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JANUARY 2007 CATTLE INVENTORY REPORT

SOUTH CAROLINA DOWN 2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

All cattle and calves on **SOUTH CAROLINA** farms on January 1, 2007 were estimated at 400,000 head, the USDA, NASS South Carolina Field Office announced today. This number is down two percent from January 1, 2006 estimate of 410,000. South Carolina now ties at 37th among all states while Texas ranks first at 14.0 million head with Nebraska and Kansas coming in second and third at 6.65 and 6.40 million head, respectively.

The total inventory of 400,000 head includes 203,000 beef cows and 17,000 milk cows. Also included are 17,000 bulls, 35,000 beef replacement heifers, 7,000 milk replacement heifers, 12,000 other heifers, and 11,000 steers, all weighing 500 pounds or more. Calves weighing less than 500 pounds totaled 98,000. The South Carolina calf crop for 2006 totaled 175,000 head, down three percent from 2005.

U. S. SLIGHTLY ABOVE LAST YEAR

All cattle and calves in the **UNITED STATES** as of January 1, 2007, totaled 97.0 million head, slightly above the 96.7 million on January 1, 2006.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.0 million, were down slightly from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2006. Beef cows, at 32.9 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2006. Milk cows, at 9.13 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2006. Other class estimates on January 1, 2007, and the change from January 1, 2006, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.1 million, up 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.88 million, down slightly. Milk replacement heifers, 4.31 million, up 1 percent. Other heifers, 9.90 million, up 1 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 17.2 million, up 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.22 million, down 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.5 million, down slightly. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.3 million, up 1 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.3 million, up 1 percent.

The 2006 calf crop was estimated at 37.6 million head, down slightly from 2005. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2005.