



Press Release

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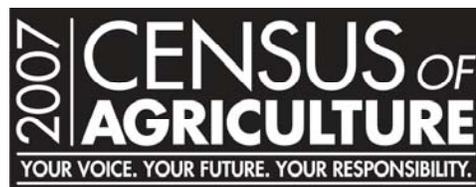
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IDAHO CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 10 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on January 1, 2008 totaled 235,000 head, 10 percent below the January 1, 2007 inventory, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. The cattle on feed inventory decreased 5,000 head from the number on feed December 1, 2007. Placements of cattle in State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during December totaled 39,000 head, unchanged from December 2006 placements. Marketings of cattle from feedlots with 1,000 head or more during December totaled 42,000 head, up 1,000 head from the same month a year ago. Other disappearance totaled 2,000 during December, down 6,000 head from December 2006.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.1 million head on January 1, 2008. The inventory was 1 percent above January 1, 2007 and 2 percent above January 1, 2006. This is the highest January 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.65 million steers and steer calves, up 1 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.38 million head, up 2 percent from 2007. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.70 million, 1 percent below 2007 and 10 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.64 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 480,000, 600-699 pounds were 505,000, 700-799 pounds were 420,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 296,000. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.65 million, 1 percent above the previous year but 4 percent below two years ago. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 58,000 during December, 34 percent below the previous year and 36 percent below two years ago.



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