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# News Release

Cooperating with Clemson University

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## JANUARY 2012 CATTLE INVENTORY REPORT

### SOUTH CAROLINA DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

All cattle and calves on **SOUTH CAROLINA** farms on January 1, 2012 were estimated at 370,000 head, the USDA, NASS South Carolina Field Office announced today. This number is down 4 percent from January 1, 2011 estimate of 385,000. South Carolina ranks 39<sup>th</sup> among all states while Texas ranks first at 11.9 million head with Nebraska and Kansas coming in second and third at 6.45 and 6.10 million head, respectively.

The total inventory of 370,000 head includes 184,000 beef cows and 16,000 milk cows. Also included are 16,000 bulls, 36,000 beef replacement heifers, 6,000 milk replacement heifers, 15,000 other heifers, and 11,000 steers, all weighing 500 pounds or more. Calves weighing less than 500 pounds totaled 86,000. The South Carolina calf crop for 2011 totaled 160,000 head, down 3 percent from 2010.

### U. S. CATTLE INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2012 totaled 90.8 million head, 2 percent below the 92.7 million on January 1, 2011. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 88.1 million on hand in 1952.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.1 million, were down 2 percent from the 40.0 million on January 1, 2011. Beef cows, at 29.9 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2011. Milk cows, at 9.2 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2011. Other class estimates on January 1, 2012 and the change from January 1, 2011, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.4 million, down 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.2 million, up 1 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.5 million, down 1 percent. Other heifers, 9.6 million, down 2 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.1 million, down 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 5 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 14.1 million, down 3 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 1 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 25.7 million, down 4 percent. The 2011 calf crop was estimated at 35.3 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2011 are estimated at 25.7 million, down 1 percent from 2010.