



New Feature! Swine Insights International will be publishing on this page on Tuesdays a review of the 10 most discussed topics in the pork industry for the preceding week.

Here's the post for the week ending May 10, 2026:

- 1) Lean hog futures face resistance as grilling demand underwhelms: [Swineweb.com](https://swineweb.com) reported June lean hog futures drifting back as seasonal demand failed to accelerate as expected. This suggests consumer pull-through remains weaker than futures markets anticipated.

Link: <https://swineweb.com/cme-lean-hog-futures-face-resistance-as-grilling-season-demand-lags/>

- 2) USDA and analysts project higher U.S. pork production in 2026: SwineWeb summarized outlooks showing U.S. pork production approaching 28 billion pounds in 2026 with exports also expected to rise modestly.

Link: <https://swineweb.com/report-forecasts-2026-u-s-pork-production-exports-to-rise-amid-global-uncertainty/>

- 3) Producer optimism pressured by input cost concerns: In an article by Lee Schulz, [National Hog Farmer](#) highlighted producer concerns around feed costs, availability and geopolitical instability despite some operational optimism for 2026.

Link: <https://www.nationalhogfarmer.com/market-news/leading-and-lagging-indicators-guide-supply-projections>

- 4) Capital discipline becoming a defining industry trend: Industry commentary increasingly emphasizes selective investment rather than expansion-at-all-costs. Producers are prioritizing operational resilience and automation over herd growth.
- 5) Gene-edited PRRS-resistant pigs remain a major strategic topic: PRRS-resistant gene-edited pigs is one of the most consequential long-term developments in global swine production. Commercial viability, economic impact and regulation issues remain unresolved.
- 6) China continues battling structural pork oversupply: [Reuters](#) coverage shows Beijing still pressuring producers to control sow expansion and reduce excess production. This matters globally because Chinese supply swings distort world pork trade flows.

Link: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/beijing-urges-hog-producers-focus-capacity-control-2026-03-04/>

- 7) Global pork competition intensifies as EU production rises: National Hog Farmer reported increasing pig production forecasts across Germany, Denmark and France. Given weak EU demand, export competition is likely to intensify.

Link: <https://www.nationalhogfarmer.com/market-news/eu-bovine-production-falls-pigs-thrive-in-2026-forecast>

- 8) Feed strategy increasingly tied to genetic performance: SwineWeb featured renewed focus on aligning nutrition programs with modern genetic potential to maximize efficiency and survivability.

Link: <https://swineweb.com/unlocking-the-full-potential-of-modern-swine-genetics-through-feed-strategies/>

- 9) Retail protein substitution continues supporting pork demand: Our founder, **Todd Thurman**, posted about how high beef prices continue improving pork's relative affordability, but actual pork demand is underperforming expectations despite a massive price advantage.

Link: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/toddthurman_pork-beef-foodprices-activity-7455666766124580865-GBKO?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAQAgnIBZgQSaxnP1CA-aYwbdn_rJQckRhA

- 10) The industry continues to monitor the Pseudorabies situation in the U.S.: A Swineweb article mentioned that muscle cut market access has remained, but there have been some challenges with offal and variety meats.

Link: <https://swineweb.com/mexico-maintains-u-s-pork-muscle-cut-access-amid-pseudorabies-prv-detections-restrictions-hit-byproducts/>

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