WEST VIRGINIA CATTLE INVENTORY

Charleston, West Virginia – Cattle inventory in West Virginia as of January 1, 2021 totaled 375,000 head, down 20,000 head from the January 1, 2020 inventory. All cows and heifers that have calved totaled 195,000 head, down 10,000 head from January 1, 2020.

Comparing January 1, 2021 to January 1, 2020: beef cows that have calved totaled 190,000 head, down 9,000 head; milk cows that have calved totaled 5,000 head, down 1,000 head; all heifers 500 pounds and over totaled 56,000 head, down 3,000 head; beef replacement heifers totaled 32,000 head, down 2,000 head; milk replacement heifers totaled 2,000 head, down 1,000 head; other heifers totaled 22,000 head, unchanged; steers 500 pounds and over totaled 44,000 head, unchanged; bulls 500 pounds and over totaled 14,000 head, down 1,000 head; calves less than 500 pounds totaled 66,000 head, down 6,000 head. Cattle on feed for slaughter totaled 5,000 head, up 1,000 head from 2020.

The 2020 calf crop totaled 175,000 head, down 20,000 head from the 2019 calf crop.

United States – All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2021 totaled 93.6 million head, slightly below the 93.8 million head on January 1, 2020. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.6 million head, were slightly below the 40.7 million head on January 1, 2020.

Comparing January 1, 2021, to January 1, 2020: beef cows that have calved totaled 31.2 million head, down 1 percent; milk cows that have calved totaled 9.44 million head, up 1 percent; all heifers 500 pounds and over totaled 20.0 million head, slightly down; beef replacement heifers totaled 5.81 million head, up slightly; milk replacement heifers totaled 4.60 million head, down 2 percent; other heifers totaled 9.58 million head, up 1 percent; steers 500 pounds and over totaled 16.6 million head, up slightly; bulls 500 pounds and over totaled 2.21 million head, down 1 percent; calves less than 500 pounds totaled 14.2 million head, down 1 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots totaled 14.7 million head, slightly up. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds (outside of feedlots) was 25.7 million head, down slightly.

The 2020 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 35.1 million head, down 1 percent from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2020 were estimated at 25.8 million head, down 1 percent from the first half of 2019. Calves born during the second half of 2020 were estimated at 9.39 million head, 27 percent of the total 2020 calf crop.