

NAHMS Feedlot 2011 Study

What information would you like to know about the beef feedlot industry?

USDA wants to hear from stakeholders of the U.S. beef industry to help develop objectives for a new study on the Nation's beef feedlots. The Feedlot 2011 study will be conducted by USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) and will provide an in-depth look at beef feedlots.

The Feedlot 2011 study will include two segments. One segment will include on-site visits at feedlots with at least 1,000 head in 12 of the major cattle feeding States (AZ, CA, CO, ID, IA, KS, NE, NM, OK, SD, TX, and WA). The other segment will include telephone interviews of owners or managers of feedlots with less than 1,000 head in 13 States (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, PA, SD, TX, and WI).

Both segments of the Feedlot 2011 study will include a questionnaire that aims to collect important information about the feedlot industry. Biological samples (e.g., feces, blood) may also be collected for analysis on selected operations.

Stakeholders can provide input on the specific feedlot information that would be valuable to collect through a short Needs Assessment Questionnaire available at http://www.surveymonkey.com/NAHMS_Feedlot

Comments and questions also can be shared with NAHMS by email at NAHMS@aphis.usda.gov or from Dr. David Dargatz at 970-494-7231 or Dr. Randy Pritchard at 970-494-7241. Please submit your input by December 15, 2010.

Some objectives included in the last NAHMS beef feedlot study, conducted in 1999, were to:

1. Describe changes in management practices and animal health in feedlots from 1994 to 1999.
2. Describe the management practices in feedlots that impact product quality.
3. Identify factors associated with shedding of specified pathogens by feedlot cattle, such as: *E. coli* O157, *Salmonella* spp., or *Campylobacter* spp.
4. Describe antimicrobial usage in feedlots.
5. Describe animal health management practices in feedlots and their relationship to cattle health.
6. Identify priority areas for pre-arrival processing of cattle and calves.

Results of previous NAHMS studies of feedlots and other industries are available on the Internet at: <http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov>. For additional information on this topic, contact Lyndsay Cole at (970) 494-7410 or email lyndsay.m.cole@aphis.usda.gov