



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## USDA TO STUDY BEEF FEEDLOT HEALTH MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

SACRAMENTO, July 18, 2011 - Beginning in August, beef feedlot operators in California will be contacted by representatives of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to provide information for the 2011 USDA Feedlots Study. The data gathered by NASS will be used by USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) to provide an in-depth look at health management practices on beef feedlots in the United States.

"Many changes have occurred on U.S. feedlots since 1999, the last time these data were collected," said Vic Tolomeo, director of the NASS California Field Office. "By participating in the current study, producers will help their entire industry by accurately portraying the beef feedlot industry and ensuring that only the most up-to-date and accurate information is readily available to the public."

The study results will help researchers identify the most prevalent health problems and help identify new or updated solutions. The study will also gauge the respondent's awareness and use of various biosecurity practices, as well as changes in feedlot management practices.

To help producers provide all of the necessary information, trained NASS interviewers will personally visit feedlot participants to complete the survey. As with all NASS surveys, all individual responses are kept strictly confidential and used only in combination with other responses to report regional and U.S. estimates. All data will be published only in aggregate form, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

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