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State Pig Crop Is Smallest Since 1934

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania, with its smallest fall pig crop since 1934, ranked fifth in the nation this year for the average number of pigs saved per litter.

The number - 7.6 — was the highest in the commonwealth's history, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Hog Slaughter At All Time High Record

HARRISBURG — An all-time record for hog slaughter was set in the Keystone State in 1963, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

A total of 2,922,000 hogs were slaughtered in commercial plants in the first eleven months — more than in any full year in the past, the PCRS said. The total is expected to go above the three million mark with the addition of final December records.

The previous high, for a full year, was 2,887,000 hogs in 1961.

Commercial plants handled 277,000 hogs in November, 20,000 more than in the same month a year ago.

Slaughter of other livestock was off in November, however, compared to the same month a year ago. Totals were: 74,000 head of cattle, down 4,000; 54,500 calves, down 13,500; 17,100 sheep and lambs, down 14,900.

It is important to have batteries in tractors, trucks and autos fully charged, since winter puts an extra load on them, says Penn State extension agricultural engineers.

vice. The previous record, set last year, was 7.5 per litter.

Only four states had better averages. New York was first with 7.9, followed by Oregon, Washington and West Virginia with 7.8 each.

A spring 1964 pig crop of 374,000 is expected, intentions to have 52,000 farrowed, according to PCRS. If realized, the crop would be 46,000 less than the comparable 1957-1963 average. The total 1963 pig crop was 52,000.

The pig crop on the fall was estimated at 350,000 — about 8 per cent less than the same period last year, and the 1957-1963 average. The total 1963 pig crop was 52,000.

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