



Released January 30, 2004, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "*Cattle*" call Steve Anderson at (202) 720-3040, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

# January 1 Cattle Inventory Down 1 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003.

- Beef cows, at 32.86 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003.
- Milk cows, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2004 and the change from January 1, 2003, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.3 million, down 1 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.52 million, down 2 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 4.02 million, down 2 percent.
- Other heifers, 9.80 million, down 1 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.3 million, down 2 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down 2 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 15.2 million, down 2 percent.
- Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.8 million, up 4 percent.
- The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds**, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots, 27.5 million, down 4 percent.

### **Calf Crop Down 1 Percent**

**The 2003 calf crop** was estimated at 37.9 million head, down 1 percent from 2002. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.7 million, down 1 percent from 2002.

# Revisions

All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2002, January 1, 2003, and July 1, 2003 were reviewed using calf crop, official slaughter, import and export data, and the relationship of new survey information to the prior surveys. Based on the findings of this review, small adjustments of less than one-half percent were made to previously released inventory estimates by class and calf crop.

State level estimates were reviewed and changes were made to reallocate inventory and calf crop estimates to the U.S. total. Cattle on Feed estimates for January 1, 2003 were revised upward by 2% based on feedlots which were added to the survey program due to the 2002 Census of Agriculture.

# Special Note

Preliminary 2002 Census data were used in the review process for the 2004 and revised 2003 estimates included in this publication. States requiring 5-year historical revisions may carry a disjointed data series from their current historical data series. January 1, 2003 and prior estimates contained in this publication will be republished in the *Cattle, Final Estimates 1999-2003* publication which is scheduled for release on April 30, 2004.

This report was approved on January 30, 2004.

Pose

Acting Secretary of Agriculture James R. Moseley

Steven A. Hin

Agricultural Statistics Board Acting Chairperson Steven D. Wiyatt

# Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop, United States, January 1, 2003-2004<sup>1</sup>

Class	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	
Cattle and Calves	96,100	94,882	99	
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	42,125	41,851	99	
Beef Cows	32,983	32,860	100	
Milk Cows	9,142	8,991	98	
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	19,628	19,341	99	
For Beef Cow Replacement	5,624	5,517	98	
Expected to Calve <sup>2</sup>	3,548	3,492	98	
For Milk Cow Replacement	4,114	4,020	98	
Expected to Calve <sup>2</sup>	2,877	2,761	96	
Other Heifers	9,891	9,804	99	
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	16,554	16,280	98	
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	2,248	2,206	98	
Calves Under 500 Pounds	15,545	15,204	98	
Cattle on Feed	13,220	13,811	104	
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	
Calf Crop	38,224	37,903	99	

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.
<sup>2</sup> Replacement heifers expected to calve during the year.

# Cattle and Calves: Number Grazing on Small Grain Pasture, 3-State Total, January 1, 2003-2004

- ~·····, ······						
Class	2003 2004		2004 as % of 2003			
	Million Head	Million Head	Million Head			
Calves, Other Heifers and Steers Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas	3.70	2.90	78			

Item	s: Balance Sheet, United States, 2002-2003 <sup>1</sup> 2002	2003
	Million Head	Million Head
January 1 Beginning Inventory Calf Crop and Imports	96.7 40.7	96.1 39.6
Total Supply <sup>2</sup>	137.4	135.7
Slaughter Deaths and Exports	37.0 4.3	36.6 4.1
Total Disappearance <sup>2</sup>	41.3	40.8
Residual <sup>2</sup>	0	-0.1
January 1 Ending Inventory	96.1	94.9

<sup>1</sup> Final 2002 and preliminary 2003 estimates will be published in the "Meat Animals - Production, Disposition and Income" report published in April 2004.
<sup>2</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

			January 1, 2003-2	2004		
	А	Il Cattle and Calves	8	All	Cows That Have Cal	ved
State	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent
AL	1,440	1,360	94	780	750	96
AK	12.5	12.5	100	6.0	6.3	105
AZ	840	850	100	325	330	105
AR	1,850	1,900	101	980	1,010	102
CA	5,250	5,200	99	2,410	2,420	100
CO	2,650	2,400	91	800	710	89
CT	56	2,400 54	96	29	27	93
DE	21	25	119	13	12	92
FL	1,750	1,740	99	1,100	1,090	99
GA	1,290	1,250	97	710	700	99
HI	151	156	103	86	88	102
ID	2,000	2,010	101	880	900	102
IL	1,360	1,310	96	540	540	100
IN	860	830	97	375	370	99
IA	3,550	3,450	97	1,200	1,180	98
KS	6,350	6,650	105	1,630	1,660	102
KY	2,430	2,320	95	1,240	1,240	100
LA	860	850	99	520	530	102
ME	93	91	98	46	45	98
MD	240	235	98	121	119	98
MA	50	48	96	25	24	96
MI	990	1,030	104	390	385	99
MN	2,450	2,400	98	880	860	98
MS	1,070	1,020	95	590	570	97
MO	4,500	4,350	97	2,250	2,250	100
MT	2,450	2,400	98	1,450	1,490	103
NE	6,200	6,250	101	2,000	1,910	96
NV	510	510	100	270	270	100
NH	40	39	98	21.0	19.5	93
NJ	46	46	100	22	22	100
NM	1,550	1,510	97	780	780	100
NY	1,450	1,420	98	760	740	97
NC	900	880	98	475	460	97
ND	1,880	1,750	93	1,010	970	96
OH	1,220	1,230	101	520	520	100
OK	5,400	5,100	94	2,130	2,050	96
OR	1,360	1,440	106	710	720	101
PA	1,630	1,640	101	740	720	97
RI	5.5	5.5	100	3.0	3.0	100
SC	435	425	98	230	235	102
SD	3,700	3,650	99	1,780	1,790	101
TN	2,270	2,210	97	1,190	1,180	99
TX	14,000	13,900	99	5,800	5,800	100
UT	880	860	98	430	440	102
VT	285	285	100	163	155	95
VA	1,630	1,540	94	800	800	100
WA	1,100	1,120	102	495	510	103
WV	405	380	94	210	200	95
WI	3,350	3,350	100	1,500	1,490	99
WY	1,290	1,400	109	710	760	107
US	96,100.0	94,882.0	99	42,125.0	41,850.8	99

<b>Cattle and Calves:</b>	Number by	Class, State, and United States,	
	January 1,	2003-2004	

--continued

	Beef Cows That Have Calved			Milk Cows That Have Calved			
State	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	
AL	761	732	96	19	18	95	
٩K	4.7	5.1	109	1.3	1.2	92	
Z	170	175	103	155	155	100	
AR	949	982	103	31	28	90	
CA	740	720	97	1,670	1,700	102	
CO	702	612	87	98	98	100	
CT	6	6	100	23	21	91	
ЭE	4	4	100	9	8	89	
TL .	953	950	100	147	140	95	
BA W	625	616	99	85	84	99	
II	79	82	104	7	6	86	
D	490	488	100	390	412	106	
L	426	432	101 99	114	108	95 99	
N	230 992	227 984	99	145 208	143 196	99	
A KS	1,518	1,550	102	112	190	94	
KY	1,120	1,128	102	112	110	93	
A	475	489	101	45	41	93	
лЕ ЛЕ	10	11	110	36	34	94	
1D 1D	41	42	102	80	77	96	
ЛА	5	6	102	20	18	90	
ЛI	89	85	96	301	300	100	
ΛN	400	395	99	480	465	97	
AS	557	541	97	33	29	88	
ΛO	2,116	2,125	100	134	125	93	
ΛT	1,432	1,472	103	18	18	100	
JE	1,934	1,848	96	66	62	94	
ΝV	245	244	100	25	26	104	
NH	4.0	3.5	88	17	16	94	
JJ	9	10	111	13	12	92	
JM	466	455	98	314	325	104	
JΥ	85	82	96	675	658	97	
ЧС	412	402	98	63	58	92	
١D	973	937	96	37	33	89	
)H	260	262	101	260	258	99	
)K	2,047	1,970	96	83	80	96	
)R	593	603	102	117	117	100	
A	150	156	104	590	564	96	
I C	1.6	1.7	106	1.4	1.3	93	
C	210	218	104	20	17 79	85 94	
D	1,696	1,711	101	84			
'N 'X	1,106 5,480	1,103 5,483	100 100	84 320	77 317	92 99	
JT	339	351	100	91	89	98	
T T	10	9	90	153	146	95	
VA	684	695	102	115	105	91	
VA	248	270	102	247	240	97	
VV	195	186	95	15	14	93	
VI	235	245	104	1,265	1,245	98	
WY	706	756	107	4	4	100	
JS	32,983.3	32,860.3	100	9,141.7	8,990.5	98	

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, State, and United States, January 1, 2003-2004 (continued)

--continued

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, State, and United States, January 1, 2003-2004 (continued)

	Heifers 500 Pounds and Over						
State	Beef Cow R	eplacement	Milk Cow R	leplacement	Othe	er	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	
AL	118	105	7	7	40	33	
AK	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	
AZ	34	33	35	37	20	20	
AR	180	180	10	10	75	85	
CA	130	125	790	730	170	170	
CO CT	102 1.0	95 1.5	38 11.0	45 10.5	650 1.5	580 1.0	
DE	0.3	0.3	2.7	2.8	0.6	1.0	
FL	130	140	40	40	25	20	
GA	90	85	29	26	36	30	
HI	12	12	3	2	6	6	
ID	90	95	190	180	195	205	
IL	60	61	50	52	160	132	
IN	41	41	55	55	56	62	
IA	130	125	100	95	590	590	
KS	250	230	50	80	1,620	1,650	
KY	175	160	45	40	130	110	
LA	86	81	10	10	17	17	
ME	4.5	4.0	19.0	18.5	1.5	1.5	
MD MA	11	10	32	30 9.0	9	10 0.5	
MA MI	1.0 35	1.5 30	10.0 135	9.0 130	$\begin{array}{c} 1.0\\42 \end{array}$	0.5 51	
MN	100	100	295	280	180	190	
MS	95	95	15	12	25	25	
MO	305	280	55	60	320	270	
MT	390	420	11	8	189	142	
NE	280	280	20	20	1,390	1,520	
NV	46	44	11	10	35	35	
NH	1.5	1.1	8.0	8.0	0.5	0.4	
NJ	3.0	3.5	6	6	2.0	2.5	
NM	90	85	70	75	110	105	
NY	25	28	325	300	40	42	
NC ND	73 155	72 156	28 13	27	19 230	21 215	
OH	70	65	110	14 115	70	80 × 13	
OK	380	370	30	20	500	530	
OR	115	120	60	70	110	130	
PA	45	40	280	280	50	50	
RI	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.1	
SC	38	32	8	7	15	12	
SD	290	290	30	35	470	470	
TN	200	185	40	35	75	65	
TX	760	740	110	110	1,710	1,630	
UT	75	65	45	40	70	70	
VT	5	4	60 48	67 28	5	3 57	
VA WA	120 55	100 50	48 105	38 95	67 115	120	
WA WV	35 35	50 40	105	95 4	23	21	
WI	70	40 75	660	670	75	75	
WY	120	160	1	3	149	147	
US	5,623.5	5,517.2	4,113.9	4,020.0	9,890.5	9,804.1	
	0,020.0	0,017.2	.,	.,020.0	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	continued	

--continued

State	Steers 500 Pounds and Over		Bull 500 Pounds	S	Calves Under 500 Pounds	
State	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head
AL	75	55	55	50	365	360
AK	0.8	0.8	1.3	1.3	2.6	2.4
AZ	255	255	21	22	150	153
AR	130	140	55	55	420	420
CA	615	640	65	65	1,070	1,050
CO	870	820	40	35	150	115
CT	2.5	2.0	1.0	1.0	10.0	11.0
DE	0.8	3.6	0.4	0.4	3.2	4.0
FL	25	20	60	60	370	370
GA	50	40	40	39	335	330
HI	7	7	5	5	32	36
ID	360	350	35	35	250	245
IL	280	270	25	25	245	230
IN	128	113	20	19	185	170
IA	1,010	940	70	70	450	450
KS	1,970	2,180	90	95	740	755
KY	220	190	80	80	540	500
LA	24	21	33	33	170	158
ME	3.5	3.5	1.5	1.5	17.0	17.0
MD	23	20	4	4	40	42
MA	2.5	2.7	1.0	0.8	9.5	9.5
MI	195	215	18	19	175	200
MN	460	450	35	35	500	485
MS	56	50	39	38	250	230
MO	485	440	125	120	960	930
MT	240	200	100	90	70	50
NE	2,000	2,120	100	90	410	310
NV	52	51	16	15	80	85
NH	1.5	2.0	0.5	0.5	7.0	7.5
NJ	4	3	1	1	8	8
NM	210	190	45	45	245	230
NY	37	37	18	18	245	255
NC	43	40	32	30	230	230
ND	300	260	56	50	116	85
OH	180	180	30	30	240	240
OK	1,230	1,080	135	130	995	920
OR	150	180	40	40	175	180
PA	170	165	25	25	320	360
RI	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.8
SC	15	15	17	17	112	107
SD	730	670	90 75	90 75	310	305
TN TV	140	110	75	75	550	560 2 500
TX UT	2,750 125	2,750 110	370 22	370 22	2,500 113	2,500 113
VT	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	46	50
VA	190	130	40	40	365	375
WA WA	190	185	23	25	130	135
WV	43	35	23 14	15	73	65
WI	345	350	30	30	670	660
WY	170	185	45	45	95	100
US	16,554.1	16,280.1	2,247.9	2,205.6	15,545.1	15,204.2

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, State, and United States, January 1, 2003-2004 (continued)

Calf Crop: Number by State and United States, 2002-2003

State	2002	2003	2003 as % 2002
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent
AL	690	680	99
AK	4.1	3.7	90
AZ	270	270	100
AR	850	860	101
CA	2,040	2,050	100
CO	820	730	89
СТ	24	22	92
DE	10.0	9.5	95
FL	930	920	99
GA	600	580	97
HI	63	66	105
D .	860	880	102
ĨL	490	480	98
IN	340	330	97
IA	1,110	1,120	101
KS	1,510	1,550	101
KY	1,110	1,110	105
LA	415	415	100
ME	42	40	95
MD	102	100	98
MA	19	18	95
MA	340	350	103
MN	880	850	97
MS	500	480	96
		2,080	100
MO	2,090 1,520		
MT NE		1,540	101 97
	1,820	1,770	97
NV	220	235	107
NH	19	18	95 100
NJ	18	18	
NM	600	590	98
NY	640	620	97
NC	440	420	95
ND	1,000	960	96
HC	470	470	100
OK	1,930	1,890	98
OR	660	690	105
PA	660	650	98
RI	2.6	2.6	100
SC	185	190	103
SD	1,840	1,730	94
ſN	1,060	1,060	100
X	5,000	5,100	102
JT	390	390	100
/T	140	135	96
VA .	730	710	97
VA	450	455	101
VV	190	185	97
VI	1,350	1,350	100
WY	780	730	94
JS	38,223.7	37,902.8	99

Cattle and Calves: Total Number on Feed by State and United States, January 1, 2003-2004<sup>1</sup>

State	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent
AL	5		
ΑZ	289	293	101
AR	15	10	67
CA	495	510	103
CO	1,040	1,060	102
GA	3		
D	305	305	100
L	215	200	93
N	115	105	91
A	1,090	950	8
KS	2,240	2,480	111
KΥ	10	10	100
٨D	13	11	8
II	180	210	11
ΜN	300	310	10.
ON	70	65	93
ΛT	70	70	10
νE	2,300	2,450	10
JV	16	13	8
Ŋ	2		
NM	119	115	9
JΥ	20	20	10
٩C	4	5	12
ND	70	65	9
OH	180	200	11
OK	340	360	10
OR	55	85	153
PA	75	75	10
SC	4		
SD	395	375	9:
-N	5	5	10
X	2,640	2,850	103
JT	30	35	11
/A	29	29	10
VA	190	205	10
VV	7	5	7
VI	200	210	10.
WY	75	100	13
Oth Sts <sup>2</sup>	8.8	19.9	22
JS	13,219.8	13,810.9	10

<sup>1</sup> Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

classes.
<sup>2</sup> Other States include AK, CT, DE, FL, HI, LA, ME, MA, MS, NH, RI, and VT. AL, GA, NJ, and SC included in Other States beginning in 2004, which impacts 2004 as a percent of 2003.

#### Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop United States, July 1, 2002-2003 <sup>1</sup>

Class	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	
Cattle and Calves	105,100	103,900	99	
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	42,900	42,700	100	
Beef Cows	33,750	33,600	100	
Milk Cows	9,150	9,100	99	
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	16,200	15,900	98	
For Beef Cow Replacement	4,600	4,600	100	
For Milk Cow Replacement	3,700	3,600	97	
Other Heifers	7,900	7,700	97	
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	14,500	14,200	98	
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	2,100	2,100	100	
Calves Under 500 Pounds	29,400	29,000	99	
Calf Crop	38,224	37,903	99	
Cattle on Feed	12,500	11,810	94	

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

#### Calf Crop: Number and Percent of Total by Six Month Period, United States, 2002-2003 <sup>1</sup>

Cinted States, 2002 2005							
	2002		2003				
Period	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total			
	1,000 Hd	Percent	1,000 Hd	Percent			
Jan 1 - Jun 30 Jul 1 - Dec 31	27,900.0 10,323.7	73.4 26.6	27,700.0 10,202.8	73.0 27.0			
Total	38,223.7	100.0	37,902.8	100.0			

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

#### Cattle and Calves: Balance Sheet, United States, January 1 - June 30, 2002-2003

	January 1 - June 30, 2002-2003	
Item	2002	2003
	Million Head	Million Head
January 1 Inventory Calf Crop and Imports	96.7 29.1	96.1 28.7
Total Supply <sup>1</sup>	125.8	124.8
Slaughter Deaths and Exports	18.1 2.5	18.4 2.4
Total Disappearance <sup>1</sup>	20.7	20.8
Residual <sup>1</sup>	0.0	-0.1
July 1 Inventory	105.1	103.9

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

	A	ll Cattle and Calve	5	All Cows That Have Calved			
State	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	
CA	5,200	5,150	99	2,400	2,390	100	
CO	3,050	2,750	90	880	810	92	
IA	4,000	3,900	98	1,240	1,240	100	
KS	6,550	6,600	101	1,650	1,670	101	
MO	4,650	4,600	99	2,180	2,150	99	
MT	3,350	3,400	101	1,480	1,500	101	
NE	7,050	6,600	94	2,030	1,950	96	
OK	5,600	5,600	100	2,100	2,100	100	
SD	5,000	4,850	97	2,020	1,980	98	
TX	15,000	15,500	103	6,100	6,200	102	
WI	3,550	3,600	101	1,510	1,510	100	
Oth Sts	42,100	41,350	98	19,310	19,200	99	
US	105,100	103,900	99	42,900	42,700	100	
	Beef C	Cows That Have Ca	alved	Milk	Cows That Have Cal	ved	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	
CA	760	700	92	1,640	1,690	103	
CO	776	710	91	104	100	96	
IA	1,030	1,040	101	210	200	95	
KS	1,543	1,560	101	107	110	103	
MO	2,043	2,020	99	137	130	95	
MT	1,462	1,482	101	18	18	100	
NE	1,963	1,886	96	67	64	96	
OK	2,016	2,019	100	84	81	96	
SD	1,934	1,898	98	86	82	95	
TX	5,783	5,880	102	317	320	101	
WI	245	255	104	1,265	1,255	99	
Oth Sts	14,195	14,150	100	5,115	5,050	99	
US	33,750	33,600	100	9,150	9,100	99	

<b>Cattle and Calves:</b>	Number by	Class, Selected S	tates,
and United	States, July	<sup>1</sup> , 2002-2003 <sup>1</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

## **Reliability of January 1 Cattle and Calves Estimates**

**Survey Procedures:** A random sample of U.S. producers was surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all cattle producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. Data were collected from about 50,000 operators during the first half of January by mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interviews and 83 percent of the reports were usable. Regardless of when operators responded, they were asked to report inventories as of January 1.

**Estimating Procedures:** These cattle estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by each State office. National and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous year using a balance sheet. The balance sheet begins with the previous inventory estimate, adds to it estimates of births and imports, and subtracts estimates of slaughter, exports, and deaths. This indicated ending inventory level is compared to the Agricultural Statistics Board estimate for reasonableness.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year to year and item to item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made. The reviews are primarily based on livestock slaughter and additional foreign trade and survey data. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

**Reliability:** Since all cattle operators are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of estimates in this report, the **"Root Mean Square Error"** is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for cattle inventory estimates over the past 20 years is .6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 94.9 million head by more than .6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 percent.

The following table also shows a 20 year record of the range of differences between first and latest estimates for selected items. Using estimates of all cattle and calves as an example, changes between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate during the past 20 years have averaged 443,000 head, ranging from 0 to 1,419,000 head. During this period the initial inventory estimate has been equal to the final estimate one time, below the final estimate 6 times, and above the final estimate 13 times. This does not imply that the January 1 estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

			chability of a	Junuary 1 Cat	tie Estimates			
Itam	Root Mean	90 Percent Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Years	
Item	Square Error	Percent	Head	Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
	Percent	Percent	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Number	Number
All Cattle	0.6	1.0	938	433	0	1,419	13	6
All Cows	0.7	1.2	517	215	6	911	12	8
Calf Crop	0.7	1.2	449	183	0	630	10	9

### Reliability of January 1 Cattle Estimates <sup>1 2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Based on data from January 1984 through January 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Data in the above table do not reflect the 1-3 percent changes made during the 1989-93 historic revision period. The root mean square error's would be about 1 percentage point higher if these were included.

# Index

# Page

Calf Crop by Six Month Period, United States 10
Calf Crop, by State, and United States
Cattle and Calves, Number by Class, by State, and United States, January 1
Cattle and Calves, Number by Class, Selected States, and United States, July 1
Cattle and Calves, Number Grazing on Small Grain Pasture, 3-State Total, January 1,
Cattle on Feed, by State, and United States, January 1
Reliability Statement
U.S. Balance Sheet, January 1 3
U.S. Balance Sheet, January 1-June 30 10
U.S. Class Inventories, January 1
U.S. Class Inventories, July 1

The next "Cattle" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on July 23, 2004.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

#### INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: **www.usda.gov/nass**/. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

#### **E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION**

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Starting with the NASS Home Page at **www.usda.gov/nass**/, click on **Publications**, then click on the **Subscribe by E-mail** button which takes you to the page describing e-mail delivery of reports. Finally, click on <u>Go to the Subscription Page</u> and follow the instructions.

#### -----

### PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada) Other areas, please call 703-605-6220 FAX: 703-605-6900 (Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)

#### ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: **nass@nass.usda.gov.**