



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
PACIFIC REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## USDA SURVEYING CATTLE OPERATIONS

December 18, 2023 -- Sacramento, Ca – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey about 2,000 cattle operations in California to provide an up-to-date measure of U.S. cattle inventories.

“This information helps producers make timely, informed business decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction. It also helps packers and government leaders evaluate expected slaughter volume for future months and determine potential supplies for export,” said Director Gary Keough. “Obtaining the current count of cattle will serve as an important decision-making tool for the entire agriculture industry.”

During the first two weeks of January, California producers will have the opportunity to report their beef and dairy cattle inventories, calf crop, death loss and cattle on feed information. To make it as convenient as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding via the Internet, telephone, or mail.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data in aggregate, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

The *January Cattle* report will be released on January 31, 2024. This and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov/publications](http://www.nass.usda.gov/publications). For more information, call the NASS Pacific Regional Field Office at (916) 738-6600.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for “NASS Data User Community.”

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