



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
South Dakota Field Office • Sioux Falls, SD



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CATTLE AND CALVES DEATH LOSS

SIOUX FALLS, May 8, 2006 -- South Dakota cattle producers lost 2,600 head of cattle and calves to predators out of a total death loss of 138,000 head in 2005, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Predator losses are down 13 percent from 2000, when 3,000 cattle and calves were lost. These predator losses accounted for 2 percent of the total deaths in 2005, while non-predator causes (sickness, weather, etc) accounted for the remaining 98 percent.

Cattle and calves killed by predators valued \$1.3 million in 2005, compared with \$1.2 million in 2000. The value of those cattle and calves lost to non-predator causes totaled \$95.3 million in 2005.

Loss of Cattle, by Cause, South Dakota, 2000 and 2005

Cause of Loss	2000		2005		
	Number	% Total Pred.	Number	% Total Pred.	% Total Loss
Predators					
Coyotes	400	100.0	200	66.7	2/
Other/Unknown	-	-	100	33.3	2/
Total	400	100.0	300	100.0	.6
Other Causes 1/	NA	NA	52,700	-	99.4
Total Loss	NA	NA	53,000	-	100.0

1/ Other causes include sickness, weather related, and theft. Other causes were not available for 2000.

2/ Less than 1 percent

Loss of Calves, by Cause, South Dakota, 2000 and 2005

Cause of Loss	2000		2005		
	Number	% Total Pred.	Number	% Total Pred.	% Total Loss
Predators					
Coyotes	2,500	96.2	1,700	73.9	2.0
Dogs	NA	NA	200	8.7	2/
Mt. Lion/Bobcats	NA	NA	200	8.7	2/
Other/Unknown	NA	NA	200	8.7	2/
Total	2,600	100.0	2,300	100.0	2.7
Other Causes 1/	NA	NA	82,700	-	97.3
Total Loss	NA	NA	85,000	-	100.0

1/ Other causes include sickness, weather related, and theft. Other causes were not available for 2000.

2/ Less than 1 percent

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/non-amb-catt/naccan06.pdf>