

Cattle and Calves

Arizona's inventory of cattle and calves on January 1, 2006 was estimated at 940,000 head, up 30,000 head from the previous year. The 2005 calf crop of 285,000 was up 10,000 head from 2004. The value of cattle and calves on January 1 was \$1,025 million, up 10 percent.

Monthly all beef cattle prices varied by \$15.90 per hundredweight during 2005, from a low of \$87.10 in November to a high of \$103.00 in April. The marketing year average price for beef cattle decreased \$2.70 per hundredweight from a year ago to \$93.40. The annual average steer and heifer price increased \$3.00 to \$105.00 per hundredweight and the annual average calf price increased \$6.00 to \$126.00 per hundredweight. The annual average price for cows increased \$1.90 per hundredweight

to \$52.50. The lower all beef cattle price was due to a higher percentage of cows marketed.

Cattle and calf marketings were up 7 percent to 809 million pounds and the gross income from these marketings increased 5 percent to \$777 million.

Arizona's feedlot operators marketed 345,000 head during 2005. Feedlot inventories ranged from 314,000 head on August 1 and September 1 to 331,000 head on January 1 and June 1.

Arizona's 13 livestock slaughter plants produced 360 million pounds of red meat during 2005, up 2 percent from the 2004 slaughter.

**Cattle Inventory
January 1, 1996-2006**

