

## Hogs

### Overview:

In our country hog breeders are distributed from Region six through to Region nine. Of these regions, region six stands out most since 20% of all breeders and 40% of all reproductive sows are concentrated in the Region. These figures produce an average hog breeding farm of about 513 heads. The importance of this region in hog production is based on the appearance in the pork industry of the Super Pollo company, with a large breeding farm and industrial plant in use close to the town of Rancagua.

It is interesting to note in this sector that simultaneously with the close to 140% increase in the total hog and reproductive sow population, the number of commercial breeders has diminished, which has meant a sustained growth in the size of the average herd.

### **EXISTENCE BY CATEGORY OF THE DOMESTIC HOG POPULATION (THOUSANDS)**

#### **BREEDING STOCK**

YEAR	SOWS	HOGS	PIGLET	RE-BREEDING	FATTENING	N°BREEDERS
1980	32.4	2.1	67.8	108.1	92.8	461
1990	72.8	4.1	129.5	301.0	276.2	310

The hog market has evolved significantly over the last few years in terms of slaughtering and consumption. Thus in 1980, 409,900 head were traded in all the agents that make up this particular market (open air markets, slaughterhouses, cured meat factories, traders, and others). This figure rose to 1,754,800 head in 1992. This evolution can be explained by the technological changes that have occurred in the hog industry at every level. At slaughterhouse level, the animal sold is considerably leaner than the one sold ten years ago, due to genetic advances and less feeding routines. As a result the meat is better adapted to the taste requirements of the consumers.

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