



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
DELTA REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE (Serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)  
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## **USDA SURVEYING CATTLE OPERATIONS** ***January 2014 Report Revealed U.S. Cattle Inventory at Its Lowest in 60 Years,*** ***Current Count Needed***

**Baton Rouge, LA** – In January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey more than 40,000 cattle operations nationwide to provide an up-to-date measure of U.S. cattle inventories.

“In January 2014, NASS reported that the all cattle and calves inventory in the United States was the lowest since the 82.1 million head recorded in 1951,” Becky Cross, Director of the NASS Delta Regional Office. Obtaining the current count of cattle will serve as a critical decision-making tool for producers and the entire agriculture industry.”

During the first two weeks of January, Louisiana producers will have the opportunity to report their beef and dairy cattle inventories, calf crop, death loss and cattle on feed operations. To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding via the Internet, telephone, mail or a personal interview with a local NASS representative.

“This information helps producers make timely, informed marketing decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction. It also helps packers and government evaluate expected slaughter volume for future months and determine potential supplies for export,” Cross explained.

As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

The January *Cattle* report will be released on January 30, 2015. This and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For more information, call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for “NASS Data User Community.”

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