Cattle on Feed



United States
Department of
Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

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Inventory estimates refer to July 1, 1991. Placements and marketing estimates refer to the month of June and the quarter of April through June.

Cattle on Feed in 13 States Up 8 Percent From Last Year

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the 13 States preparing quarterly estimates totaled 9.43 million head, up 8 percent from a year ago and 9 percent above July 1, 1989. This is the largest July number on feed since 1978.

The inventory included 6.16 million steers and steer calves, 10 percent above a year ago. This group accounts for 65.4 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.22 million head, 4 percent above a year ago. By weight group, 1.56 million head of the total inventory weighed over 1,100 pounds.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed during the April-June quarter totaled 4.89 million, down 4 percent from last year and 6 percent below June 1989. **Net placements** of 4.43 million for April-June, was down 6 percent from last year and 8 percent below 1989.

Marketings of fed cattle during the April-June quarter totaled 5.87 million, down 2 percent from last year and 3 percent below two years ago.

Other disappearance totaled 464 thousand head compared to 400 thousand in 1990 and 410 thousand in 1989.

Expected Marketings for July-September Up 5 Percent

Cattle feeders expect to market 6.04 million head during the July-September quarter of 1991. This would be up 5 percent from the third quarter marketings in 1990 and 3 percent above 1989.

For additional information, call Bob Cole (202) 447-3121. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

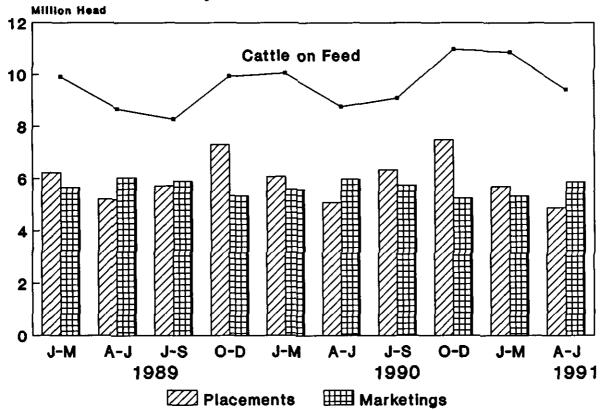
Cattle on Feed in 7 Monthly States Up 7 Percent

Cattle on feed in 7 States preparing monthly estimates totaled 7.85 million, 7 percent above the previous year and 8 percent above two years ago. This is largest July on feed number since 1978. Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.08 million, down 19 percent from June 1990 and 17 percent below 1989. Marketings during June totaled 1.70 million, down 6 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below 1989.

Other disappearance during June was 114 thousand head, 56 percent above last year and 84 percent above 1989.

April-June quarterly marketings for the 7 States, at 5.02 million, was down 2 percent from 1990 and 1989, respectively. Marketings for the 7 States during the April-June quarter accounted for 86 percent of the 13 State total. Expected 7 State marketings for the July-September 1991 quarter are estimated at 5.15 million, up 6 percent from last year and 3 percent above 1989.

Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings By Quarters For 13 States



CATTLE ON FEED, PLACED AND MARKETED BY QUARTERS, 13 STATES

QUARTER :	PLACED	: MARKETED	::	DATE	: NUMBER
:	 0)	00) HEAD	::		(000) HEAD
1989 :	•	•	::		• ,
JAN-MAR :	6,232	5,658	::	APR 1, 1989	9,918
APR-JUN :		6,040	::	JUL 1, 1989	8,680
JUL-SEP :		5,896	::	OCT 1, 1989	8,276
OCT-DEC :	7,306	5,346		JAN 1, 1990	9,943
3	,,,,,	-,•	::	2, 20	2,2
1990			::		
JAN-MAR :	6,083	5,578	::	APR 1, 1990	10,063
APR-JUN :	5,086	5,988	::	JUL 1, 1990	8,761
JUL-SEP :	6,333	5,741	::	OCT 1, 1990	9,092
OCT-DEC :	7,486	5,254	::	JAN 1, 1991	10,977
30, 520	,,	•, ••	::	2, 2001	20,011
1991			::		
JAN-MAR :	5,692	5,338	::	APR 1, 1991	10,869
APR-JUN :	4	5,869	::	JUL 1, 1991	9,426

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, APR 1 - JUL 1, 1989, 1990 AND 1991

13 STATES

	15 SIAIL	.5				
ITEM	:		NUMBER	:	1991 AS	% OF
	······································	1989 :	1990 :	1991 :	1989 :	1990
		10	000 HEAD		PERC	ENT
ON FEED	APR 1	9,918	10,063	10,869	110	108
PLACED ON FEED	APR 1 - JUN 30 1/-	5,212	5,086	4,890	94	96
FED CATTLE MARKETED	APR 1 - JUN 30 1/-	6,040	5,988	5,869	97	98
OTHER DISAPPEARANCE	APR 1 - JUN 30 2/-	410	400	464	113	116
ON FEED	JUL 1	8,680	8,761	9,426	109	108
	: :					
KINDS ON FEED JUL 1 STEERS AND STEER HEIFERS AND HEIF COWS AND OTHER	CCALVES: ER CALVES:	5,453 3,180 47	5,627 3,092 42	6,162 3,221 43	113 101 91	110 104 102
500-699 POUN 700-899 POUN 900-1099 POU		386 1,497 2,513	225 478 1,483 2,476 965	459 1,472 2,729	119 98 109	75 96 99 110 138
500-699 POUN 700-899 POUN 900-1099 POU		406 1,402 1,211	39 392 1,295 1,251 115	386 1,178 1,384	95 84 114	98 91
MARKETINGS	: JUL - SEP <u>3</u> /:	5,896	5,741	6,044	103	105

^{1/} INCLUDES CATTLE PLACED ON FEED AFTER BEGINNING OF QUARTER AND MARKETED BEFORE END OF QUARTER. 2/ INCLUDES DEATH LOSSES, MOVEMENT FROM FEEDLOTS TO PASTURES AND SHIPMENTS TO OTHER FEEDLOTS FOR FURTHER FEEDING. 3/ TOTAL MARKETINGS INCLUDING THOSE PLACED ON FEED AFTER JUL 1 AND MARKETED BEFORE SEP 30 FOR PREVIOUS YRS.; EXPECTED TOTAL MARKETINGS INCLUDING AN ALLOWANCE FOR THOSE PLACED ON FEED AFTER JUL 1 AND MARKETED BEFORE SEP 30 FOR CURRENT YEAR.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED BY QUARTERS JUL 1, 1990, APR 1, AND JUL 1, 1991 $\underline{1}/$

STATE	: :	JUL 1,1990	: :	APR 1,1991	:	JUL 1,	1991 <u>1</u> /
	:		:		:	NUMBER	: AS % OF 1990
-	:			1000 HEAD			PERCENT
AZ	:	160		201		147	92
CA	:	425		395		330	78
CO	:	770		950		860	112
ID	:	226		275		260	115
IL	:	265		350		285	108
IA	:	835		1,090		860	103
KS	:	1,380		1,770		1,530	111
MN	:	290		350		290	100
NE	:	1,680		2,420		1,900	113
0K	:	295		340		320	108
SD	:	230		320		240	104
ΤX	:	2,060		2,230		2,220	108
WA	:	145		178		184	127
	:						
13 STS	: 	8,761		10,869		9,426	108

^{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.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER PLACED ON FEED, BY QUARTERS, 1990-1991 1/

STATE	:	APR-	:	JAN-	:	APR	- JUN 1991
31A1L	: :	JUN 1990	: :	MAR 1991	:	NUMBER	: AS % OF 1990
"	:		,	1000 HEAD			PERCENT
AZ	:	69		64		61	88
CA	:	305		220		185	61
CO	:	415		575*		460	111
ID	:	188		155		167	89
ĪĹ	:	110		100*		80	73
IA	:	360		375*		230	64
KS	:	860		1,085*		875	102
MN	:	100		105 *		90	90
NE	:	1,040		1,370*		990	95
OK	:	185		225		185	100
SD	:	95		150*		65	68
ΤX	:	1,275		1,170*		1,395	109
WA	:	84		98		107	127
13 STS	: :	5,086		5,692 *		4,890	96

 $[\]underline{1}/$ INCLUDES CATTLE PLACED ON FEED AFTER BEGINNING OF QUARTER AND MARKETED BEFORE END OF QUARTER. *REVISION.

CATTLE ON FEED: FED CATTLE MARKETED, OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, BY QUARTERS, 1990-91

	:	FED CATTLE	MARKETED	<u>1</u> /	: OT	HER DISA	PPEARANCE	<u>2</u> /
STATE	: APR- : JUN : 1990	: MAR :	APR-JUN: NUMBER:	AS %	: APR- : JUN : 1990	: JAN- : MAR : 1991	: :APR-JUN: : NUMBER:	
	:	1000 HEAD		PERCENT		1000 HE	AD P	ERCENT
AZ CA CO ID IL	: 104 : 195 : 515 : 147 : 140	595* 148 110*	97 180 520 154 135	93 92 101 105 96	18 75 30 10 5	8 65 35 22 10	18 70 30 28 10	100 93 100 280 200
IA KS MN NE OK SD	: 515 : 1,145 : 130 : 1,400 : 205 : 115	1,040* 90* 1,130* 205	430 1,070 140 1,370 200 120	83 93 108 98 98 104	30 35 10 110 5 20	35 35 10 140 10 30	30 45 10 140 5 25	100 129 100 127 100 125
TX WA 13 STS	: 1,275 : 102 : 5,988	1,220* 93	1,355 98 5,869	106 96 98	50 2 400	50 12 462	50 3 464	100 150 116

^{1/} INCLUDES CATTLE PLACED ON FEED AFTER BEGINNING OF QUARTER AND MARKETED BEFORE END OF QUARTER. 2/ INCLUDES DEATH LOSSES, MOVEMENT FROM FEEDLOTS TO PASTURES, AND SHIPMENTS TO OTHER FEEDLOTS FOR FURTHER FEEDING. * REVISION.

CATTLE ON FEED: EXPECTED TOTAL MARKETINGS JUL 1-SEP 30, 1991 WITH COMPARISONS

STATE	:	TOTAL MARKETINGS JUL-SEP, 1990 <u>1</u> /				MARKETINGS 991 <u>2</u> /
SIAIC	:	NUMBER	:	NUMBER	;	AS % OF 1990
	:]	000 HEAD			PERCENT
AZ CA CO ID		76 190 580 146		70 145 600 154		92 76 103 105
IL IA KS MN	:	130 485 1,050 160		135 530 1,150 145		104 109 110 91
NE OK SD TX	:	1,210 200 145 1,270		1,300 200 145 1,350		107 100 100 106
WA 13 STS	:	99 5,741		120 6,044		121 105

^{1/} TOTAL MARKETINGS OF CATTLE INCLUDING THOSE PLACED ON FEED AFTER JUL 1 AND MARKETED BEFORE SEP 30. 2/ EXPECTED TOTAL MARKETINGS INCLUDING AN ALLOWANCE FOR THOSE PLACED ON FEED AFTER JUL 1 AND MARKETED BEFORE SEP 30.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED BY CLASSES, BY QUARTERS JUL 1, 1990, APR 1, AND JUL 1, 1991

	: :	STEERS:	STEER	CALVES	:HEIFERS:	HEIFER	CALVES:	COWS	S AND O	THERS
ST					: JUL 1,:					
	;				1	000 HEAD				
ΑZ	:	155	193	140	4	8	7	1	0	0
CA	:	365	308	270	58	80	59	2	7	1
CO	:	426	605	495	341	340	360	3	5	1 5 6
ID	:	150	189	173	69	81	81	7	5	6
ΙL	:	155	190	164	110	160	121	0	0	0 5
IA	:	560	730	565	270	350	290	5	10	
KS	:	911	1,186	1,025	469	584	505	0	0	0
MN	:	205	242	210	84	107	79	1	1	1
NE	:	1,000	1,450	1,140	660	950	740	20	20	20
OK	:	176	216	202	119	120	117	0	4	1
SD	:	123	199	151	106	119	87	1	2	2
ΤX	:	1,318	1,490	1,509	740	738	709	2	2	2 2 0
WA	:	83	111	118	62	67	66	0	0	0
13	STS:	5,627	7,109	6,162	3,092	3,704	3,221	42	56	43

CATTLE ON FEED: STEERS AND STEER CALVES ON FEED BY WEIGHT GROUPS, BY QUARTERS, JUL 1, 1990, APR 1, AND JUL 1, 1991

	UNDER	500	POUNDS :	500-	699 PO	UNDS :	700-899 I	POUNDS
STATE	JUL 1,:	APR 1 1991	,: JUL 1,: : 1991 :	JUL 1,: 1990 :	APR 1, 1991	: JUL 1,: : 1991 :	JUL 1,:APR 1990 :199	1,:JUL 1, 1 :1991
				10	00 HEA	D		
AZ CA CO ID IL IA KS MN NE OK SD TX WA	31 90 10 0 5 17 9 10 10 3 0 40	8 15 12 15 10 2	49 2 0 8 15 10 15	30 15	55 60 31 30 85 107 38 90 21	33 35 13 19 36 51 23 40 22	45 123 139 244 44 63 35 69 153 300 200 486 49 86	8 115 3 38 9 38 0 125 6 195 4 53 0 240 8 57
13 STS :	225	177	168	478	793	459	1,483 2,710	5 1,472
		900-	1099 POUNDS	; ;	:	1100	POUNDS AND (OVER
			APR 1, : 1991 :		:	JUL 1, 1990	: APR 1, : 1991	: JUL 1, : 1991
	, _	-			00 HEA	D		
ID IL IA KS MN NE OK SD TX WA	60 70 242 492 78 470 80 48 593 36	•	50 225 48 57 245 474 73 670 83 74 536 47	209 85 64 239 482 76 560 93 83 649 50		63 36 35 106 155 47 250 29 46 105 27	85 107 32 190 12 22 134 20	37 134 37 35 150 287 43 290 25 33 211 42
13 STS :	2,476		2,638 	2,729		965 	785	1,334

CATTLE ON FEED: HEIFERS AND HEIFER CALVES ON FEED BY WEIGHT GROUPS BY QUARTERS JUL 1, 1990, APR 1, AND JUL 1, 1991

:	UNDER	₹ 500 PO	UNDS :	500	-699 POU	INDS	70	0-899 F	POUNDS
STATE	JUL 1,: 1990 :	APR 1,: 1991 :	JUL 1,: 1991 :	JUL 1,: 1990 :	APR 1,: 1991 :	JUL 1, 1991	JUL 1,	:APR 1, :1991	:JUL 1, :1991
:				10	000 HEAD)			
AZ : CA :	1 7	2 10	1 2	1 16	3 19	1 15	1 17	1 32	3 11
co :	3	4	1	36	50	25	151	203	146
ID :	0 1	1 5	0 1	3 12	19 39	11 17	35 45		31 50
IA : KS :	1 2 5	10 12	6 5	32 51	80 111	30 41	118 188		103 202
MN :	1 0	2 10	5 2 10	9	23 130	9 50	35	51	26
OK :	4	1	2	70 20	32	17	54	57	51
SD :	0 15	1 22	0 21	5 133	27 177	5 163	33 355		29 248
WA :	O .	0	0	4	3	2	23	33	18
13 STS :	39	80	51	392	713	386	1,295	1,803	1,178
•		900-10	99 POUND	S	:	1100	POUNDS A	ND OVE	₹
	JUL 1 1990	, : <i>f</i>	NPR 1, :	JUL 1 1991	,	JUL 1, 1990	: APR : 1991	1, : l :	JUL 1, 1991
•	,				1000 HE	AD			
AZ : CA :	1 13		2 17	2 22		0)	0 9
co :	146		75	176		5 5 5	8	2	12
ID :	26 48		22 45	34 48		5 4		1 5	5 5
IA : KS :	114 206		85 146	126 232		4 19	10 12		25 25
MN :	34		25	35		5	- (5	7
NE : OK : SD :	310	•	320 27	350 43		40 2	40	3	70 4
SD :	53 236	1	25 170	43 234		15 1	27	2	10 43
WA :	25		28	39		10		3	7
13 STS	1,251	<u></u>	987 	1,384		115	12	1 	222

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, APR 1 - JUL 1, 1989, 1990, AND 1991 7 STATES

TTEM			NUMBER		1991 AS	% OF
ITEM	:	1989	: 1990 :	1991 :	1989 :	1990
	:		1000 HEAD		PERC	ENT
ON FEED	APR 1	8,252	8,483	9,056	110	107
PLACED ON FEED	APR 1 - JUN 30 1/-	4,456	4,324	4,196	94	97
FED CATTLE MARKETED	APR 1 - JUN 30 1/-	5,123	5,149	5,022	98	98
OTHER DISAPPEARANCE	APR 1 - JUN 30 2/-	350	348	383	109	110
ON FEED	JUL 1	7,235	7,310	7,847	108	107
KINDS ON FEED JUL 1 STEERS AND STEER HEIFERS AND HEIF COWS AND OTHER	CALVESEER CALVES	4,570 2,632 33	4,735 2,542 33	5,144 2,670 33	113 101 100	109 105 100
500-699 POUN 700-899 POUN 900-1099 POU		329 1,250 2,114	1,263 2,104	378 1,229 2,278	115 98 108	68 91 97 108 150
500-699 POUN 700-899 POUN 900-1099 POU	ER CALVES : 00 POUNDS: IDS: INDS: AND OVER	968	33 339 1,070 1,026 74	46 325 973 1,142 184	118	139 96 91 111 249
MARKETINGS	: JUL - SEP <u>3</u> /:	4,973	4,861	5,145	103	106

^{1/} INCLUDES CATTLE PLACED ON FEED AFTER BEGINNING OF QUARTER AND MARKETED BEFORE END OF QUARTER.

^{2/} INCLUDES DEATH LOSSES, MOVEMENT FROM FEEDLOTS TO PASTURES AND SHIPMENTS TO OTHER FEEDLOTS FOR FURTHER FEEDING.

^{3/} TOTAL MARKETINGS INCLUDING THOSE PLACED ON FEED AFTER JUL 1 AND MARKETED BEFORE SEP 30 FOR PREVIOUS YRS.; EXPECTED TOTAL MARKETINGS INCLUDING AN ALLOWANCE FOR THOSE PLACED ON FEED AFTER JUL 1 AND MARKETED BEFORE SEP 30 FOR CURRENT YEAR.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, 7 STATES, JUN 1 TO JUL 1

ITEM	:		NUMBER		:1991 A	S % OF
1150	:	1989	: 1990 :	1991	: 1989	: 1990
	: :	· 	1000 HEAD)	PER	CENT
ON FEED JUN 1 <u>1/</u> PLACED ON FEED DURING JUN FED CATTLE MARKETED DURING JUN OTHER DISAPPEARANCE DURING JUN 2/	•	7,795 1,293 1,791 62	7,897 1,335 1,819 73	8,585 1,077 1,701 114		109 81 94 156
ON FEED JUL 1 1/	:	7,235	7,310	7,847	108	107

^{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 LOSSES, MOVEMENT FROM FEEDLOTS TO PASTURES AND SHIPMENTS TO OTHER FEEDLOTS FOR FURTHER FEEDING.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, BY STATES, JAN 1 TO JUL 1

CTATE.		ER ON	FEED	:	PLACE	D	:	MARKET	ED	:OTHER	DISA	PPEAR.
STATE:	1990	1991	91/90	: 1990	1991	91/90	: 199	0 1991	91/90	: 1990	1991	91/90
;	1000	HEAD	PCT	1000	HEAD	PCT	1000	HEAD	PCT	1000	HEAD	PCT
:		JAN :	1		DURING	JAN	1	DURING	JAN	DU	RING	JAN
AZ :	253		32 92						113	9	3	33
CA:	491		40 90	80			75	70	93	30	15	50
CO :	90	0 1,00	05 112				230			10	10	100
IA :		0 1,0					125			10	15	150
KS:		5 1,70	50 110				410			10	10	100
NE :		0 2,3					440			30	50	167
TX :	2,100	0 2,33	30 111	425	385	91	340	390	115	15	15	100
7 STS:	8,378	9,13	37 109	1,906	1,716	5* 90	1,644	1,632*	99	114	118	104
:		FEB :	1		DURING	FEB		DURING	F£B	DU	RING	FEB
AZ :	240		28 ` 93						104	5	3	60
CA:	46		40 95				75		87	20	15	75
CO :	88		40 107)* 113	200			10	10	100
IA :	1,030	0 1,0	75 104							5	10	200
KS:		5 1,70		345			335			10	10	100
NE :		2,3				* 105				30	50	167
TX :	2,1/0	0 2,3	10 106	290	315	5* 109	345	390*	113	15	15	100
7 STS:	8,526	5 9,10	03 107	1,388	1,425	* 103	1,500	1,441*	96	95	113	119
:		MAR :			DURIN			DURING			RING	
AZ :	234		19 94				33		103	10	2	20
CA :	430		35 101	60			70		93	30	35	117
CO :	830		20 111				195		97	5	15	300
IA :	1,010	0 1,0	70 106				130			10	10	100
KS:	1,613	5 1,7	40 108				335		97	5	15	300
NE :	2,100	2,3	70 113				410			40	40	100
TX :	2,100	0 2,2	20 106	475	470)* 99	445	440*	99	20	20	100
7 STS:	8,319	9 8,97	74 108	1,902	1,718	3* 90	1,618	1,499*	93	120	137	114
:		APR				APR		DURING	APR		RING	APR
AZ :	21:		01 94						88	5	3	60
CA:	390	0 39		100			65			25	25	100
	900)* 110			113	10	10	100
IA :	1,02	0 1,0	90 107				155			10	10	100
KS:	1,70	0 1,7	70 104						100	10	20	200
	2,150					* 109			113	40	40	100
TX :	2,110	0 2,23	30 106	310	375	121	425	495	116	25	20	80
7 STS:	8,48	3 9,0!	56 107	1,377	1,402	2* 102	1,554	1,655*	106	125	128	102

^{*}REVISION.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, BY STATES, JAN 1 TO JUL 1

STATE:			PLACED	:	MARKETED	OTHER DISAPPEAR.	
31A1E.	1990 1991 9	91/90 : 1990	1991 91/90	: 1990	0 1991 91/90	: 1990 19	91 91/90
:	1000 HEAD	PCT 1000	HEAD PCT	1000	HEAD PCT	1000 HEA	D PCT
:	MAY 1		DURING MAY		HIRTNE MAY	DURING MAY	
AZ :	196 18!						1 110
CA :	400 370				55 79		0 86
CO :	885 930				170 100		0 100
	1,000 1,060				125* 69		0 67
	1,650 1,710						5 100
	2,080 2,330						0 100
TX :	1,970 2,090	0 106 52	645 123	420	450 107	15 1	5 100
7 STS:	8,181 8,67	5 106 1,612	2 1,717* 107	1,776	1,666* 94	150 14	1 94
:	JUN 1		DURING JUN	JUN DURING JUN		DURING JUN	
AZ :	172 16					3	4 133
CA :	395 360						5 100
CO :	855 930						0 100
	915 1,000						0 200
	1,560 1,700						0 100 0 250
	1,910 2,160 2,060 2,270						50 250 5 150
:	2,000 2,270	J 110 440	, 3/3 0.	750	410 33	10 1	.5 150
7 STS:	7,867 8,58	5 109 1,33	5 1,077 81	1,819	1,701 94	73 11	4 156
:	JUL 1						
AZ :	160 147	7 92					
CA :	425 330						
co :	770 86						
IA :	835 860						
KS :	1,380 1,530	0 111					
	1,680 1,900						
TX :	2,060 2,220	0 108					
7 STS:	7,310 7,84					_	

^{*} REVISION.

Cattle on Feed Estimates - Methodology and Reliability

Survey Procedures: Primary data used to determine these estimates were obtained from feedlot operations across the 13 States included in this report. A complete enumeration was attempted for large feedlots exceeding a specified head capacity which varies by State. A sample of smaller lots was also included in the survey. Data were obtained from 5,400 operations that accounted for 78 percent of the total cattle on feed inventory. Not all feedlots were able to provide information on steer and heifer weight breakdowns; 70 percent of tabulated cattle on feed inventory was reported by weight group.

Great care was exercised to ensure all feedlots had a chance to be included in the survey and that none were duplicated. Care was also taken to ensure cattle being custom fed were only reported once, and cattle being backgrounded for later placement in another feedlot were excluded.

Data Comparability: There was considerable attention to detail to ensure survey results were consistent from month to month and quarter to quarter. Feedlots exhibiting marketing and placement activities different than usual were recontacted to verify the reported data.

Revision Policy: Data are continually scrutinized for consistency and comparability with all later survey data, internal relationships, and available external data such as livestock slaughter, foreign trade, shipment, and marketing information. All estimates for a calendar year are reviewed annually and any necessary revisions are published in January. Data are also subject to review after the Census of Agriculture, conducted every 5 years by Department of Commerce, becomes available. After this review, estimates are considered final.

For this report, an extensive review of recent inventory, marketing, and placement estimates has been conducted to evaluate survey data and their relationships with slaughter. Although this review will be continued, no conclusive evidence has been found to date to support revisions of Cattle on Feed inventory estimates. The review did indicate that marketing and placement estimates should be revised to better reflect slaughter levels. The current report includes revisions reducing placements and marketings for the period January-May 1991 based on the level of slaughter during the period. All revised figures have been marked with an asterisk (*). These revisions are within the statistical variability of the original survey data. In the future, placements and marketings will be subject to revision each quarter.

Reliability: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the published estimates from the reported data. A required assumption is that the feedlots not reporting exhibit marketing and placement patterns similar to those reporting. Weight group estimates are subject to the same assumption. Since not all feedlots that report cattle on feed inventories also report the weight group breakdowns, those data are not as reliable as the cattle on feed inventory estimates.

The relationship of expected marketings to actual marketings and marketings to slaughter are also carefully monitored over time. When current estimates show departures from historic relationships, additional analysis is conducted to determine why. Several factors such as lighter placement weights, longer finishing times, and heavier marketing weights can all make it more difficult to interpret the survey results. The wider distribution of cattle on feed across the weight groups and difficulties obtaining weight group breakdown will affect the reliability of those estimates.

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The next "Cattle on Feed" report will be released on August 19, 1991 at 3:00 p.m. ET.

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