



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
**National Agricultural Statistics Service**  
Delta Regional Field Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 14, 2023

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## USDA Surveying Cattle Operations

**Jackson, MS** – In January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey about 41,000 cattle operations nationwide to provide an up-to-date measure of U.S. cattle inventories.

“This information helps producers make timely, informed business decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction. It also helps packers and government leaders evaluate expected slaughter volume for future months and determine potential supplies for export,” said Mississippi State Statistician Esmerelda Dickson. “Obtaining the current count of cattle will serve as an important decision-making tool for the entire agriculture industry.”

During the first two weeks of January, Mississippi producers will have the opportunity to report their beef and dairy cattle inventories, calf crop, death loss, and cattle on feed information. To make it as convenient as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding via the internet, mail, or a telephone interview with a National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) representative.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in the *Cattle* report to be released on January 31, 2024. This and all NASS reports are available online at <https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/index.php>. For more information, call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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*NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.*

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