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News Release

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CATTLE ON FEED

COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,030,000 head as of May 1, 2012. This latest inventory is down 4 percent from last month and down 6 percent from last year. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 150,000 head of fed cattle during April 2012. This was 14 percent below March 2012 marketings of 175,000 head, but even with last year. An estimated 120,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during April, 25 percent below a month ago and 27 percent below April 2011 placements of 165,000. Of the number placed in April, 21 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 17 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 25 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 38 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for April, at 10,000 head, is 5,000 head above last month and last year.

UNITED STATES

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on May 1, 2012. The inventory was 1 percent below May 1, 2011. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.52 million, 15 percent below 2011. Net placements were 1.44 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 355,000, 600-699 pounds were 250,000, 700-799 pounds were 380,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 536,000. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.82 million, slightly above 2011. Other disappearance totaled 78,000 during April, 30 percent above 2011.