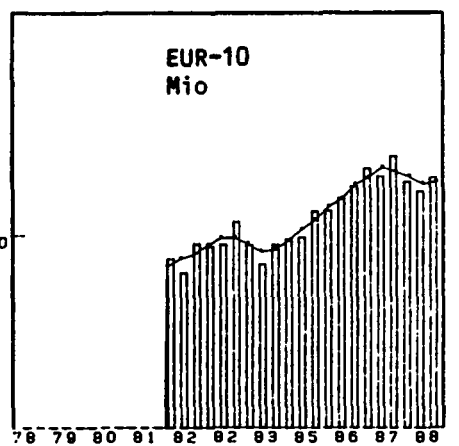
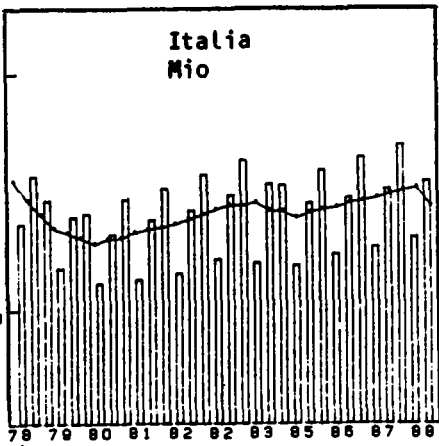
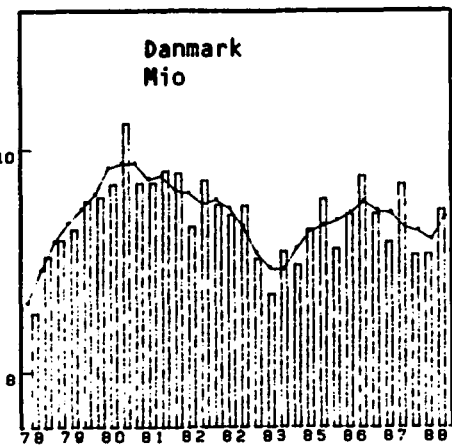
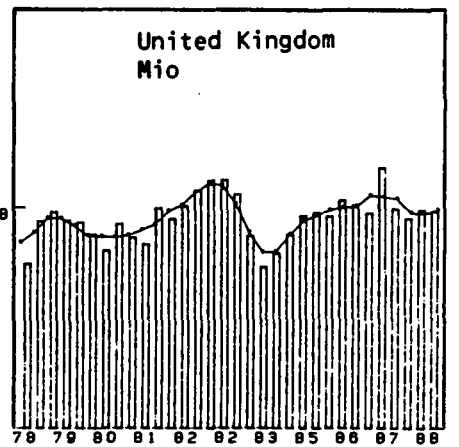
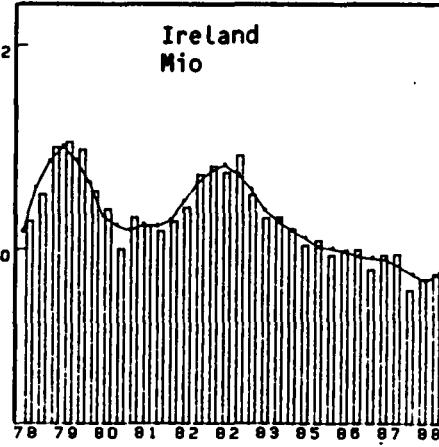
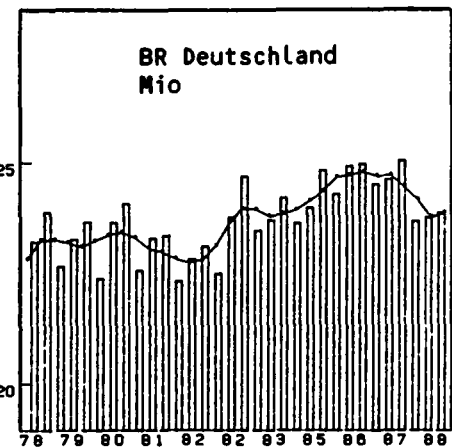
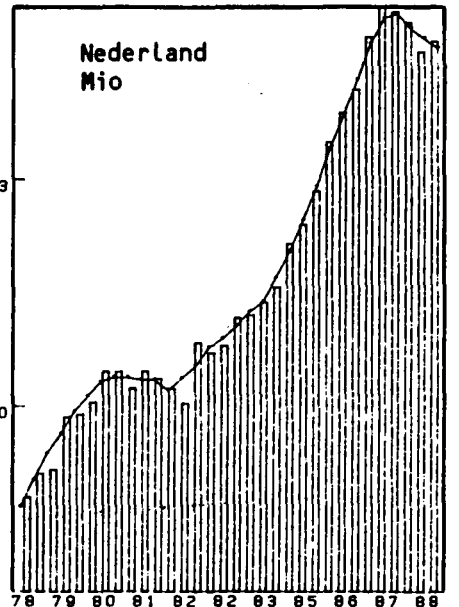
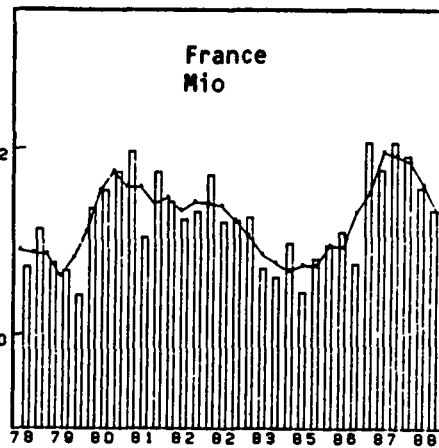
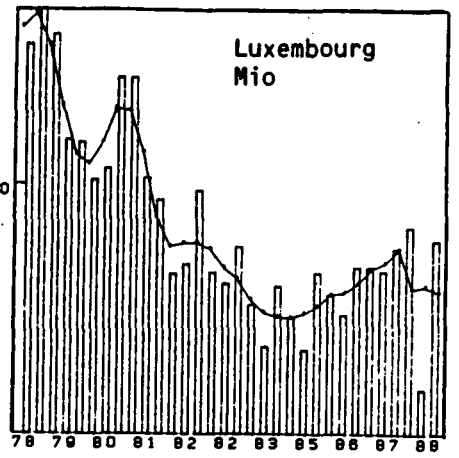
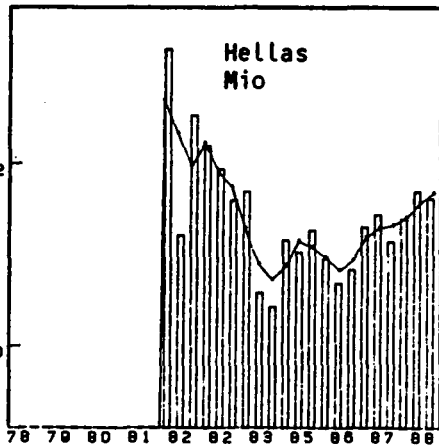
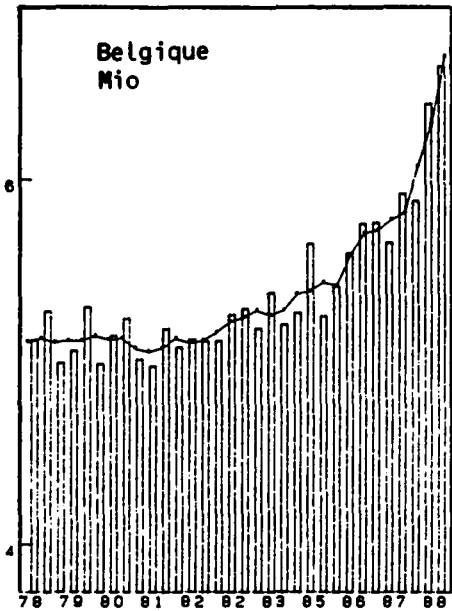
The situation in Italy also diverges somewhat from the overall picture in the Community. As with Britain, this is certainly due partly to the very moderate increases in the population over the past few years, but also to changes in the survey method which means the figures are not fully comparable with those of last year. The Italian animal surveys were completely redesigned, and the August pig survey was carried out for the first time in accordance with the new sampling plan. Work on making the new data comparable with earlier results has not yet been completed.

The Belgian results are, once more, exceptional. As in April, the increase of 11.8% should be interpreted as the result of a more efficient sampling system rather than a genuine increase. The fact that only holders who keep records of population levels and incoming and outgoing stock will now be entitled to full compensation from the State in the event of a livestock epidemic leads to more accurate results.

A further reduction in the Community pig population can be forecast on the basis of the 5.2% reduction in breeding sows. The intentions and expectations of breeders can be clearly seen from the figures for young animals. With a reduction of -9.1% in sows pregnant for the first time and -9.5% in maiden gilts, cuts are particularly drastic in this area.

Gross domestic pig production naturally followed the same pattern as the population figures. In the twelve months to July 1988, gross domestic production, at 161.2 million, should show an increase in 2.7% over the corresponding period of the previous year. For the twelve months up to July 1989, a reduction of 4.1% to 154.7 million is expected. While total production could increase by 1.1% in August/September, it should subsequently fall swiftly, reaching -7.7% by February/March. Referred to one year, the sharpest percentage declines will probably be in France at 8.9%, Spain at 6.1% and Germany at 5.2%, while Denmark at 3.6%, the Netherlands at 2.6% and the United Kingdom at 2.3% will probably show below-average decreases in gross domestic production.

Entwicklung der Schweinebestände  
 Development of the Pig Population  
 Evolution des cheptels porcins



## SCHWEINEBESTAND IN AUGUST

PIG POPULATION IN AUGUST

EFFECTIFS PORCINS EN AOUT

1000 STUECK

1000 HEAD

1000 TETES

	EUR 10	EUR 12	B	DK	D	EL	ES	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
INSGESAMT														
TOTAL														TOTAL
1985	81854	93198:	5250	9552	24813	1126	11344	10804	1008	8890	73	12379	0:	7958
1986	83827	99604:	5756	9760	24959	1083	15777	10755	1000	8937	74	13488	0:	8017
1987	86222	105660	5920	9685	25037	1114	16810	12059	995	9008	75	14340	2628	7988
1988	84533	102866	6619	9453	23857	1161	15993	11333	976	9076	76	14014	2340	7968
% 88/87	-2.0	-2.6	11.8	-2.4	-4.7	4.3	-4.9	-6.0	-1.9	0.7	0.8	-2.3	-11.0	-0.3
FERKEL (<20 KG)														
PIGLETS (<20 KG)														PORCELETS (<20 KG)
1985	23511	26428:	1436	2980	7462	368	2918	2755	253	1737	28	4295	0:	2196
1986	24127	28166:	1542	3056	7684	383	4039	2615	234	1759	29	4575	0:	2251
1987	24758	30227	1678	3048	7399	372	4671	3004	229	1776	30	5019	798	2203
1988	24261	29494	1805	2917	7105	395	4492	2675	225	1780	30	5086	741	2243
% 88/87	-2.0	-2.4	7.6	-4.3	-4.0	6.3	-3.8	-11.0	-1.9	0.2	1.3	1.3	-7.1	1.8
JUNGSCHWEINE (20-50 KG)														
YOUNG PIGS (20-50 KG)														JEUNES PORCS (20-50 KG)
1985	20644	24040:	1364	2758	6044	298	3395	3087	306	1939	16	2538	0:	2295
1986	21612	26117	1591	3040	5845	309	4505	3178	291	1938	16	3103	0	2301
1987	22346	27638	1551	2991	6046	299	4563	3722	313	1951	17	3225	730	2231
1988	21537	26412	1710	2960	5791	326	4258	3349	314	1961	15	2909	617	2203
% 88/87	-3.6	-4.4	10.3	-1.0	-4.2	9.2	-6.7	-10.0	0.3	0.5	-10.8	-9.8	-15.5	-1.3
MASTSCHWEINE (>50 KG)														
PIGS FOR FATTENING (>50 KG)														PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (>50 KG)
1985	28221	31587:	1767	2700	8317	285	3366	3762	330	4406	17	4121	0:	2516
1986	28429	33797	1914	2548	8405	226	5368	3762	356	4428	17	4274	0	2499
1987	29394	35575	1970	2542	8674	270	5443	4047	341	4464	17	4456	737	2614
1988	29509	35375	2347	2502	8272	260	5230	4201	324	4518	19	4454	636	2612
% 88/87	0.4	-0.6	19.1	-1.6	-4.6	-3.7	-3.9	3.8	-4.8	1.2	10.2	0.0	-13.7	-0.1
MASTSCHWEINE (50-80 KG)														
PIGS FOR FATTENING (50-80 KG)														PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (50-80 KG)
1985	17417	19749:	1117	2136	5350	214	2333	2041	245	1874	12	2609	0:	1818
1986	17537	21256	1242	2005	5377	167	3719	2129	270	1875	11	2637	0	1825
1987	17879	22050	1205	2023	5419	200	3625	2251	261	1881	11	2776	545	1853
1988	17910	21869	1448	1991	5188	191	3480	2300	247	1907	12	2742	479	1883
% 88/87	0.2	-0.8	20.2	-1.6	-4.3	-4.4	-4.0	2.2	-5.2	1.4	8.2	-1.2	-12.1	1.6
MASTSCHWEINE (80-110 KG)														
PIGS FOR FATTENING (80-110 KG)														PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (80-110 KG)
1985	9001	9981:	628	550	2840	65	980	1534	67	1270	5	1449	0:	593
1986	9093	10657	664	530	2882	56	1564	1479	70	1285	6	1542	0	580
1987	9764	11653	746	506	3138	65	1735	1665	65	1329	6	1573	154	672
1988	9799	11566	875	498	2962	65	1640	1684	63	1352	6	1637	127	657
% 88/87	0.4	-0.7	17.3	-1.6	-5.6	0.4	-5.5	1.1	-2.3	1.7	7.4	4.1	-17.5	-2.2
MASTSCHWEINE (>110 KG)														
PIGS FOR FATTENING (>110 KG)														PORCS A L'ENGRAIS (>110 KG)
1985	1804	1857:	22	14	128	6	53	187	18	1262	0	63	0:	104
1986	1800	1888	8	13	146	4	88	154	16	1268	0	95	0	95
1987	1752	1873	19	13	117	5	83	132	16	1254	0	107	38	89
1988	1800	1940	24	13	122	4	110	217	14	1259	1	75	30	72
% 88/87	2.8	3.6	26.3	0.0	3.8	-26.1	32.2	64.4	-9.0	0.4	148.9	-29.9	-21.1	-19.1

SCHWEINEBESTAND IN AUGUST

PIG POPULATION IN AUGUST

EFFECTIFS PORCINS EN AOÛT

1000 STUECK

1000 HEAD

1000 TETES

	EUR 10	EUR 12	B	DK	D	EL	ES	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
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ZUCHTEBER (>50 KG)

BREEDING BOARS (>50 KG)		VERRATS REPRODUCTEURS (>50 KG)												
1985	406	484:	25	39	116	14	78	72	5	46	1	45	0:	44
1986	411	501	27	39	117	12	90	71	5	46	1	49	0	45
1987	423	557	27	38	116	13	106	75	5	46	1	57	28	45
1988	397	523	25	39	101	14	103	60	5	46	1	63	23	44
% 88/87	-6.1	-6.1	-7.4	2.6	-13.1	8.3	-3.0	-20.0	0.0	-1.1	-7.2	10.5	-17.9	-2.2

ZUCHTSAUEN (>50 KG)

BREEDING SOWS (>50 KG)		TRUIES D'ELEVAGE (>50 KG)												
1985	9071	10659:	658	1075	2875	161	1587	1128	114	763	12	1380	0:	907
1986	9249	11025	683	1077	2908	152	1776	1130	114	766	11	1487	0	921
1987	9303	11665	695	1066	2802	160	2027	1211	108	771	11	1583	335	896
1988	8827	11060	732	1035	2589	166	1909	1048	109	771	11	1502	323	865
% 88/87	-5.1	-5.2	5.3	-2.9	-7.6	3.5	-5.8	-13.5	0.4	0.0	2.7	-5.1	-3.6	-3.5

GEDECKTE SAUEN

MATED SOWS		TRUIES SAILLIES												
1985	5877	6855:	432	659	1852	91	978	695	76	571	8	867	0:	626
1986	6048	7143	447	671	1874	96	1094	716	79	573	8	939	0	646
1987	6076	7498	471	669	1807	89	1222	778	75	574	7	982	200	624
1988	5802	7181	495	653	1669	103	1186	674	76	573	6	946	193	607
% 88/87	-4.5	-4.2	5.1	-2.4	-7.6	15.4	-3.0	-13.4	1.1	-0.2	-15.4	-3.7	-3.5	-2.7

DARUNTER: ZUM ERSTEN MAL GEDECKTE SAUEN

OF WHICH: SOWS MATED FOR THE FIRST TIME		DONT: TRUIES SAILLIES POUR LA PREMIERE FOIS												
1985	1282	1474:	99	152	408	21	193	148	14	141	2	192	0:	105
1986	1280	1496	105	147	398	22	216	155	15	143	2	189	0	105
1987	1262	1523	110	139	366	20	210	169	14	144	1	196	51	102
1988	1138	1384	99	137	315	21	195	131	14	142	1	178	51	100
% 88/87	-9.8	-9.1	-10.0	-1.4	-14.1	3.6	-7.1	-22.5	-1.4	-1.3	3.8	-9.2	0.0	-2.0

NICHT GEDECKTE ZUCHTSAUEN

BREEDING SOWS NOT MATED		TRUIES NON SAILLIES												
1985	3195	3804:	226	416	1023	70	609	433	38	191	4	513	0:	281
1986	3201	3882	235	406	1034	56	681	414	36	193	4	548	0	275
1987	3228	4168	224	397	995	71	805	433	33	198	4	601	135	272
1988	3023	3876	237	382	920	63	724	374	32	198	2	556	130	258
% 88/87	-6.3	-7.0	5.8	-3.8	-7.5	-11.6	-10.1	-13.6	-1.2	0.1	-35.9	-7.5	-3.7	-5.1

DARUNTER: NOCH NICHT GEDECKTE JUNGS AUEN

OF WHICH: BREEDING GILTS NOT YET MATED		DONT: JEUNE TRUIES NON SAILLIES												
1985	1046	1200:	93	132	297	16	153	142	10	80	1	190	0:	86
1986	1065	1236	95	128	298	14	172	146	10	81	1	204	0	87
1987	1070	1292	95	132	288	9	188	146	9	83	1	222	34	85
1988	988	1170	94	134	244	13	150	121	9	82	1	214	32	76
% 88/87	-7.7	-9.5	-1.1	1.5	-15.3	41.9	-20.0	-17.1	-3.2	-1.2	5.0	-3.6	-5.9	-10.6

## GROSS INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION OF PIGS

## PRODUCTION INDIGENE BRUTE DE PORCS

1000 HEAD

1000 TETES

	EUR 10	EUR 12	B	DK	D	EL	ES	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
12 MONTHS														
1986/87	135601	156933	7863	16251	40223	2308	18263	19092	2173	9573	135	22268	3069	15715
1987/88	136945*	161206*	8276*	16144*	38600*	2393*	21012*	19865*	2117*	9798*	135*	23789*	3249*	15828*
1988/89	131757*	154652*	8338*	15564*	36605*	2386*	19725*	18100*	2130*	9870*	135*	23170*	3170*	15459*
% 88/87	1.0*	2.7*	5.3*	-0.7*	-4.0*	3.7*	15.1*	4.0*	-2.6*	2.4*	0.3*	6.8*	5.9*	0.7*
% 89/88	-3.8*	-4.1*	0.7*	-3.6*	-5.2*	-0.3*	-6.1*	-8.9*	0.6*	0.7*	0.0*	-2.6*	-2.4*	-2.3*
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER														
1986	21610	24740	1270	2737	6475	353	2618	3033	360	1303	20	3620	512	2439
1987	22155	25607	1348	2766	6386	369	2902	3195	342	1400	20	3920	550	2410
1988	22238*	25898*	1392*	2697	6235*	358*	3120*	3300*	365*	1410*	20*	4060*	540*	2401*
% 87/86	2.5	3.5	6.1	1.1	-1.4	4.4	10.8	5.3	-5.0	7.4	0.0	8.3	7.4	-1.2
% 88/87	0.4*	1.1*	3.3*	-2.5	-2.4*	-2.7*	7.5*	3.3*	6.7*	0.7*	0.0*	3.6*	-1.8*	-0.4*
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER														
1986	23342	26845	1264	2949	6926	404	3013	3205	386	1606	22	3703	490	2877
1987	23311*	27249*	1386	2707	6819	424*	3378	3280	362	1643*	22	3827	560	2841
1988	22683*	26638*	1417*	2640	6500*	414*	3420*	3180*	355*	1660*	22*	3680*	535*	2815*
% 87/86	-0.1*	1.5*	9.7	-8.2	-1.5	5.0*	12.1	2.3	-6.2	2.3*	0.0	3.3	14.3	-1.3
% 88/87	-2.7*	-2.2*	2.2*	-2.5	-4.7*	-2.5*	1.2*	-3.0*	-1.9*	1.0*	0.0*	-3.8*	-4.5*	-0.9*
DECEMBER/JANUARY														
1986/87	24187	28326	1377	2749	7243	595	3634	3369	362	2211	24	3567	505	2691
1987/88	24044*	28495*	1411	2775	6480*	607*	3896*	3400*	348*	2240*	24*	3993*	555*	2767
1988/89	23111*	27381*	1428*	2698*	6100*	606*	3725*	3140*	340*	2270*	24*	3860*	545*	2645*
% 88/87	-0.6*	0.6*	2.5	0.9	-10.5*	2.0*	7.2*	0.9*	-3.9*	1.3*	0.0*	11.9*	9.9*	2.8
% 89/88	-3.9*	-3.9*	1.2*	-2.8*	-5.9*	-0.2*	-4.4*	-7.6*	-2.3*	1.3*	0.0*	-3.3*	-1.8*	-4.4*
FEBRUARY/MARCH														
1987	22161	25783	1267	2634	6612	356	3136	3233	349	1577	24	3683	486	2427
1988	23150*	27320*	1348*	2798	6460*	361*	3662*	3458*	366*	1610*	24*	4288*	508*	2437*
1989	21503*	25223*	1345*	2528*	6100*	365*	3220*	2850*	365*	1620*	24*	3920*	500*	2386*
% 88/87	4.5*	6.0*	6.4*	6.2	-2.3*	1.4*	16.8*	7.0*	4.9*	2.1*	1.8*	16.4*	4.5*	0.4*
% 89/88	-7.1*	-7.7*	-0.2*	-9.6*	-5.6*	1.1*	-12.1*	-17.6*	-0.3*	0.6*	0.0*	-8.6*	-1.6*	-2.1*
APRIL/MAY														
1987	21637	25090	1379	2477	6348	276	2951	3036	350	1477	23	3653	502	2618
1988	22251*	26471*	1365*	2489*	6420*	295*	3671*	3302*	347*	1485*	23*	3871*	549*	2654*
1989	21163*	24803*	1359*	2467*	5950*	295*	3120*	2830*	350*	1490*	23*	3820*	520*	2579*
% 88/87	2.8*	5.5*	-1.0*	0.5*	1.1*	6.8*	24.4*	8.8*	-0.9*	0.5*	0.0*	6.0*	9.4*	1.4*
% 89/88	-4.9*	-6.3*	-0.4*	-0.9*	-7.3*	0.0*	-15.0*	-14.3*	0.9*	0.3*	0.0*	-1.3*	-5.3*	-2.8*
JUNE/JULY														
1987	22664	26149	1306	2705	6619	324	2911	3218	366	1399	22	4042	574	2663
1988	22033*	26063*	1418*	2609*	6035*	337*	3503*	3231*	352*	1420*	22*	3890*	527*	2719*
1989	21060*	24710*	1397*	2534*	5720*	349*	3120*	2800*	355*	1420*	22*	3830*	530*	2633*
% 88/87	-2.8*	-0.3*	8.6*	-3.5*	-8.8*	4.1*	20.3*	0.4*	-3.8*	1.5*	0.0*	-3.8*	-8.2*	2.1*
% 89/88	-4.4*	-5.2*	-1.5*	-2.9*	-5.2*	3.4*	-10.9*	-13.3*	0.9*	0.0*	0.0*	-1.5*	0.6*	-3.2*