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### USA Hide Supply Situation 2013

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2014 totaled 87.7 million head, 2 percent below the 89.3 million on January 1, 2013. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 82.1 million on hand in 1951.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 38.3 million, were down 1 percent from the 38.5 million on January 1, 2013. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cows and heifers that have calved since the 36.8 million head in 1941. The 2013 calf crop was estimated at 33.9 million head, down 1 percent from 2012. This is the smallest calf crop since the 33.7 million born during 1949. Calves born during the first half of 2013 are estimated at 24.7 million, down 1 percent from 2012.

Beef cows, at 29.0 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 2013. Milk cows, at 9.2 million, is unchanged from January 1, 2013. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were 15.4 million, down 3 percent. All heifers 500 pounds and over were 18.8 million, down 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over were 2.0 million, down 1 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots were 12.7 million, down 5 percent.

U.S. cattle imports weakened in 2013 as historically low cattle inventories in Mexico caused a 33-percent reduction in imports from Mexico. 2.028 million head were imported from Canada and Mexico in 2013, a decline of 11.2 percent from 2012. U.S. cattle imports are expected to decline in 2014 to 1.95 million head, 4 percent lower than in 2013. Lower imports from Mexico are likely to continue as it will take several years for herds to recover.

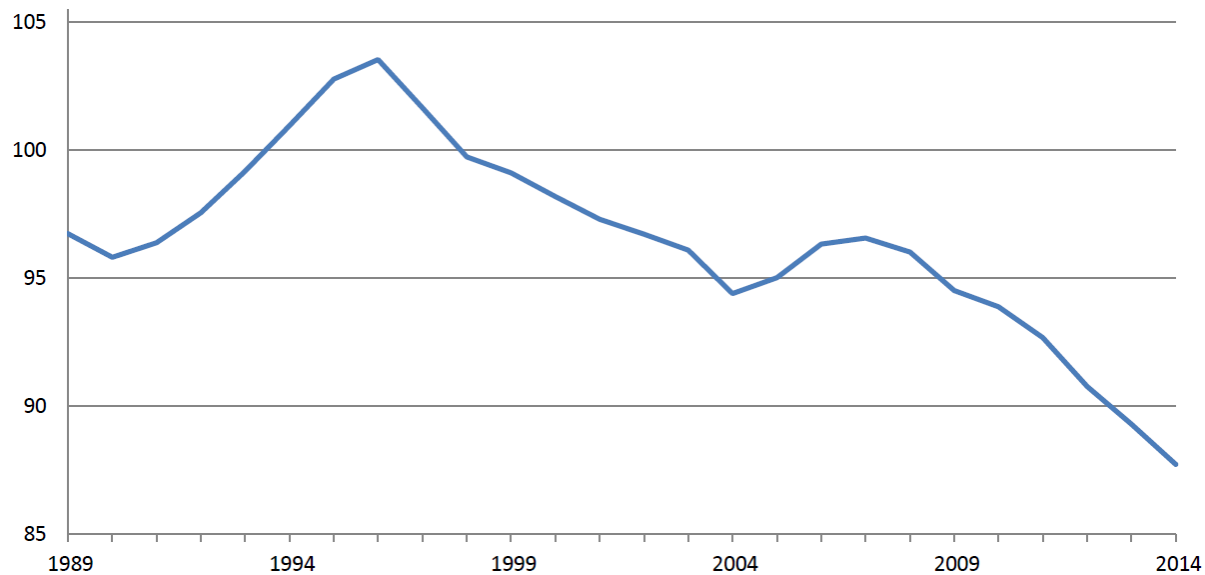
Commercial cattle slaughter in the U.S. for 2013 totaled 31.947 million head, about 1.5% below 2012 levels. Slaughter is expected to decline further in 2014 as the U.S. herd shows signs of rebuilding.

According to U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics, U.S. exports for wet salted hides increased 12 percent in value to \$1.85 billion. Wet blue hide exports expanded 27 percent to nearly \$800 million in value. Pig and sow skin exports likewise saw an increase in value of 15 percent to \$57 million, despite facing market access restrictions. Export data for specific markets is included in the tables below.

USHSLA has noticed significant errors in USDA's data regarding quantities of hides, skins and wet blue products exported, therefore the quantities listed in the table below should be disregarded until the problem has been remedied.

## Cattle Inventory – United States: January 1

Million head



## U.S. Wet Salted/Brine Cured Hide Exports

	Number of Pieces			Value Thousand \$		
	Jan - Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2013	% Chg	Jan - Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2013	% Chng
<b>World</b>	29,170,886	36,753,504	26%	1,665,466	1,858,411	12%
<b>China/HK</b>	15,831,977	22,308,196	41%	963,292	1,184,949	23%
<b>Korea</b>	5,746,836	6,181,343	8%	311,697	321,957	3%
<b>Taiwan</b>	1,486,753	2,142,693	44%	106,202	104,335	-2%
<b>Mexico</b>	1,599,264	1,682,799	5%	80,098	78,320	-2%
<b>EU-28</b>	1,469,519	1,836,397	25%	57,550	61,566	7%
<b>Vietnam</b>	828,940	648,592	-22%	53,549	33,621	-37%
<b>Japan</b>	990,308	807,902	-18%	38,605	28,702	-26%
<b>Thailand</b>	534,600	545,720	2%	30,040	23,093	-23%
<b>Turkey</b>	345,132	231,584	-33%	12,510	7,157	-43%
<b>Indonesia</b>	4,183	80,795	1832%	44	6,064	13682%
<b>Canada</b>	103,107	72,921	-29%	6,728	4,217	-37%
<b>India</b>	11,506	44,380	286%	689	1,366	98%
<b>Israel</b>	123,957	91,471	-26%	1,179	1,025	-13%
<b>Pakistan</b>	912	30,321	3225%	57	448	686%
<b>Dom. Rep.</b>	19,850	9,727	-51%	973	394	-60%
<b>Macau</b>	0	6,469	-	0	291	-
<b>Colombia</b>	150	7,008	4572%	4	198	4850%
<b>Chile</b>	0	2,420	-	0	162	-
<b>Philippines</b>	0	3,318	-	0	149	-
<b>Haiti</b>	3,800	12,358	225%	46	135	193%
<b>Tajikistan</b>	600	750	25%	24	48	100%
<b>Trin. &amp; Tob.</b>	782	1,869	139%	35	47	34%
<b>N. Zealand</b>	1,849	924	-50%	83	42	-49%
<b>Bahamas</b>	1,868	730	-61%	56	36	-36%
<b>Australia</b>	0	800	-	0	24	-
<b>Cambodia</b>	4,998	568	-89%	150	20	-87%
<b>UAE</b>	0	518	-	0	16	-
<b>Lebanon</b>	659	331	-50%	20	10	-50%

## U.S. Wet Blue Hide Exports

	Number of Pieces			Value Thousand \$		
	Jan - Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2013	% Chg	Jan - Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2013	% Chng
<b>World Total</b>	10,409,753	14,127,134	36%	621,682	791,022	27%
<b>China/HK</b>	4,095,523	4,893,887	19%	263,696	282,211	7%
<b>EU-28</b>	2,375,939	3,382,781	42%	149,855	195,836	31%
<b>Vietnam</b>	745,837	1,177,577	58%	50,037	69,979	40%
<b>Mexico</b>	1,341,556	1,742,259	30%	38,461	58,407	52%
<b>Korea</b>	270,431	685,818	154%	20,154	47,049	133%
<b>Taiwan</b>	349,457	713,663	104%	23,790	43,298	82%
<b>Thailand</b>	228,995	600,264	162%	16,314	40,297	147%
<b>Dom. Rep.</b>	743,042	636,630	-14%	43,101	37,839	-12%
<b>Japan</b>	146,120	133,952	-8%	8,431	6,536	-22%
<b>India</b>	68,182	94,751	39%	4,284	5,347	25%
<b>Uruguay</b>	38,728	29,904	-23%	3,142	2,540	-19%
<b>Turkey</b>	4,298	24,024	459%	253	1,375	443%
<b>Chile</b>	0	3,826	-	0	219	-
<b>Indonesia</b>	0	3,973	-	0	56	-
<b>Togo</b>	0	3,600	-	0	25	-
<b>UAE</b>	0	200	-	0	5	-
<b>Brazil</b>	1,645	25	-98%	164	3	-98%

## U.S. Pig/Sow Skin Exports

	Number of Pieces			Value Thousand \$		
	Jan - Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2013	% Chg	Jan - Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2013	% Chng
<b>World Total</b>	4,731,387	5,333,402	13%	50,067	57,530	15%
<b>Mexico</b>	2,359,767	2,528,838	7%	25,960	30,386	17%
<b>Taiwan</b>	1,079,508	1,469,524	36%	11,674	13,892	19%
<b>Vietnam</b>	442,702	643,800	45%	4,134	6,417	55%
<b>Thailand</b>	560,787	425,200	-24%	5,343	4,241	-21%
<b>EU-28</b>	62,750	161,235	157%	1,196	1,759	47%
<b>Japan</b>	12,665	72,125	469%	92	460	400%
<b>China/HK</b>	146,478	27,997	-81%	1,021	329	-68%
<b>Ecuador</b>	0	2,688	-	0	24	-
<b>El Salvador</b>	0	1,995	-	0	21	-