



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Cattle Inventory

**United States:** All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 2006, totaled 105.7 million head, 1 percent above the 104.5 million on July 1, 2005 and 2 percent above the 103.4 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 43.0 million, were up slightly from the 42.8 million on July 1, 2005 and 1 percent above the 42.4 million two years ago. Beef cows, at 33.9 million, were up slightly from July 1, 2005 and up 1 percent from two years ago. Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2005 and up 2 percent from two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2006 and the changes from July 1, 2005, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over,

16.5 million, up 2 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.0 million, unchanged. Milk replacement heifers, 3.8 million, up 3 percent. Other heifers, 7.7 million, up 3 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.9 million, up 3 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged. Calves under 500 pounds, 29.2 million, up 1 percent. All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.5 million, up 4 percent.

The 2006 calf crop is expected to be 37.9 million, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.6 million, up 1 percent from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004.

**Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop,  
United States, July 1, 2005-2006**

| Class                             | United States     |                         |                          |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                   | 2005              | 2006                    | 2006 as % of 2005        |
|                                   | <i>1,000 Head</i> | <i>1,000 Head</i>       | <i>Percent</i>           |
| All Cattle and Calves             | 104,500           | 105,700                 | 101                      |
| Cows and Heifers That Have Calved | 42,800            | 43,000                  | 100                      |
| Beef Cows                         | 33,750            | 33,850                  | 100                      |
| Milk Cows                         | 9,050             | 9,150                   | 101                      |
|                                   | <b>2005</b>       | <b>2006<sup>1</sup></b> | <b>2006 as % of 2005</b> |
| Calf Crop                         | 37,780            | 37,900                  | 100                      |

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary.

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