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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Cattle On Feed

Released May 18, 2007, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Cattle on Feed* call Mike Miller at (202) 720-3040, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Down 2 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on May 1, 2007. The inventory was 2 percent below May 1, 2006 but 6 percent above May 1, 2005. This is the second highest May 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.57 million, 3 percent below 2006 and 5 percent below 2005. Net placements were 1.47 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 375,000, 600-699 pounds were 263,000, 700-799 pounds were 430,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 505,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.82 million, 2 percent above 2006 and 1 percent above 2005.

Other disappearance totaled 99,000 during April, 14 percent above 2006 and 9 percent above 2005.

**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and
Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots,
United States, May 1, 2005-2007**

Item	Number			2007 as % of	
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
On Feed Apr 1 ¹	10,873	11,812	11,644	107	99
Placed on Feed During Apr	1,660	1,619	1,573	95	97
Fed Cattle Marketed During Apr	1,801	1,785	1,821	101	102
Other Disappearance During Apr ²	91	87	99	109	114
On Feed May 1 ¹	10,641	11,559	11,297	106	98

¹ 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.

² Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and
Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots,
United States, April 1, 2005-2007**

Item	Number			2007 as % of	
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
On Feed Mar 1 ¹	11,154	12,023	11,599	104	96
Placed on Feed During Mar	1,750	1,837	*1,960	112	107
Fed Cattle Marketed During Mar	1,963	1,958	*1,843	94	94
Other Disappearance During Mar ²	68	90	72	106	80
On Feed Apr 1 ¹	10,873	11,812	11,644	107	99

* Revised.

¹ 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.

² Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

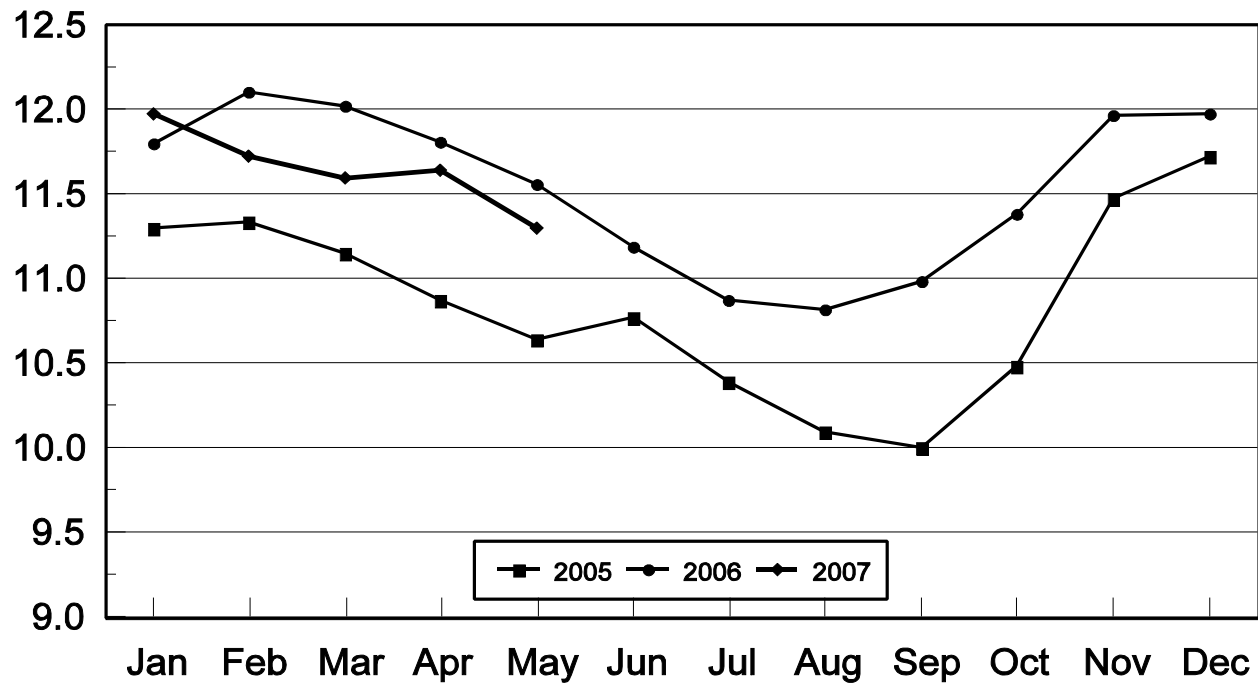
**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots,
by Month, State, and United States 2006-2007 ¹**

State	May 1, 2006	Apr 1, 2007	May 1, 2007		
			Number	as % of 2006	as % of Apr
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	345	340	340	99	100
CA	530	530	550	104	104
CO	1,060	1,020	1,020	96	100
ID	245	245	235	96	96
IA	495	530	530	107	100
KS	2,530	2,480	2,350	93	95
NE	2,320	2,480	2,420	104	98
NM	132	131	118	89	90
OK	340	350	335	99	96
SD	200	230	230	115	100
TX	2,910	2,800	2,680	92	96
WA	152	163	154	101	94
Oth Sts	300	345	335	112	97
US	11,559	11,644	11,297	98	97

¹ 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.

United States Cattle on Feed 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots

Million Head



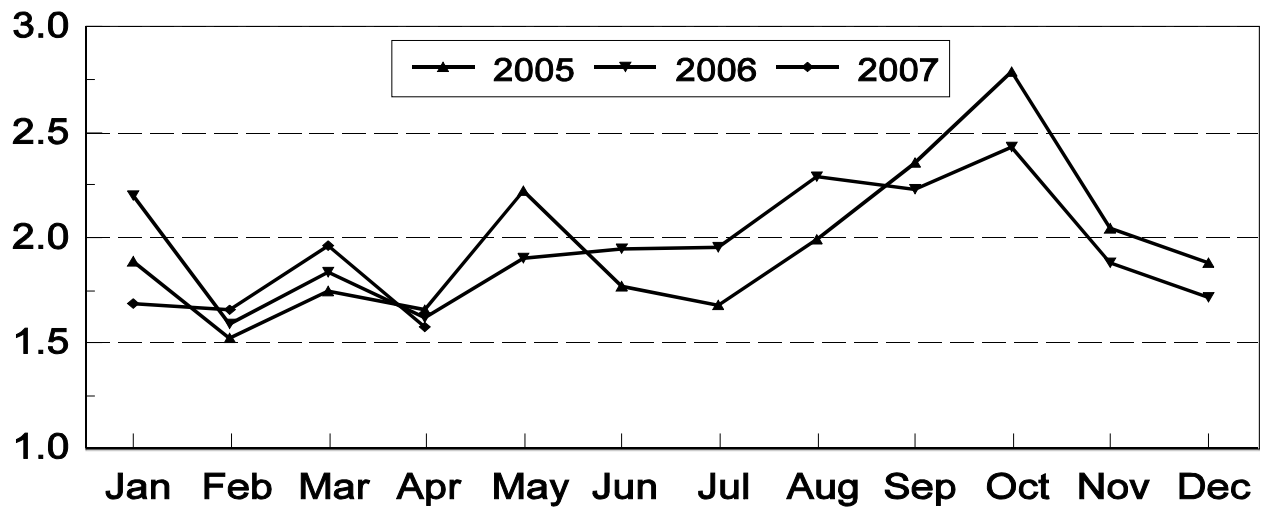
**Cattle on Feed: Number Placed on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots,
by Month, State, and United States 2006-2007**

State	During Apr 2006	During Mar 2007	During Apr 2007		
			Number	as % of 2006	as % of Mar
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	27	46	31	115	67
CA	60	68	85	142	125
CO	130	*160	155	119	97
ID	31	38	35	113	92
IA	64	72	61	95	85
KS	375	510	355	95	70
NE	320	350	290	91	83
NM	18	19	12	67	63
OK	48	68	54	113	79
SD	28	40	36	129	90
TX	455	520	380	84	73
WA	23	26	22	96	85
Oth Sts	40	43	57	143	133
US	1,619	*1,960	1,573	97	80

* Revised.

United States Cattle on Feed 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots Number Placed

Million Head



**Cattle on Feed: Number Placed on Feed by Weight Group, 1,000+ Capacity
Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2006-2007**

State	During April									
	Under 600		600-699		700-799		800 Plus		Total	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
CO	40	30	20	30	35	40	35	55	130	155
KS	60	60	65	65	115	110	135	120	375	355
NE	60	50	45	40	85	80	130	120	320	290
TX	120	105	95	75	135	110	105	90	455	380
Oth Sts	105	130	40	53	74	90	120	120	339	393
US	385	375	265	263	444	430	525	505	1,619	1,573
During March										
	Under 600		600-699		700-799		800 Plus		Total	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
CO	25	*15	30	30	60	50	40	65	155	*160
KS	70	70	80	115	165	170	165	155	480	510
NE	50	40	50	50	90	110	145	150	335	350
TX	120	90	120	120	165	200	80	110	485	520
Oth Sts	115	130	62	60	85	110	120	120	382	420
US	380	*345	342	375	565	640	550	600	1,837	*1,960

* Revised.

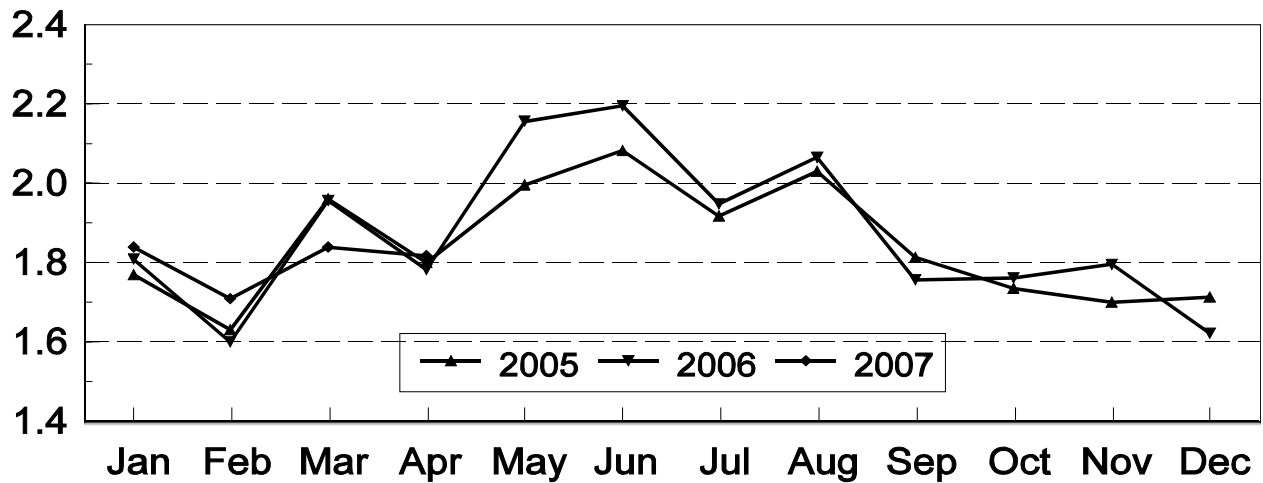
**Cattle on Feed: Number Marketed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots,
by Month, State, and United States 2006-2007**

State	During Apr 2006	During Mar 2007	During Apr 2007		
			Number	as % of 2006	as % of Mar
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	24	33	30	125	91
CA	60	65	61	102	94
CO	130	*140	135	104	96
ID	34	42	40	118	95
IA	66	70	59	89	84
KS	410	430	445	109	103
NE	390	370	340	87	92
NM	24	17	24	100	141
OK	66	67	68	103	101
SD	35	37	34	97	92
TX	470	495	490	104	99
WA	22	32	30	136	94
Oth Sts	54	45	65	120	144
US	1,785	*1,843	1,821	102	99

* Revised.

United States Cattle on Feed 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots Number Marketed

Million Head



**Cattle on Feed: Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots,
by Month, State, and United States 2006-2007 ¹**

State	During Apr 2006	During Mar 2007	During Apr 2007		
			Number	as % of 2006	as % of Mar
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	9	2	1	11	50
CA	5	3	4	80	133
CO	10	10	20	200	200
ID	2	1	5	250	500
IA	3	2	2	67	100
KS	25	20	40	160	200
NE	10	10	10	100	100
NM	1	1	1	100	100
OK	2	1	1	50	100
SD	3	3	2	67	67
TX	15	15	10	67	67
WA	1	1	1	100	100
Oth Sts	1	3	2	200	67
US	87	72	99	114	138

¹ Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Terms and Definitions of Cattle on Feed Estimates

Cattle on feed are animals being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot.

Placements are cattle put into a feedlot, fed a ration which will produce a carcass that will grade select or better, and are intended for the slaughter market.

Marketings are cattle shipped out of feedlots to a slaughter market.

Other disappearance includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Reliability of Cattle on Feed Estimates

Survey Procedures: During January and July all known feedlots in the U.S. with capacity of 1,000 or more head are surveyed to provide data for cattle on feed estimates. During the other months, all known feedlots from 17 States are surveyed. The 17 States account for 98 percent of the cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head.

Estimating Procedures: These cattle on feed estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by each State office. Regional and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous month when setting the current estimates.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve month to month relationships. Estimates for the previous month are subject to revision in all States each month when current estimates are made. In February, all monthly estimates for the previous year, and the number of feedlots and annual marketings from two years ago are reviewed and subject to revisions. The reviews are primarily based on slaughter data, state check-off or brand data, and any other data that may have been received after the original estimate was made. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date and estimates become final.

Reliability: Since all 1,000+ capacity cattle on feed operators in every State are not included in the monthly survey, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of estimates in this report, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for cattle on feed inventory estimates over the past 10 years is .1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.3 million head by more than .1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed .2 percent.

The following table also shows a 10 year record of the range of differences between first and latest estimates for selected items. Using estimates of number on feed as an example, changes between the first estimate and the latest estimate during the past 10 years have averaged 10,000 head, ranging from 0

to 35,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been below the final estimate 7 times, and above the final estimate 1 time. This does not imply that the initial estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

Reliability of U.S. May 1 Cattle on Feed Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Final Estimates ¹			Number of Years	
		Percent	(000) Head	Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Final	First Below Final
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Number on Feed	0.1	0.2	27.9	10	0	35	1	7
Placements	0.6	1.2	18.5	7	0	22	2	5
Marketings	0.3	0.6	11.6	5	0	12	2	5

¹ Based on data for the past 10 years.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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Livestock Section

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 Scott Hollis - Sheep & Lambs, Goats (202) 720-4751
 Mike Miller - Cattle, Cattle on Feed (202) 720-3040
 Benita Hodge - Livestock Slaughter (515) 284-4340
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