

**STATEMENT
For Immediate Release**



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Contact: Christin Kamm
(402) 471-6856

**STATEMENT BY NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE DIRECTOR GREG IBACH
ON CATTLE ON FEED FIGURES**

The National Agricultural Statistics Service has released the Cattle on Feed report for February 1, 2014. The report contains information from a monthly survey that counts the number of cattle on feed in feedlots of 1,000 head and greater, highlighted by state. The recent report indicates Nebraska has become the No. 1 cattle feeding state in the nation, surpassing the state of Texas, which has historically held the No. 1 spot.

The report indicates that at the beginning of February, Nebraska had 2.46 million head of cattle on feed in feedlots 1,000 head and greater, compared to 2.44 million head in Texas. Kansas comes in third with about 2 million head.

“Over the past decade the Nebraska agriculture industry has worked collectively to develop the cattle, corn and ethanol sectors, knowing that together the three could have great synergy. I think our continued growth in cattle feeding, culminating in Nebraska taking over the No. 1 position, is a positive reflection of that fact.

“This cattle on feed report follows new Census of Agriculture figures that show growth in the number of small farms and the number of young farmers in Nebraska. I think this collective information demonstrates that the industry’s efforts to position Nebraska as a national and international leader in agriculture are coming to fruition.

“We will continue to watch the cattle on feed figures as we expect some fluctuation, but the trend is certainly positive for Nebraska.”

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