



# Cattle on Feed

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## United States Cattle on Feed Down 2 Percent

**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on April 1, 2025. The inventory was 2 percent below April 1, 2024. The inventory included 7.26 million steers and steer calves, down slightly from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.38 million head, down 4 percent from 2024.

**Placements** in feedlots during March totaled 1.84 million head, 5 percent above 2024. Net placements were 1.79 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 335,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 285,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 475,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 506,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 175,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 65,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during March totaled 1.73 million head, 1 percent above 2024.

**Other disappearance** totaled 55,000 head during March, 4 percent below 2024.

**Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: April 1, 2024 and 2025**

Item	2024	2025	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed March 1 .....	11,838	11,577	98
Placed on feed during March .....	1,752	1,841	105
Fed cattle marketed during March .....	1,707	1,725	101
Other disappearance during March .....	57	55	96
On feed April 1 .....	11,826	11,638	98

**Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: March 1, 2024 and 2025**

Item	2024	2025	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed February 1 .....	11,797	11,716	99
Placed on feed during February .....	1,890	1,554	82
Fed cattle marketed during February .....	1,793	1,633	91
Other disappearance during February .....	56	60	107
On feed March 1 .....	11,838	11,577	98

**Cattle on Feed by Class on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: April 1, 2024 and 2025**

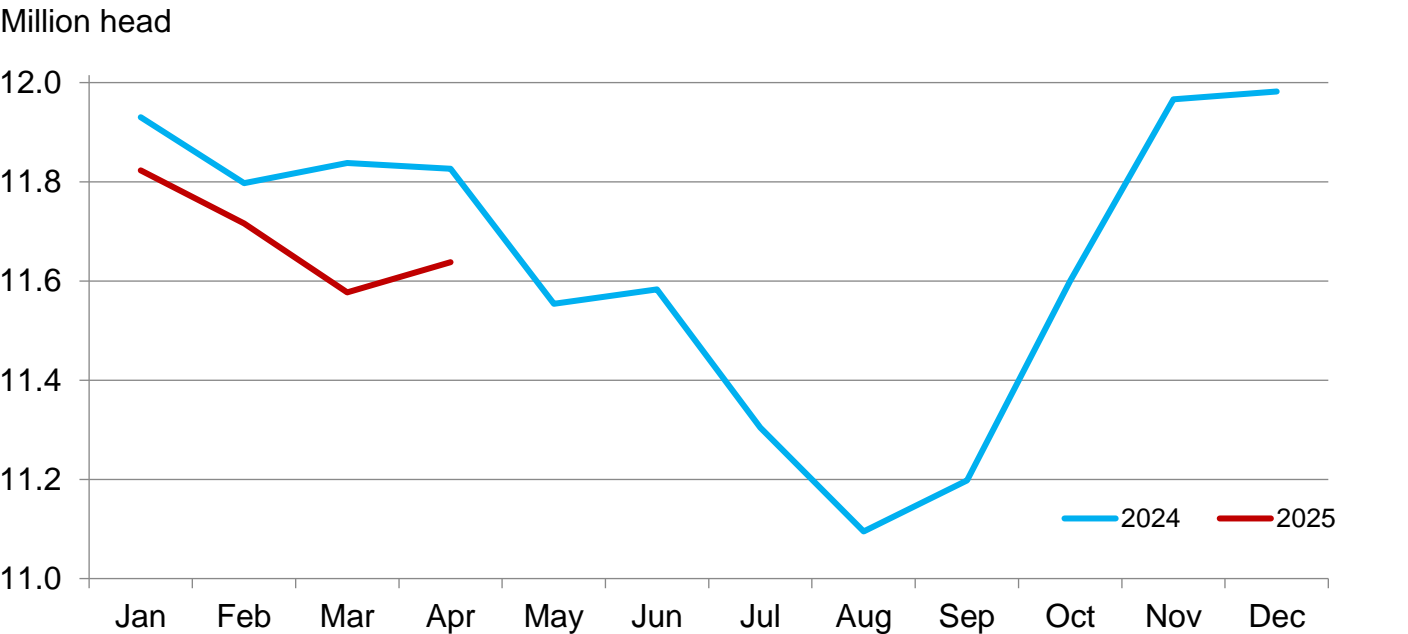
Item	2024	2025	Percent of	
			previous year	inventory
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Class on feed April 1 .....				
Steers and steer calves .....	7,266	7,258	100	62
Heifers and heifer calves .....	4,560	4,380	96	38

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	April 1, 2024	March 1, 2025	April 1, 2025		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	256	227	228	89	100
California .....	530	510	500	94	98
Colorado .....	990	1,010	1,000	101	99
Idaho .....	345	335	340	99	101
Iowa .....	660	670	680	103	101
Kansas .....	2,400	2,320	2,340	98	101
Minnesota .....	105	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	2,540	2,590	2,600	102	100
Oklahoma .....	330	340	335	102	99
South Dakota .....	250	235	240	96	102
Texas .....	2,840	2,640	2,670	94	101
Washington .....	250	260	260	104	100
Other States .....	330	440	445	135	101
United States .....	11,826	11,577	11,638	98	101

(NA) Not available.

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

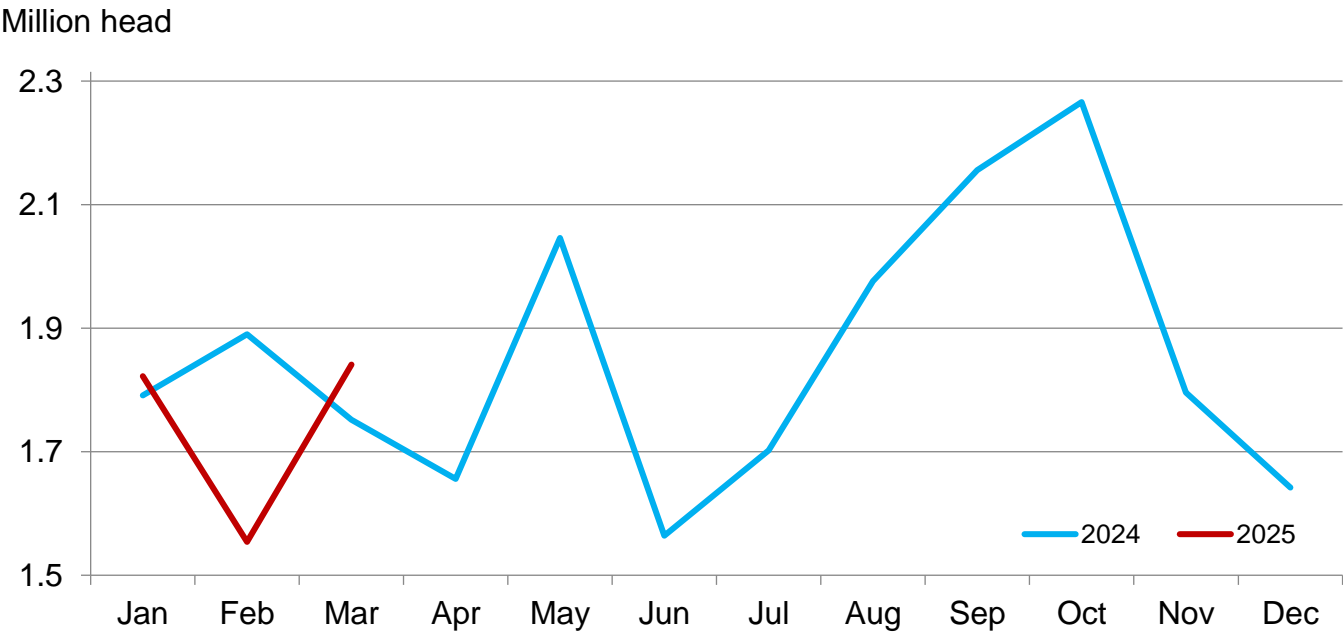


**Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025**

State	During March 2024	During February 2025	During March 2025		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	22	17	24	109	141
California .....	65	55	54	83	98
Colorado .....	135	130	135	100	104
Idaho .....	37	36	42	114	117
Iowa .....	105	94	104	99	111
Kansas .....	400	365	430	108	118
Minnesota .....	14	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	450	440	500	111	114
Oklahoma .....	41	35	40	98	114
South Dakota .....	40	35	41	103	117
Texas .....	365	260	370	101	142
Washington .....	33	35	33	100	94
Other States .....	45	52	68	151	131
United States .....	1,752	1,554	1,841	105	118

(NA) Not available.

**Cattle Placed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States**



## Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots and Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	During March 2024							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs <sup>1</sup>	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	25	20	30	40	20	(D)	(D)	135
Kansas .....	40	55	125	125	55	(D)	(D)	400
Nebraska .....	25	60	130	140	95	(D)	(D)	450
Texas .....	135	70	80	60	20	(D)	(D)	365
Other States ...	105	55	100	102	40	(D)	(D)	402
United States ..	330	260	465	467	(X)	170	60	1,752

State	During February 2025							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs <sup>1</sup>	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	25	25	30	30	20	(D)	(D)	130
Kansas .....	40	65	115	100	45	(D)	(D)	365
Nebraska .....	30	65	135	140	70	(D)	(D)	440
Texas .....	100	55	55	40	10	(D)	(D)	260
Other States ...	100	65	85	74	35	(D)	(D)	359
United States ..	295	275	420	384	(X)	130	50	1,554

State	During March 2025							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs <sup>1</sup>	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	25	20	30	40	20	(D)	(D)	135
Kansas .....	45	65	125	135	60	(D)	(D)	430
Nebraska .....	30	70	135	165	100	(D)	(D)	500
Texas .....	130	75	85	60	20	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	105	55	100	106	40	(D)	(D)	406
United States ..	335	285	475	506	(X)	175	65	1,841

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

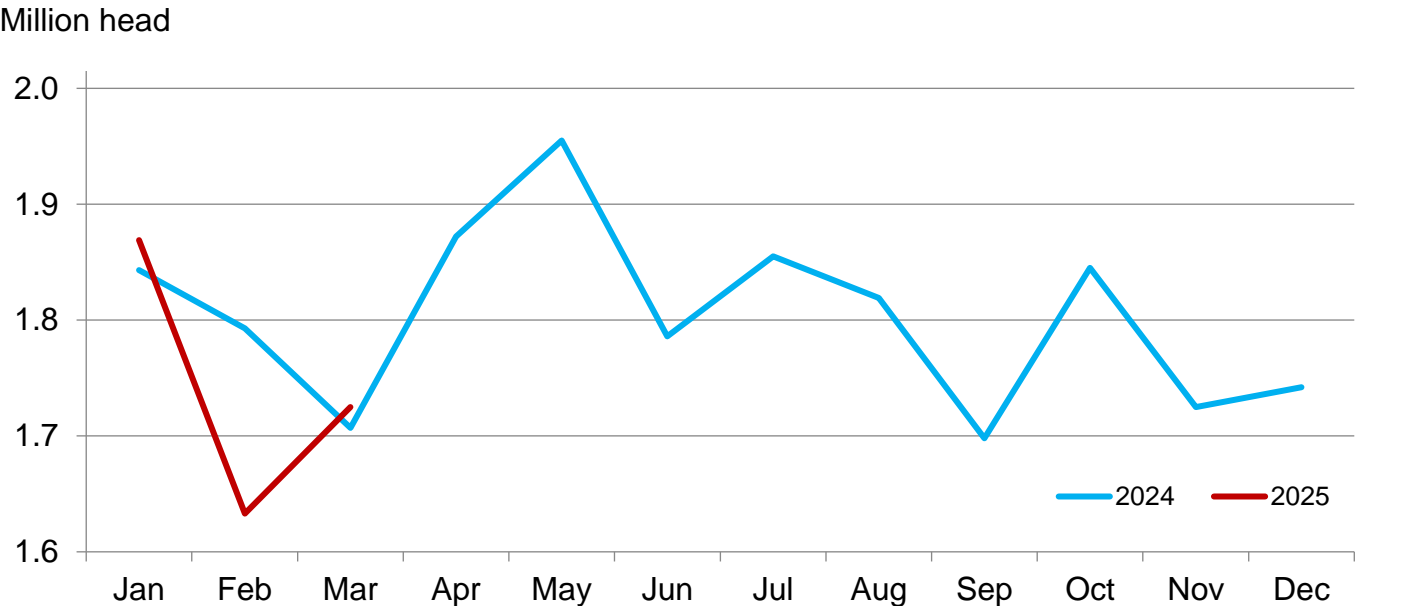
<sup>1</sup> The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

## Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	During March 2024	During February 2025	During March 2025		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	23	20	22	96	110
California .....	49	58	58	118	100
Colorado .....	160	140	140	88	100
Idaho .....	36	35	36	100	103
Iowa .....	93	93	93	100	100
Kansas .....	390	405	400	103	99
Minnesota .....	13	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	460	425	475	103	112
Oklahoma .....	40	39	44	110	113
South Dakota .....	33	29	34	103	117
Texas .....	330	310	330	100	106
Washington .....	37	29	32	86	110
Other States .....	43	50	61	142	122
United States .....	1,707	1,633	1,725	101	106

(NA) Not available.

# Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States



Cattle Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	During March 2024	During February 2025	During March 2025		
			Other disappearance	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	1	1	1	100	100
California .....	6	7	6	100	86
Colorado .....	5	10	5	100	50
Idaho .....	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa .....	2	1	1	50	100
Kansas .....	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota .....	1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	10	15	15	150	100
Oklahoma .....	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota .....	2	1	2	100	200
Texas .....	15	10	10	67	100
Washington .....	1	1	1	100	100
Other States .....	2	2	2	100	100
United States .....	57	60	55	96	92

(NA) Not available.

**Cattle on Feed by Class on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Quarter – States and United States:  
2024 and 2025**

State	Steers and steer calves			Heifers and heifer calves		
	Apr 1, 2024	Jan 1, 2025	Apr 1, 2025	Apr 1, 2024	Jan 1, 2025	Apr 1, 2025
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)
Arizona .....	246	218	213	10	15	15
California .....	435	420	410	95	100	90
Colorado .....	530	550	535	460	500	465
Idaho .....	195	175	180	150	155	160
Iowa .....	510	500	530	150	150	150
Kansas .....	1,340	1,410	1,350	1,060	990	990
Minnesota .....	90	(NA)	(NA)	15	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	1,660	1,630	1,710	880	950	890
Oklahoma .....	185	205	195	145	155	140
South Dakota .....	155	135	150	95	95	90
Texas .....	1,570	1,570	1,530	1,270	1,210	1,140
Washington .....	135	140	140	115	115	120
Other States .....	215	295	315	115	140	130
United States .....	7,266	7,248	7,258	4,560	4,575	4,380

(NA) Not available.

## Terms and Definitions of Cattle on Feed Estimates

**Cattle on feed** are steers and heifers 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 steers and heifers 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 steers and heifers 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.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** During January and July all known feedlots in the United States 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 16 States are surveyed. The 16 States account for approximately 98 percent of the cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head. Individual State estimates are published monthly for 11 of the 16 States. In 2025, data collected from the remaining 5 States are used to establish the "Other States" estimates. These 5 States include Illinois, New Mexico, Oregon, Wyoming and in 2025, Minnesota was added. The "Other States" category represents all cattle on feed with a capacity of 1,000 or more head for the rest of the United States.

**Estimating Procedures:** These cattle on feed estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by Regional Field Offices. Regional and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous month when establishing 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 table on the following page. 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 24 months is 0.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.6 million head by more than 0.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.3 percent.

The table on the following page shows a 24-month 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 24 months have averaged 13,000 head, ranging from 0 to 46,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 1 time and has been below the latest estimate 10 times. This does not imply that the initial estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.



## Reliability of Monthly Cattle on Feed Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
On feed .....	0.2	0.3	13	0	46	10	1
Placements .....	0.3	0.5	3	0	20	6	6
Marketings .....	0.1	0.2	1	0	6	6	4

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch ..... (202) 692-0069

Vacant, Head, Livestock Section

Vacant – Dairy Products

Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter ..... (202) 690-8632

Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed ..... (202) 720-3040

Kim DaPra – Milk Production and Milk Cows ..... (202) 720-3278

Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs ..... (202) 720-3106

Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats ..... (202) 720-4448

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist [notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu](mailto:notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu) in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Contact\\_Us/Ask\\_a\\_Specialist](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist).

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Spring 2025

# USDA Data Users' Meeting

April 29

12 p.m. ET on Zoom



## USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

### Virtual Meeting

April 29, 2025

Starting at 12:00 pm ET

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold a virtual meeting for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2025 Spring Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Representatives will provide agency updates, answer questions, and listen to concerns from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website ([https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data\\_users](https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users)).