

PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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For Information Contact:

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LOUISIANA CATTLE INVENTORY DECREASES

All cattle and calves on Louisiana farms as of January 1, 2004, were estimated at 850,000 head, down 1 percent from a year ago, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician for the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service in Baton Rouge. **All cows that have calved** were estimated at 530,000 head, up 2 percent from a year ago. Louisiana's 2003 **calf crop** was estimated at 415,000 head, the same as the 2002 calf crop.

Beef cows were estimated at 489,000 head, up 3 percent from January 1, 2003, while **milk cows**, at 41,000 head, were down 9 percent from a year ago. Other cattle inventory estimates and changes from a year ago were: **beef cow replacement heifers**, 81,000 head, down 6 percent; **milk cow replacement heifers**, 10,000 head, unchanged; **other heifers**, 17,000 head, unchanged; **steers 500 pounds and over**, 21,000 head, down 12 percent; **bulls 500 pounds and over**, 33,000 head, unchanged, and **calves under 500 pounds**, 158,000 head, down 7 percent.

CATTLE INVENTORY - JANUARY 1

Item	Louisiana		United States	
	2003 ¹	2004	2003 ¹	2004
	-----Thousand Head-----		-----Thousand Head-----	
All Cattle and Calves	860	850	96,100	94,882
Beef Cows	475	489	32,983	32,860
Milk Cows	45	41	9,142	8,991
Beef Cow Replacements, Heifers	86	81	5,624	5,517
Milk Cow Replacements, Heifers	10	10	4,114	4,020
Other Heifers	17	17	9,891	9,804
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	24	21	16,554	16,280
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	33	33	2,248	2,206
Calves, Under 500 Pounds	170	158	15,545	15,204
Cattle on Feed	---	---	13,220	13,811

	2002	2003	2002	2003
Calf Crop	415	415	38,224	37,903

¹Revised

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