

Cattle Death Loss, 2010

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Cattle and calf losses from animal predators and non-predator causes in Pennsylvania totaled 78,000 head. This report provides breakouts of cattle and calf losses by predators and non-predator causes, as well as data on non-lethal predator control measures.

Cattle and calf losses from animal predators totaled 700 head. This represented 0.9 percent of the total losses from all causes and resulted in a loss of \$280,000 to farmers and ranchers.

Cattle and calf losses from non-predator causes totaled 77,300 head or 99.1 percent of the total losses. Respiratory problems was the leading cause of non-predator deaths in calves, accounting for 39.0 percent, followed by digestive problems at 25.3 percent.

Mastitis was the leading cause of non-predator deaths in cattle, accounting for 16.8 percent, followed by respiratory problems at 14.3 percent.

Farmers and ranchers throughout Pennsylvania used many methods to control predators. Use of exclusion fencing was the most common method at 78.4 percent. Culling, livestock carcass removal and frequent checks were the next most commonly used methods of preventing cattle and calf losses at 21.2 percent, 17.5 percent, and 15.2 percent respectively.

This report is released as a cooperative effort between the National Agricultural Statistics Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services and Veterinary Services.

Pennsylvania: Losses of Cattle and Calves, By All Causes, Predators and Non-Predators, 2010

All causes		Predators		Non-predators	
Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves
(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
35,000	43,000	100	600	34,900	42,400

Pennsylvania: Losses of Cattle and Calves from Predators and Non-Predator Causes, Total Value per Head and Total Value, 2010

Value per head		Total value predator losses		Total value non-predator losses	
Cattle ¹	Calves ²	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves
(dollars)	(dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
996	300	100	180	34,760	12,720

¹ Cattle value per head is based on a two-year straight average of the value of beef cows reported in the January 1 Cattle survey from 2010 and 2011.

² Calf value per head is based on the market year average calf price. An average weight of 300 pounds was used.

Pennsylvania: Losses of Cattle and Calves, Number from Specified Problems, 2010

Digestive problems		Respiratory problems		Metabolic problems		Lameness/injury	
Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves
(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
10.1	25.3	14.3	39.0	6.1	0.4	13.2	1.3
Mastitis		Weather related		Calving problems		Poisoning	
Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves
(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
16.8	¹	1.3	2.5	10.1	12.9	0.3	0.6

¹ Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations or are less than 100 head.

Pennsylvania: Non-Lethal Methods Used to Prevent Losses of Cattle and Calves to Predators, 2010

Guard animals	Exclusion fencing	Herding	Night penning	Frequent checks	Fright tactics	Livestock carcass removal	Culling
(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
6.3	78.4	5.6	5.7	15.2	2.0	17.5	21.2