



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR00-037
14 February 2000
9.30 hrs

Pig numbers down slightly

In December 1999 there were just over 13 million pigs in the Netherlands, 300 thousand fewer than one year earlier.

The average value of permits granted for the construction of pig sheds has doubled in the space of four years, according to figures from Statistics Netherlands.

Fewer piglets and breeding sows

Compared with December 1998, one year later there were fewer suckling piglets (-5%), and fewer other piglets and young pigs up to 50 kg (-4%).

The number of breeding sows fell by 4% according to Statistics Netherlands. The largest fall was in the number of sows which had never been served (-14%). The reason for this is that breeding sows are being replaced less quickly. The number of sows put to the boar was about the same as the year before at 866 thousand.

The number of porkers rose slightly to 4.7 million at the end of 1999.

Construction value of pig sheds doubled

In 1995 the value of building permits granted for sheds for porkers was 340 thousand guilders. By 1999 this sum had doubled. In 1995 the average construction value for the sheds for breeding sows was 245 guilders. Four years later this had more than doubled, to 534 thousand guilders.

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