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News Release

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Service

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Press Release Announcement – December 22, 2006 - For Immediate Release

Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 4 Percent from Last Year

On December 1, 2006, Arizona had 341,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 4 percent from a year ago, but down 1,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 30,000 head during November, 5,000 head less than a year ago. During November, 29,000 head were marketed, unchanged from last year.

On November 1, 2006, California had 540,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, down 2 percent from last year but up 10,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 69,000 head during November, up 3,000 head from last year. During November, 55,000 head were marketed, up 2,000 head from last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on December 1, 2006. The inventory was 2 percent above December 1, 2005 and 6 percent above December 1, 2004. This is the highest December 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.89 million, 8 percent below 2005 but 8 percent above 2004. Net placements were 1.81 million. This is the second lowest placements for the month of November since the series began in 1996. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 555,000, 600-699 pounds were 565,000, 700-799 pounds were 404,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 365,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.80 million, 6 percent above 2005 and 10 percent above 2004. This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of November since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 83,000 during November, 9 percent below 2005 and 23 percent below 2004.

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