

Thursday, December 22, 2011

**Hog Prices:** ↑ **Soymeal:** ↑  
**Corn:** ↓ **Cdn Dollar:** ↑

US Slaughter	
430,000	– Wednesday's
428,000	– Wednesday's (year ago)
Western Corn Belt	\$79.08
Daily National Price	\$84.28
Daily Sig3(M.Leaf)	\$149.10
Daily Sig4(M.Leaf)	\$153.87
4-Month Fwd Avg	\$153.96
#1 Export Sows (+500lbs)	\$46.00cwt
B of C Ex. Rate (Noon)	
\$1.0286CAD / \$.9722US	
Cash Prices: Week Ending December 16th, 2011	
70.21/154.78	Signature #3
71.26/157.11	Signature #4
68.95/152.00	h@ms Cash
69.70/153.66	Hylife
ISO Weans	\$34-47.50US
Feeder Pigs	\$50-66.50US

**Forward contract prices opened higher this morning.** U.S. cash prices continue on their weaker trend with packers having no trouble meeting production requirements over the next several weeks. Average carcass weights however, in the Iowa/S. Minnesota region are down about one pound from 276 lbs last week, indicating that producers have been preparing for the reduced holiday schedule. Lean Hog futures are focused largely on tomorrow's release of the Hogs and Pigs report which is expected to show market hog numbers up about 1.3% vs year ago. The table to the right covers the major categories and is the average of industry estimates as compiled by Dow Jones Newswire. Increasingly, traders are becoming optimistic about the Canada's economy in 2012, resulting in support to the Loonie.

### USDA Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Report Market Analysts' Pre-Report Estimates

USDA Hogs & Pigs Report December 23, 2011	Percent of December 27, 2010	
	Range	Average
Inventories on December 1		
All hogs and pigs	100.0 - 102.0	101.3
Kept for breeding	100.4 - 101.0	100.8
Kept for market	100.0 - 102.0	101.3
Under 50 lbs.	101.3 - 102.0	101.8
50-119 lbs.	100.8 - 102.0	101.5
120-179 lbs.	100.1 - 102.0	101.0
180 lbs. and over	100.6 - 101.6	101.2
Farrowings		
Sep-Nov sows farrowed	99.5 - 100.2	99.9
Dec-Feb Intentions	100.0 - 101.1	100.6
Mar-May Intentions	100.5 - 101.3	100.8
Sep-Nov Pig Crop	101.0 - 102.0	101.6
Sep-Nov pigs saved per litter	101.0 - 102.0	101.6

Source: Dow Jones Newswire

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
Fixed Forward Range (Maple Leaf Sig. #3)			149.70	151.01	153.77	166.91	165.50	169.36	156.17	152.39	150.68
(Maple Leaf Sig. #4)			149.42	150.14	152.55	163.64	167.19	167.66	158.64	148.76	150.96
			150.14	152.51	159.48	167.92	169.56	168.58	166.97	153.70	152.97
Soymeal Delivered	349	350	353	355	363	368	372	372	381	387	
Corn Delivered	258	260	264								

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