



# Iowa Ag News – Cattle & Calves

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January 30, 2015

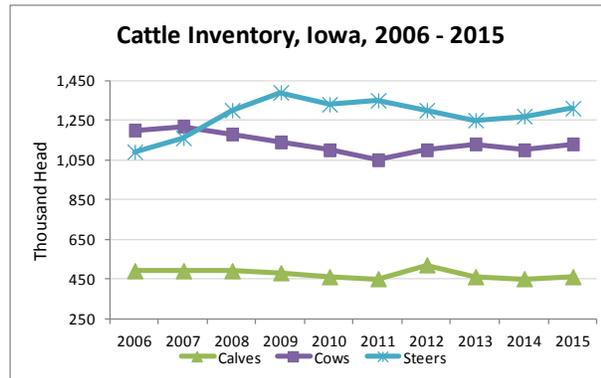
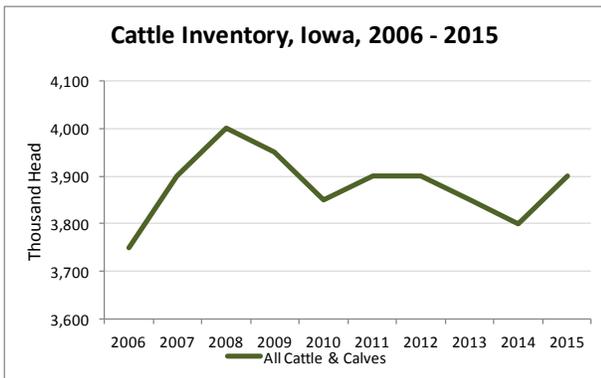
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**All cattle and calves** in Iowa as of January 1, 2015, totaled 3.90 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle* report. This is up 100,000 head from January 1, 2014. **Beef cows**, at 920,000 head, were 3 percent above last year. **Milk cows**, at 210,000 were up 5,000 head from last year.

All **heifers 500 pounds and over** were up 2 percent at 940,000 head. **Heifers for beef cow replacement** were up 6 percent from 2014 at 170,000 head; **heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 130,000 head, were up 10,000 head from the previous year; and **all other heifers** were unchanged at 640,000 head.

**Steers weighing 500 pounds and over** were up 3 percent from last year at 1.31 million head. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** were unchanged from a year ago at 60,000 head. **Calves under 500 pounds** on January 1, 2015, totaled 460,000 head, up 2 percent from last year's historical low of 450,000.

The 2014 **calf crop** was estimated at 1.05 million head, up 3 percent from the 2013 calf crop. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2015 totaled 1.22 million head, down 1 percent from one year ago.



## Cattle and Calves, Number by Class and Calf Crop – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2014 and 2015

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves .....	3,800.0	3,900.0	103	88,526.0	89,800.0	101
All cows that have calved .....	1,100.0	1,130.0	103	38,293.0	39,000.0	102
Beef cows .....	895.0	920.0	103	29,085.4	29,693.1	102
Milk cows .....	205.0	210.0	102	9,207.6	9,306.9	101
Heifers 500 pounds and over .....	920.0	940.0	102	18,969.4	19,240.2	101
For beef cow replacement .....	160.0	170.0	106	5,551.3	5,777.4	104
For milk cow replacement .....	120.0	130.0	108	4,548.7	4,615.4	101
Other heifers .....	640.0	640.0	100	8,869.4	8,847.4	100
Steers 500 pounds and over .....	1,270.0	1,310.0	103	15,667.9	15,778.5	101
Bulls 500 pounds and over .....	60.0	60.0	100	2,037.8	2,104.4	103
Calves under 500 pounds .....	450.0	460.0	102	13,557.9	13,676.9	101
Cattle on feed <sup>1</sup> .....	1,230.0	1,220.0	99	13,018.3	13,093.0	101
	2013	2014	2014 as % of 2013	2013	2014	2014 as % of 2013
Calf crop .....	1,020.0	1,050.0	103	33,730.0	33,900.0	101

<sup>1</sup>Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

## United States Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2015 totaled 89.8 million head, 1 percent above the 88.5 million on January 1, 2014.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.0 million, were up 2 percent from the 38.3 million on January 1, 2014.

- Beef cows, at 29.7 million, were up 2 percent from January 1, 2014.
- Milk cows, at 9.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2014.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2015 and the change from January 1, 2014, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.2 million, up 1 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.8 million, up 4 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 4.6 million, up 1 percent.
- Other heifers, 8.8 million, down slightly.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 15.8 million, up 1 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, up 3 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 13.7 million, up 1 percent.
- Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.1 million, up 1 percent.
- The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 25.2 million, up 1 percent.

The 2014 calf crop was estimated at 33.9 million head, up 1 percent from 2013. Calves born during the first half of 2014 were estimated at 24.6 million, up slightly from 2013.

