

Expanding the Cowherd: Economic Considerations

**Kansas Livestock Association, Annual Convention
December 5, 2013**

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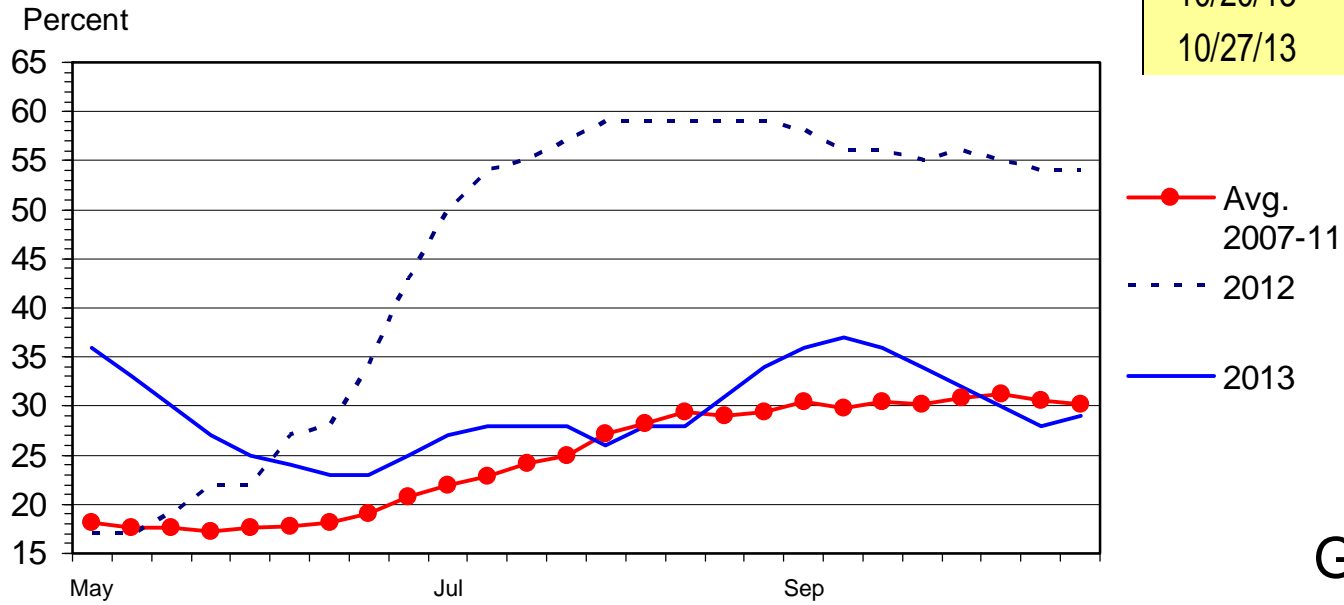
Quarterly Forecasts (LMIC: 11/26/13)						
Year	Comm'l	% Chg.	Average	% Chg.	Comm'l	% Chg.
Quarter	Slaughter	from	Dressed	from	Beef	from
		Year Ago	Weight	Year Ago	Production	Year Ago
2013						
I	7,779	-3.1	793.4	1.4	6,172	-1.7
II	8,325	0.2	782.8	0.5	6,517	0.7
III	8,322	-0.1	794.1	0.5	6,609	0.4
IV	7,939	-4.1	795.9	0.3	6,319	-3.9
Year	32,365	-1.8	791.5	0.6	25,617	-1.1
2014						
I	7,213	-7.3	797.3	0.5	5,751	-6.8
II	7,708	-7.4	786.6	0.5	6,063	-7.0
III	7,708	-7.4	798.5	0.6	6,155	-6.9
IV	7,395	-6.9	801.5	0.7	5,927	-6.2
Year	30,024	-7.2	795.9	0.6	23,896	-6.7
2015						
I	6,902	-4.3	801.9	0.6	5,535	-3.8
II	7,344	-4.7	793.4	0.9	5,827	-3.9
III	7,433	-3.6	805.9	0.9	5,990	-2.7
IV	7,221	-2.4	805.8	0.5	5,819	-1.8
Year	28,900	-3.7	801.8	0.7	23,171	-3.0

Quarterly Forecasts (LMIC: 11/26/13)

Year Quarter	Live Sltr. Steer Price	% Chg. from	Feeder Steer Price	
	5-Mkt Avg	Year Ago	7-800#	5-600#
2013				
I	125.51	0.2	142.41	170.13
II	124.95	3.3	137.34	159.71
III	122.30	2.2	155.95	171.19
IV	131-132	4.7	167-168	186-187
Year	125-127	2.6	150-152	171-173
2014				
I	132-134	6.0	168-172	189-194
II	133-137	8.0	169-175	193-202
III	129-134	7.5	169-176	189-197
IV	132-138	2.7	166-174	184-193
Year	131-136	6.0	168-174	189-196
2015				
I	134-141	3.4	168-177	188-199
II	136-144	3.7	169-179	194-206
III	132-141	3.8	171-182	192-205
IV	135-145	3.7	168-180	186-200
Year	135-142	3.7	170-178	191-201

Improving Pastures...

US RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITION Percent Poor and Very Poor, Weekly



Beef Cows in states with 40% Poor to Very Poor		
Last year	Cows	% of Total
10/21/12	21284	70.77%
10/28/12	21284	70.77%
This Year		
10/20/13	2603	8.91%
10/27/13	4408	15.09%

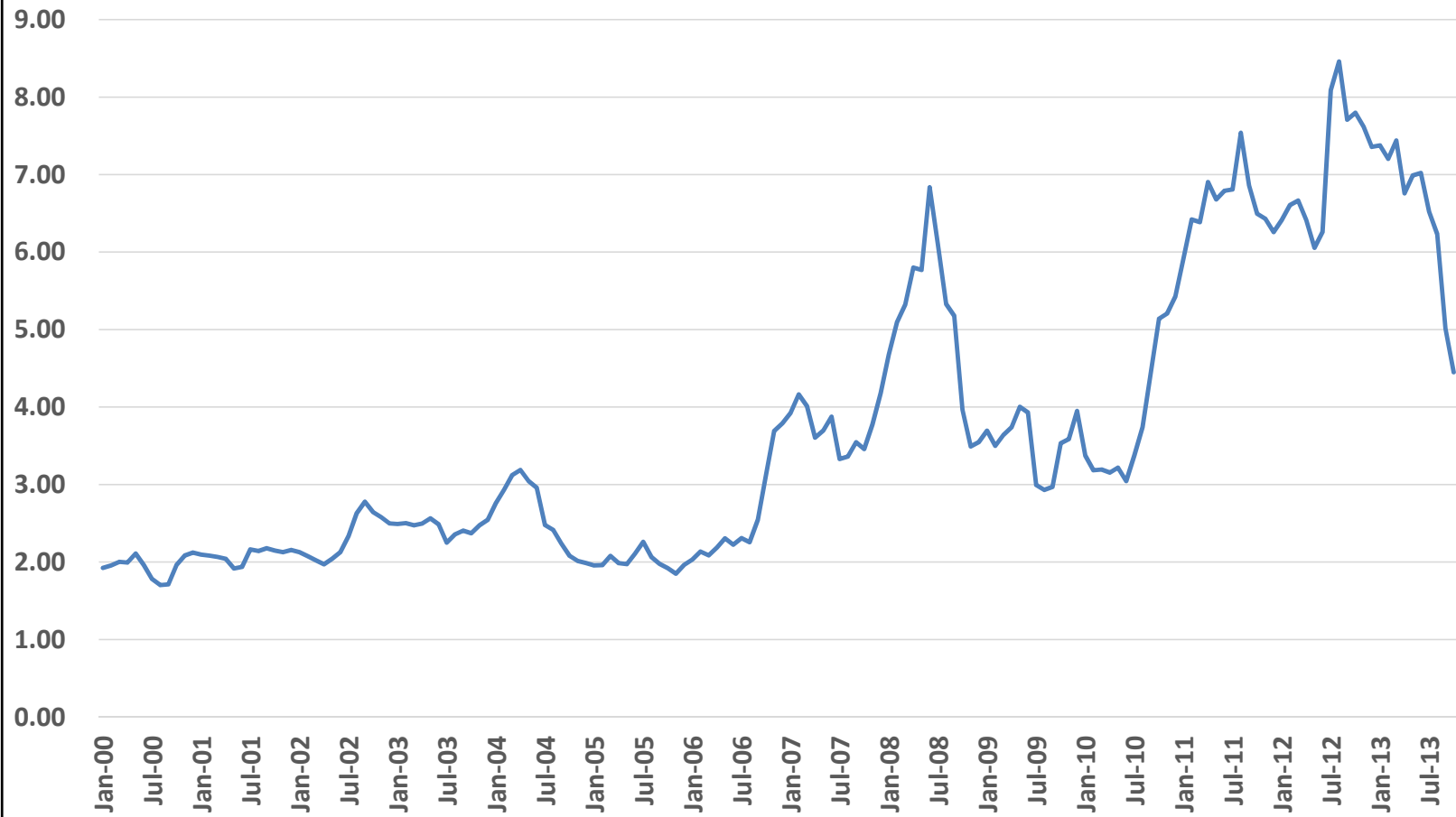
G-NP-30
10/31/13

Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC)

Data Source: USDA-NASS, Compiled & Analysis by LMIC.

Improving Grain Prices...

Dodge City, KS Corn Price
Monthly Avg (\$/bu) - USDA AMS

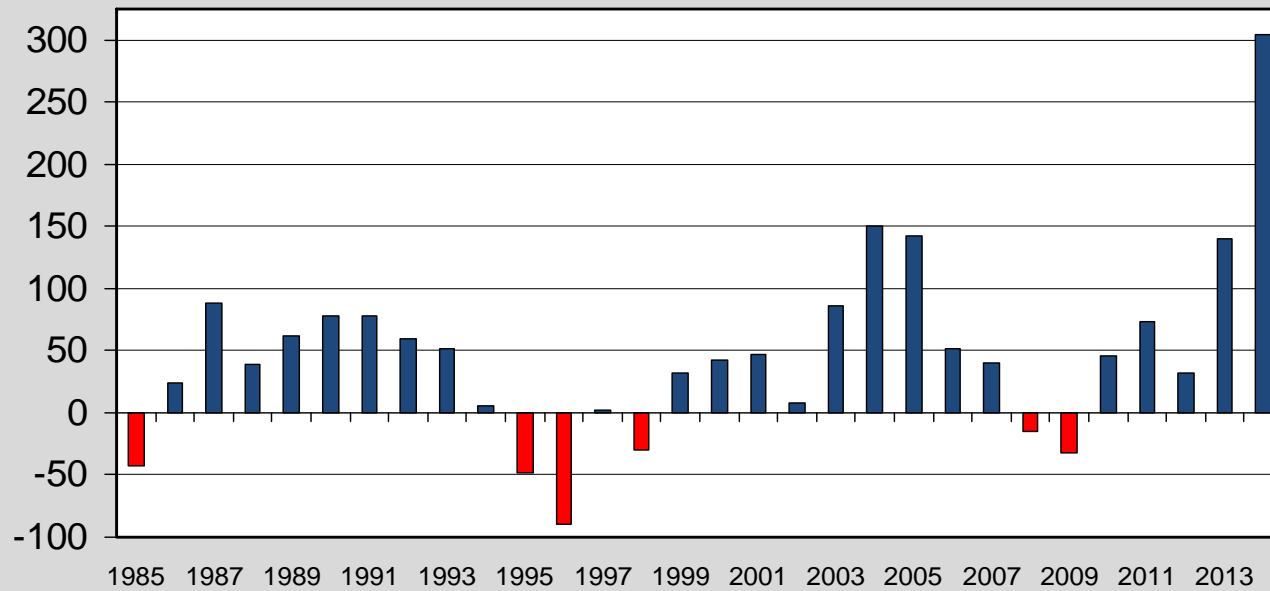


Improving Margins...

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COW CALF RETURNS

Returns Over Cash Cost (Includes Pasture Rent), Annual

\$ Per Cow



C-P-66
10/29/13

Livestock Marketing Information Center Data Source: USDA-AMS & USDA-NASS, Compiled & Analysis by LMIC

Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *Expected Profit*
 - 2014 LMIC Forecast 2X 04' & 13'
 - Note same \$X/hd = lower ROI than in the past...
 - ERS Total Costs/cow: 2002 - \$974; 2008 - \$1,121; 2012 - \$1,317
- *Profit Risk*
 - Context on environment of price variability...
 - Feedstuff price recovery persistence?
 - Concern over retail beef prices?
 - “Sky high” replacement prices in 2014?
- *Uncertainty*
 - Broader political uncertainty
 - Economic Policy Uncertainty Indices
(<http://www.policyuncertainty.com/index.html>)
 - Farm Bill, Shutdown, MCOOL, Technology Acceptance...

Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *Why Did Herd Shrink?*
 - *Beef Demand Declines (long-term)*
 - *Drought & Feed Costs (more recent)*

- *What Can I pay for a Replacement?*
 - *KSU-Beef Replacement* spreadsheet
 - Two fact sheets and video tutorial also available online:
 - <http://www.agmanager.info/livestock/budgets/production/default.asp>

Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *KSU-Beef Replacement spreadsheet*

- <http://www.agmanager.info/livestock/budgets/production/default.asp>

Net Present Value of Beef Replacements		
Year	Number of Calves	Base Case
2014	1	\$1,107
2015	2	\$1,234
2016	3	\$1,324
2017	4	\$1,359
2018	5	\$1,381
2019	6	\$1,410
2020	7	\$1,428
2021	8	\$1,445
2022	9	\$1,461
2023	10	\$1,469

Key Inputs Varied Across Scenarios:

Annual cow costs, \$/year		\$700
Discount rate, interest rate		7.50%
Calf Price, \$/cwt	2014	\$168
	2015	\$171
	2016	\$171
	2017	\$164
	2018	\$160
	2019	\$161
	2020	\$162
	2021	\$165
	2022	\$168
	2023	\$169

* NPV is Net Present Value of a replacement expected to produce the number of saleable calves listed in the "Number of Calves" column before a cow is culled for age-related reasons.

Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *KSU-Beef Replacement* spreadsheet

- <http://www.agmanager.info/livestock/budgets/production/default.asp>

Net Present Value of Beef Replacements

	Number		10% Lower
Year	of Calves	Base Case	Cow Costs/yr
2014	1	\$1,107	\$1,177
2015	2	\$1,234	\$1,359
2016	3	\$1,324	\$1,494
2017	4	\$1,359	\$1,563
2018	5	\$1,381	\$1,614
2019	6	\$1,410	\$1,664
2020	7	\$1,428	\$1,700
2021	8	\$1,445	\$1,732
2022	9	\$1,461	\$1,758
2023	10	\$1,469	\$1,775

Yr 1: \$70

Yr 10: \$306

Economic Outlook Overview : Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *Variation across producers is substantial*
 - \$300 dif in costs of top & bottom 1/3 KFMA producers
 - Producer w/ \$850/cow costs: \$813/heifer (10 yrs) NPV
 - Producer w/ \$700/cow costs: \$1,469/heifer (10 yrs) NPV
- *Regionally:*
 - Southern Plains will rebuild some
 - Great/N. Plains & West will resume relative growth
 - SE & Heartland will continue trend of relative decline
 - Unless opportunity costs of labor and/or land are ignored...
- *Nationally:*
 - more intense and/or alternative cow management likely necessary given land constraints...

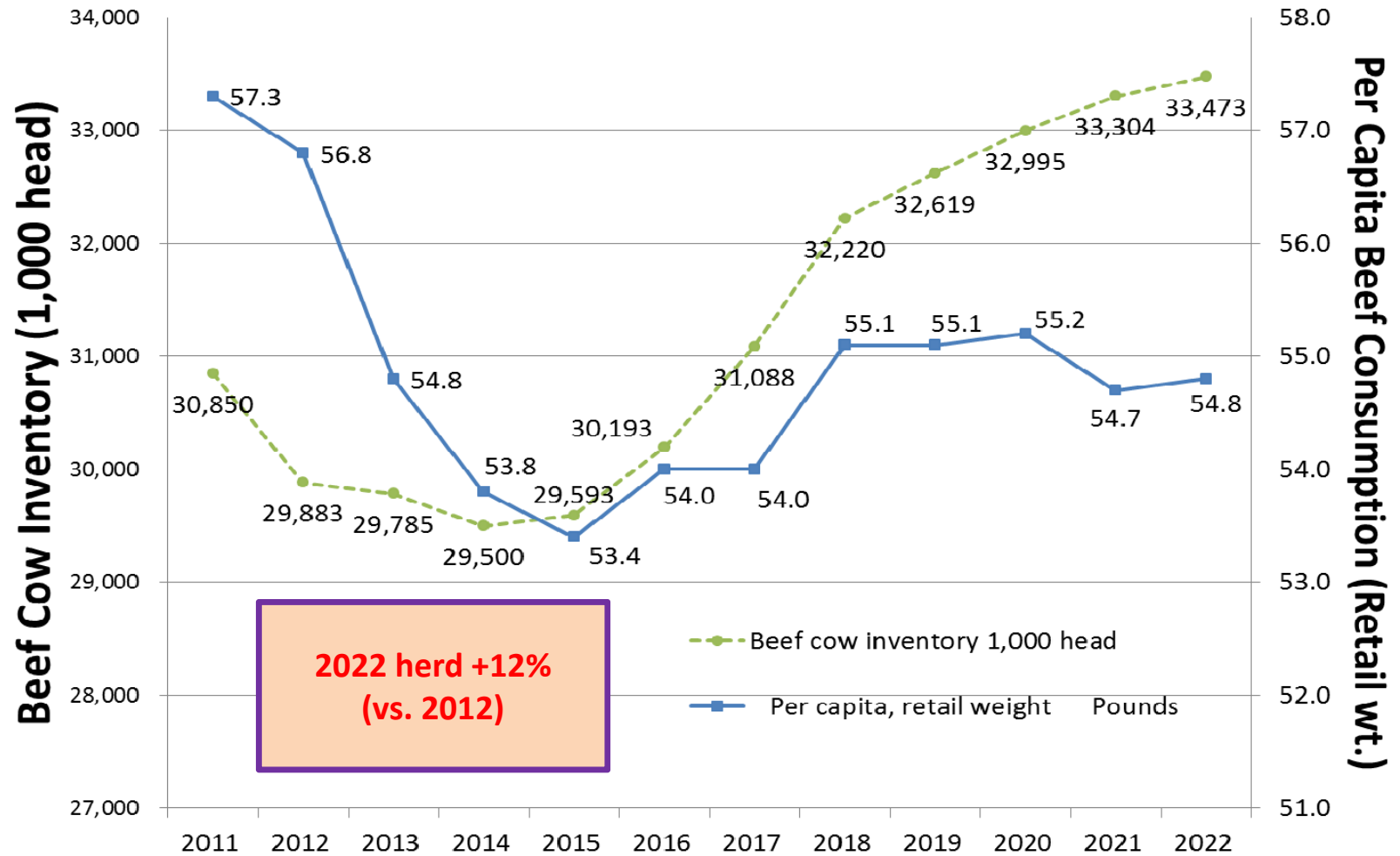
Economic Outlook Overview : Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *Role of Risk & Uncertainty*
 - Producer charging 7.5% discount rate:
 - \$1,469/heifer (10 yrs) NPV
 - Producer charging 15% discount rate:
 - \$1,225/heifer (10 yrs) NPV

Longer-term projections (*as of Feb. 2013*)

<http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/projections/index.htm>

2021 Projection 1.1 million less than Feb. '12'



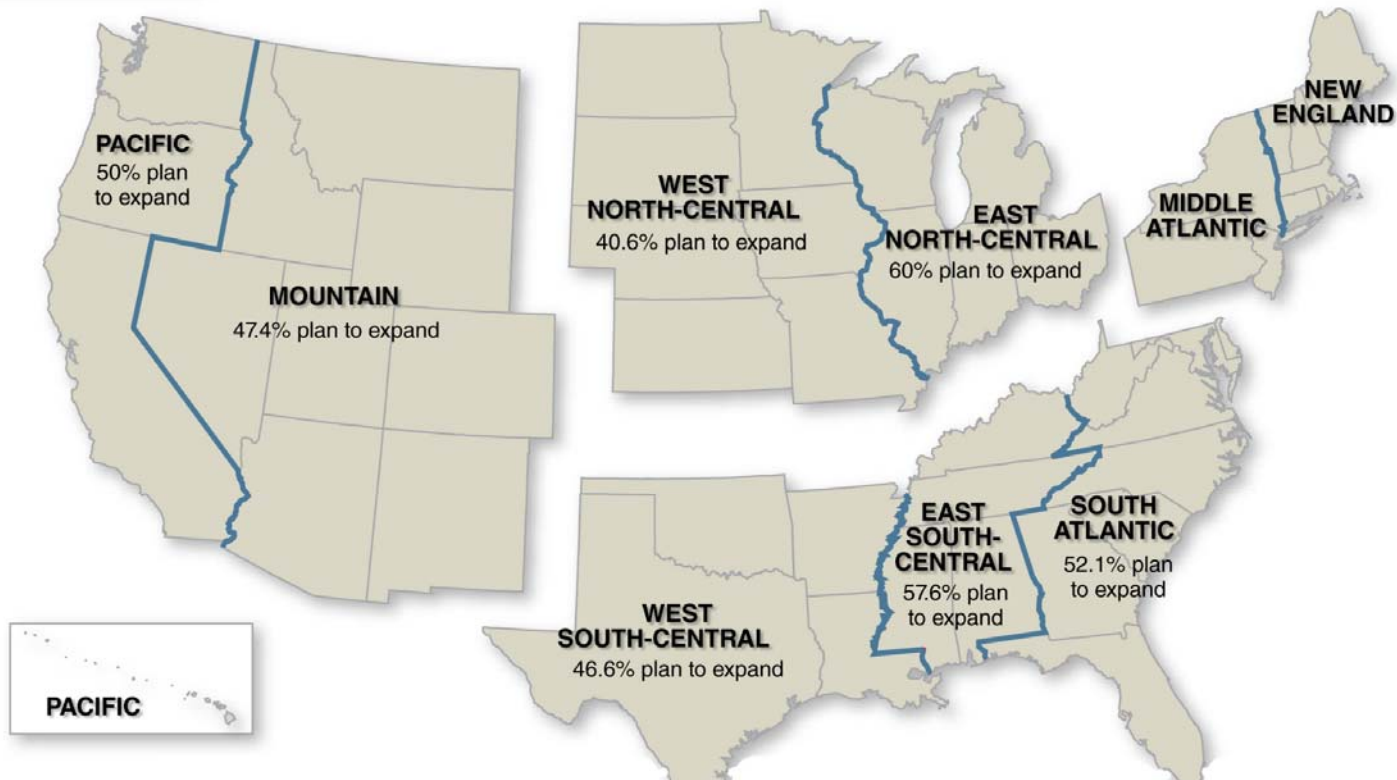
**2022 herd +12%
(vs. 2012)**

BEEF 2014 Cow Herd Plans

<http://beefmagazine.com/cattle-industry-structure/beef-readers-say-they-re-dedicated-herd-expansion-2014>. N=695, Oct 23-Nov 1, 2013 online collection



2013-2014 beef cow expansion plans



Important to note this summary is not weighted by an operation's current herd size.

BEEF 2014 Cow Herd Plans

<http://beefmagazine.com/cattle-industry-structure/beef-readers-say-they-re-dedicated-herd-expansion-2014>. N=695, Oct 23-Nov 1, 2013 online collection

Planned Cowherd Size in:	2013/2014	Next 3-5 years
Expand by 11% or more	13.4%	24.2%
Expand by 1% to 10%	33.5%	31.5%
Remain the same	38.0%	29.0%
Remain the same but add/grow other enterprises	4.7%	6.2%
Contract by 1% to 10%	4.8%	3.0%
Contract by 11% or more	2.5%	1.9%
Get out of industry completely (Not retiring)	1.5%	1.6%
Retire	1.7%	2.7%
<i>Respondent Count</i>	<u>687</u>	<u>677</u>
Weighted Average	-0.1%	0.5%
Weighted Average (Omitting Exits)	2.6%	3.9%
Weighted Average of Only Those Expanding	7.9%	9.3%

Important to note this summary is not weighted by an operation's current herd size.

BEEF 2014 Cow Herd Plans

<http://beefmagazine.com/cattle-industry-structure/beef-readers-say-they-re-dedicated-herd-expansion-2014>. N=695, Oct 23-Nov 1, 2013 online collection

Planned Cowherd Size in:	2013/2014	Next 3-5 years
<p>Similar to Dr. Peel's thoughts: +2% in 2014; +2-3% in 2015 (http://sw4.unl.edu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=3703303f-f41f-46c3-8b52-e369ce18a817&groupId=235791&.pdf)</p>		
Weighted Average	-0.1%	0.5%
Weighted Average (Omitting Exits)	2.6%	3.9%
Weighted Average of Only Those Expanding	7.9%	9.3%

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On average, what do you expect to pay per bred heifer?

\$1,000-\$1,500/head	40.00%
\$1,501-\$2,000/head	45.70%
\$2,001 - \$2,500/head	11.40%
More than \$2,500/head	2.90%
Respondent Count	105
Weighted Average	\$1,636

How old are you?

Under 25	0.50%
25 to 34	5.80%
35 to 44	10.40%
45 to 54	18.60%
55 to 64	34.00%
65 and older	30.70%
Respondent Count	655
Weighted Average	57

How many beef cows do you have in inventory?

Less than 50 head	12.90%
50 to 99 head	19.90%
100 to 199 head	27.70%
200 to 499 head	28.00%
500 to 999 head	8.30%
1,000 to 2,499 head	2.00%
2,500 to 4,999 head	0.20%
5,000 head or more	1.00%
Respondent Count	603
Weighted Average	312

Wrap-up Summary Thoughts

- Cow-Calf opportunity exists
 - Herd expansion pending – will not occur uniformly...
 - Profitable prospects for sound management
 - Ongoing demand enhancement critical for profitability...
- Current and Potential Threats also persist
 - Uncertainty on many fronts restricts investment
 - Several examples of “infighting” within the industry

What To Do?

- Ask yourself key questions including:
 - Do you regularly utilize available resources?
 - herd expansion tools, these events, etc.
 - Do you know your comparative advantage?
 - Having a favorable cost structure is imperative
 - Be aware of “overpaying” for replacements
 - Recognize opportunity costs of retained heifers
 - How comfortable are you with “the new environment?”
 - Political & regulatory uncertainty
 - Customer/consumer distinction
 - Technology feasibility & acceptance distinction

What To Do?

I encourage you to:

- Recognize this “isn’t your father’s world” anymore and manage accordingly...
- “Think globally, manage locally, and stay informed”

More information available at:



This presentation will be available in PDF format at:

<http://www.agmanager.info/about/contributors/individual/tonsor.asp>

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Cow-Calf – Expansion Discussion

- *KSU-Beef Replacement* spreadsheet
 - <http://www.agmanager.info/livestock/budgets/production/default.asp>

Table 1. Net Present Value of Beef Replacements, Sensitivity Analysis Summary*

Year	Number of Calves	Base Case	10% Lower Cow Costs/yr	10% Lower Discount Rate	10% Higher Calf Prices
2014	1	\$1,107	\$1,177	\$1,107	\$1,288
2015	2	\$1,233	\$1,359	\$1,239	\$1,484
2016	3	\$1,323	\$1,493	\$1,335	\$1,628
2017	4	\$1,357	\$1,562	\$1,373	\$1,701
2018	5	\$1,379	\$1,611	\$1,399	\$1,754
2019	6	\$1,407	\$1,662	\$1,430	\$1,808
2020	7	\$1,425	\$1,697	\$1,451	\$1,846
2021	8	\$1,443	\$1,729	\$1,470	\$1,879
2022	9	\$1,458	\$1,755	\$1,487	\$1,907
2023	10	\$1,466	\$1,772	\$1,497	\$1,925
Key Inputs Varied Across Scenarios**:					
Annual cow costs, \$/year		\$700	\$630	\$700	\$700
Discount rate, interest rate		7.50%	7.50%	6.75%	7.50%
Calf Price, \$/cwt	2014	\$168	\$168	\$168	\$185

KSU-Beef Replacement

Table 3. Net Present Value of Beef Replacements, Analysis Summary Using Operating and Labor Costs *

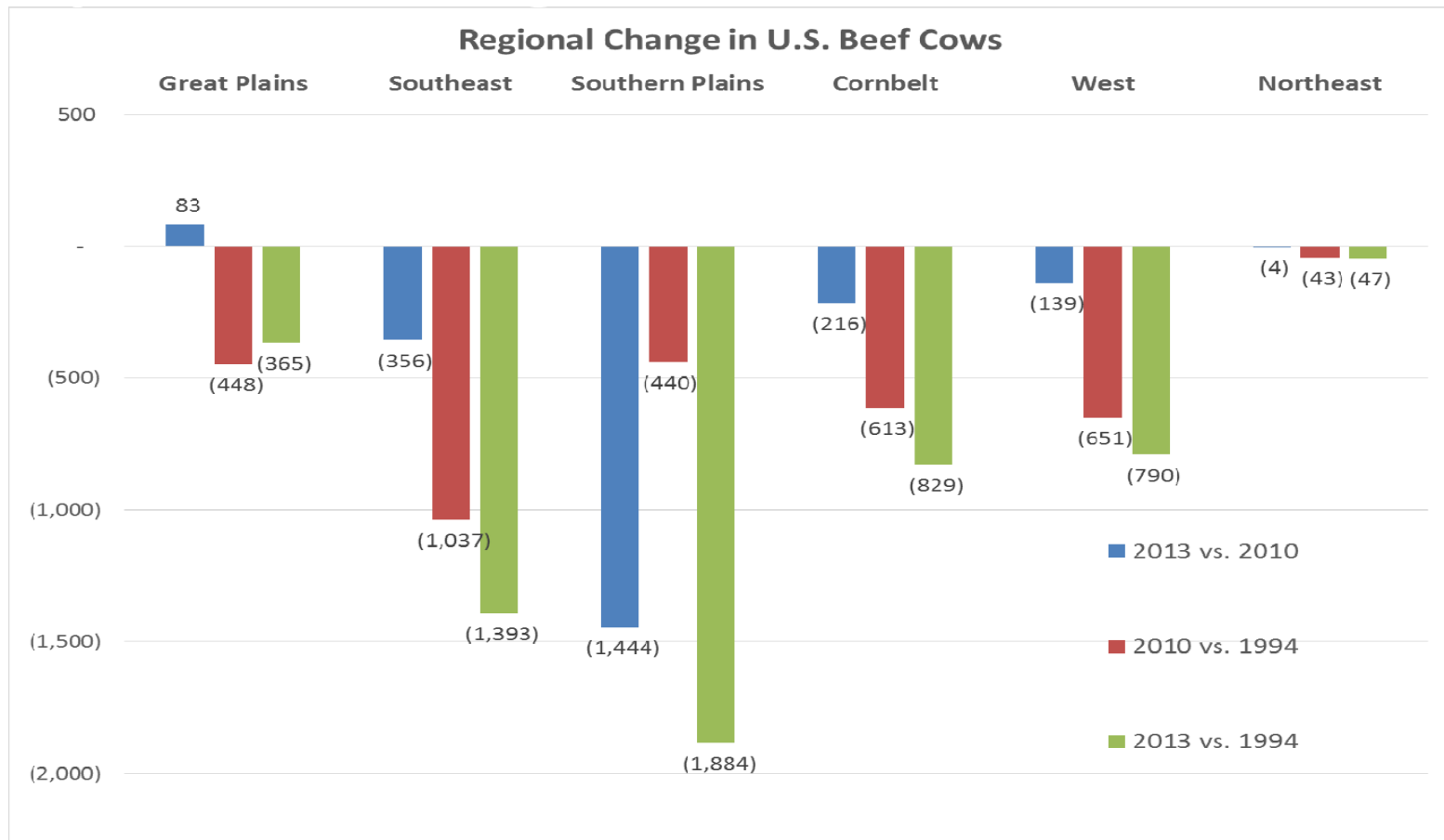
Year	Number of Calves	US	Great Plains	Southeast	Southern Plains	Cornbelt	West
2014	1	\$821	\$890	\$786	\$839	\$597	\$995
2015	2	\$719	\$844	\$654	\$751	\$317	\$1,030
2016	3	\$627	\$798	\$540	\$671	\$85	\$1,047
2017	4	\$519	\$723	\$414	\$572	(\$134)	\$1,025
2018	5	\$430	\$660	\$312	\$489	(\$312)	\$1,005
2019	6	\$370	\$620	\$241	\$435	(\$442)	\$999
2020	7	\$318	\$584	\$180	\$387	(\$549)	\$990
2021	8	\$280	\$558	\$135	\$352	(\$632)	\$987
2022	9	\$250	\$539	\$100	\$325	(\$696)	\$984
2023	10	\$223	\$520	\$69	\$301	(\$751)	\$979
Key Inputs Varied Across Scenarios**:							
Annual operating and labor costs, \$/cow/yr		\$903	\$923	\$912	\$898	\$1,114	\$725
Beef cows, head per farm/ranch		100	181	73	108	63	196
Avg Calf Weight, lbs		500	555	484	508	493	497
Avg Calf Price Slide, \$/cwt		\$8.42	\$8.98	\$8.23	\$8.81	\$7.11	\$9.33
* NPV is Net Present Value of a replacement expected to produce the number of saleable calves listed in the "Number of Calves" column before a cow is culled for age-related reasons.							
** Annual cost, calf weight, and calf price assumptions were varied with all other inputs set at their default settings as of 11-1-13.							

KSU-Beef Replacement

Table 4. Net Present Value of Beef Replacements, Analysis Summary Using Only Operating Costs *

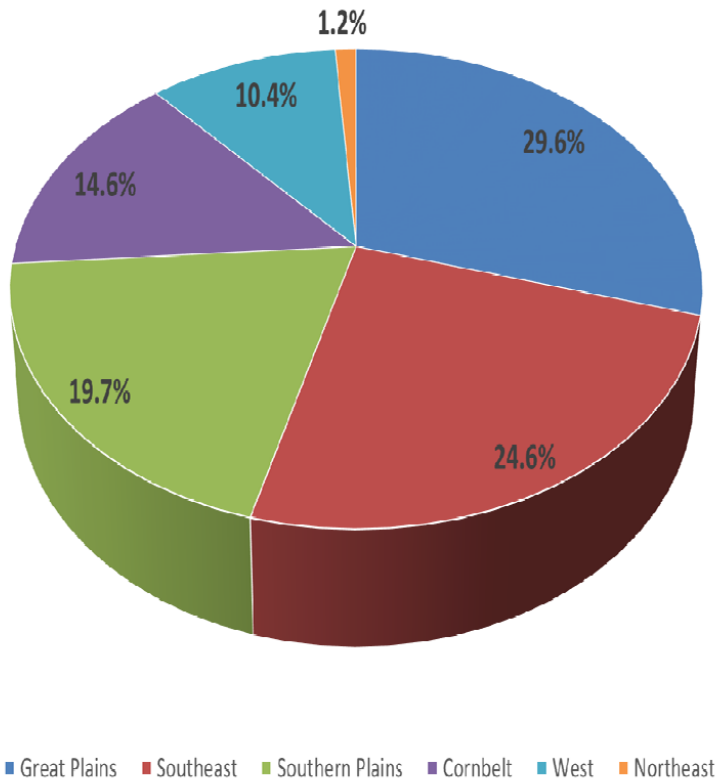
Year	Number of Calves	US	Great Plains	Southeast	Southern Plains	Cornbelt	West
2014	1	\$1,204	\$1,174	\$1,259	\$1,210	\$992	\$1,302
2015	2	\$1,406	\$1,353	\$1,504	\$1,415	\$1,025	\$1,580
2016	3	\$1,556	\$1,485	\$1,689	\$1,569	\$1,041	\$1,792
2017	4	\$1,639	\$1,553	\$1,800	\$1,655	\$1,019	\$1,924
2018	5	\$1,702	\$1,602	\$1,885	\$1,720	\$998	\$2,025
2019	6	\$1,763	\$1,651	\$1,964	\$1,782	\$993	\$2,116
2020	7	\$1,807	\$1,686	\$2,022	\$1,827	\$984	\$2,184
2021	8	\$1,845	\$1,717	\$2,071	\$1,865	\$980	\$2,242
2022	9	\$1,876	\$1,743	\$2,111	\$1,897	\$978	\$2,288
2023	10	\$1,897	\$1,759	\$2,139	\$1,919	\$972	\$2,321
Key Inputs Varied Across Scenarios**:							
Annual operating costs, \$/cow/yr		\$520	\$639	\$438	\$527	\$720	\$418
Beef cows, head per farm/ranch		100	181	73	108	63	196
Avg Calf Weight, lbs		500	555	484	508	493	497
Avg Calf Price Slide, \$/cwt		\$8.42	\$8.98	\$8.23	\$8.81	\$7.11	\$9.33
* NPV is Net Present Value of a replacement expected to produce the number of saleable calves listed in the "Number of Calves" column before a cow is culled for age-related reasons.							
** Annual cost, calf weight, and calf price assumptions were varied with all other inputs set at their default settings as of 11-1-13.							

Data Source: USDA-NASS,
Compiled by LMIC and Tonsor

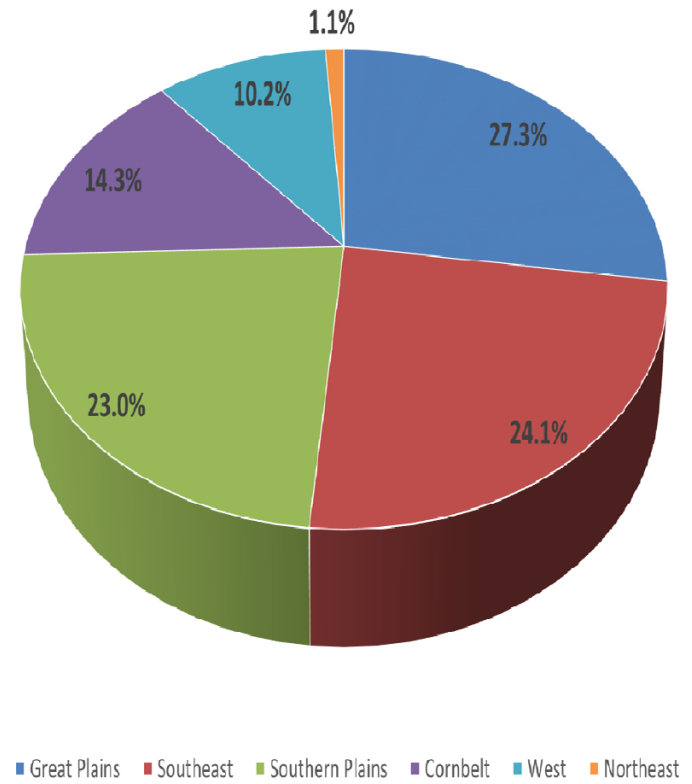


Data Source: USDA-NASS,
Compiled by LMIC and Tonsor

Regional Dispersion of U.S. Beef Cows, Jan. 1 2013

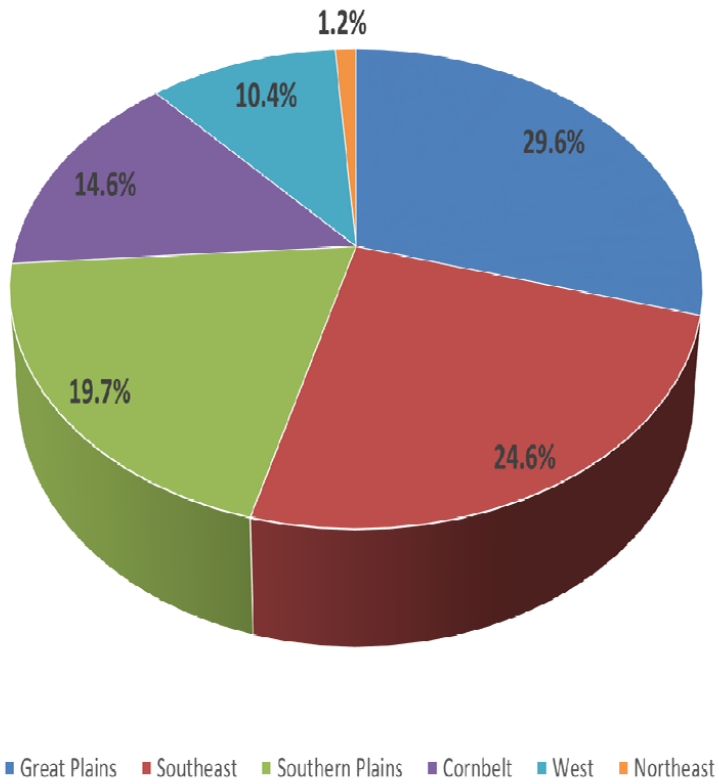


Regional Dispersion of U.S. Beef Cows, Jan. 1 2010

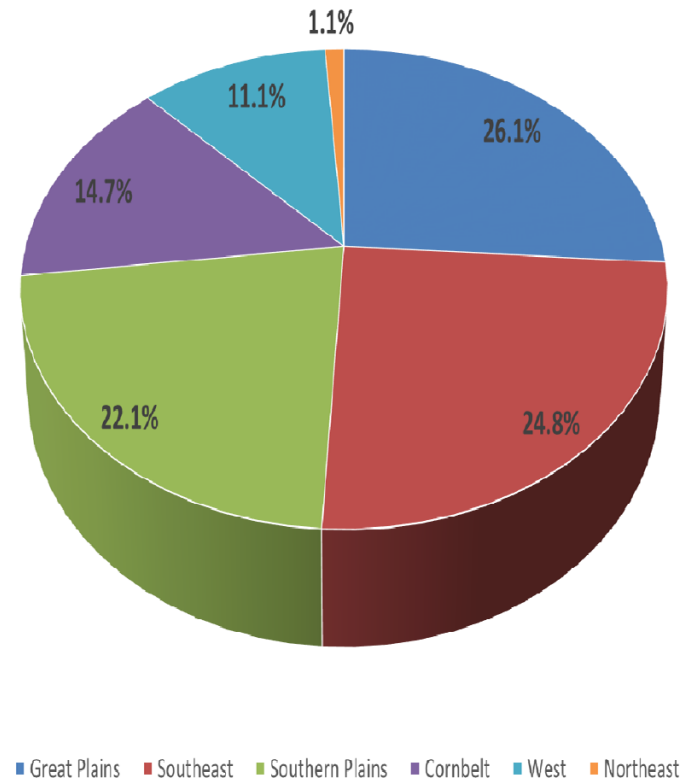


Data Source: USDA-NASS,
Compiled by LMIC and Tonsor

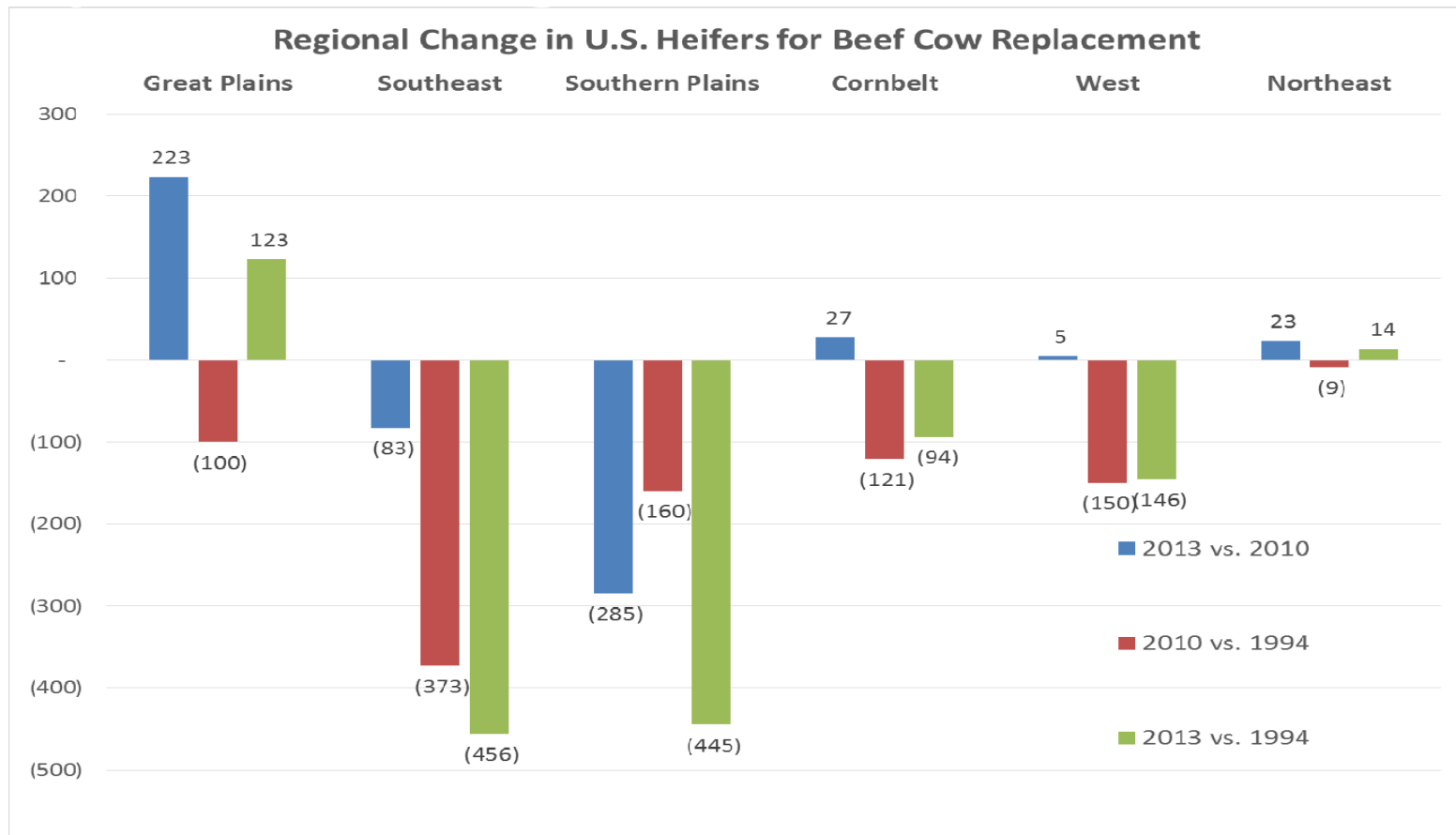
Regional Dispersion of U.S. Beef Cows, Jan. 1 2013



Regional Dispersion of U.S. Beef Cows, Jan. 1 1994

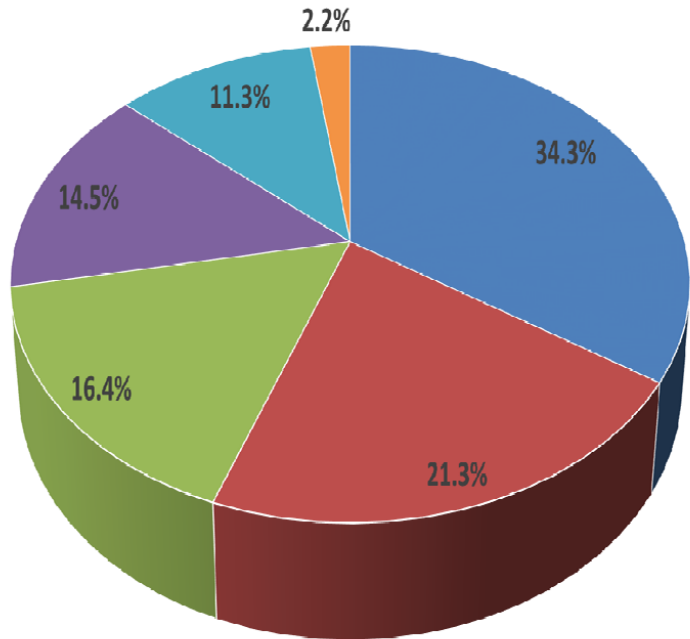


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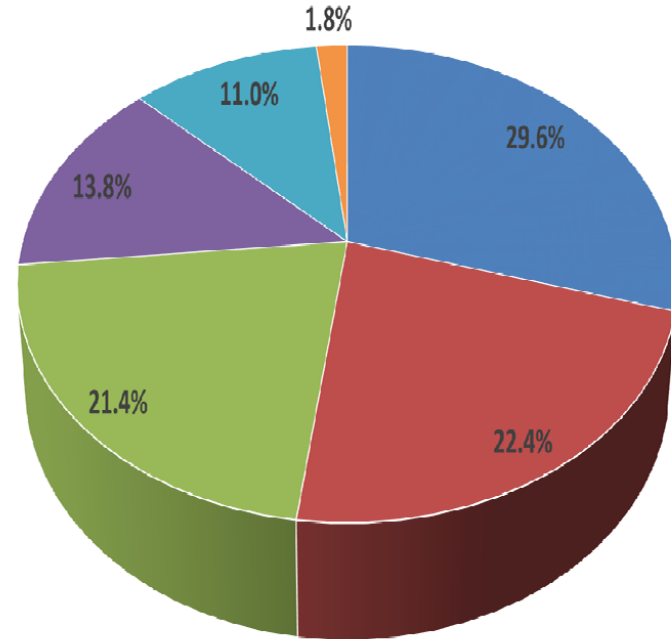
Data Source: USDA-NASS,
Compiled by LMIC and Tonsor

Regional Dispersion of U.S. Heifer Replacements, Jan. 1 2013



■ Great Plains ■ Southeast ■ Southern Plains ■ Cornbelt ■ West ■ Northeast

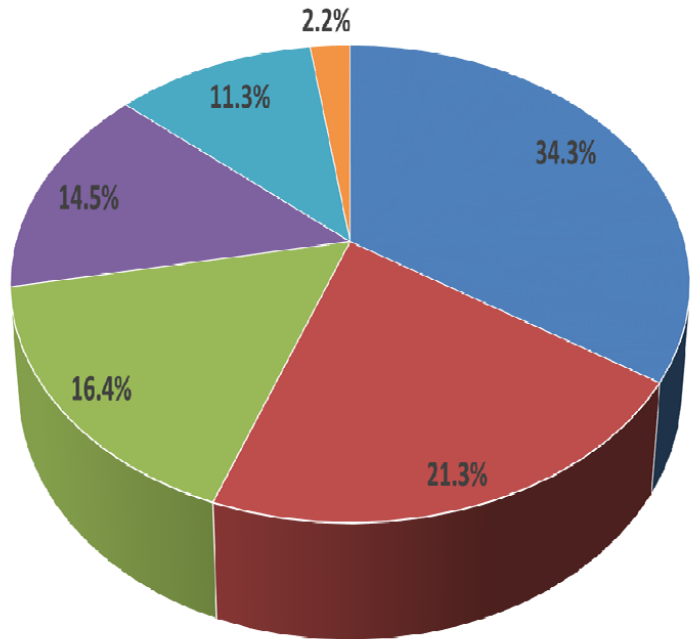
Regional Dispersion of U.S. Heifer Replacements, Jan. 1 2010



■ Great Plains ■ Southeast ■ Southern Plains ■ Cornbelt ■ West ■ Northeast

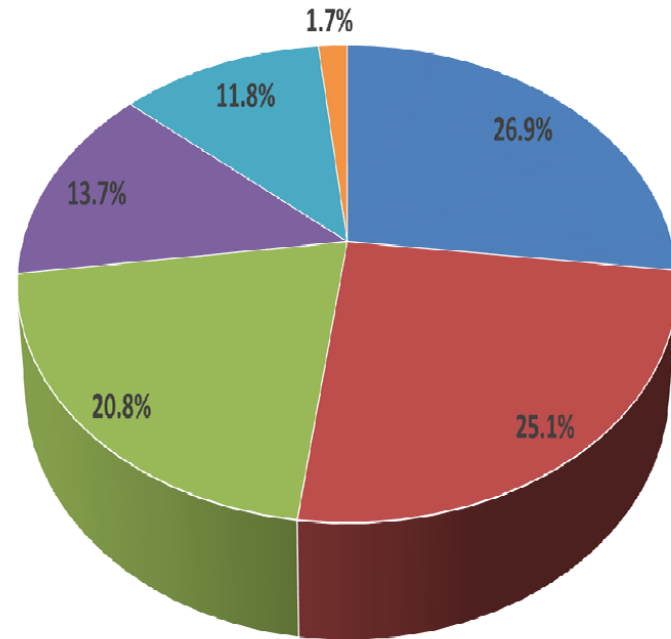
Data Source: USDA-NASS,
Compiled by LMIC and Tonsor

Regional Dispersion of U.S. Heifer Replacements, Jan. 1 2013



■ Great Plains ■ Southeast ■ Southern Plains ■ Cornbelt ■ West ■ Northeast

Regional Dispersion of U.S. Heifer Replacements, Jan. 1 1994



■ Great Plains ■ Southeast ■ Southern Plains ■ Cornbelt ■ West ■ Northeast

- Summary
 - Drought led to “Southern Plains heavy” culling
 - Crop-forage land allocation pressure varies
 - COP varies for several reasons
- Conclusion:
 - Southern Plains will rebuild some
 - SE & Heartland will continue trend of relative decline
 - Great/N. Plains & West will resume relative growth
 - Nationally more intense/alternative cow management likely necessary given land constraints...

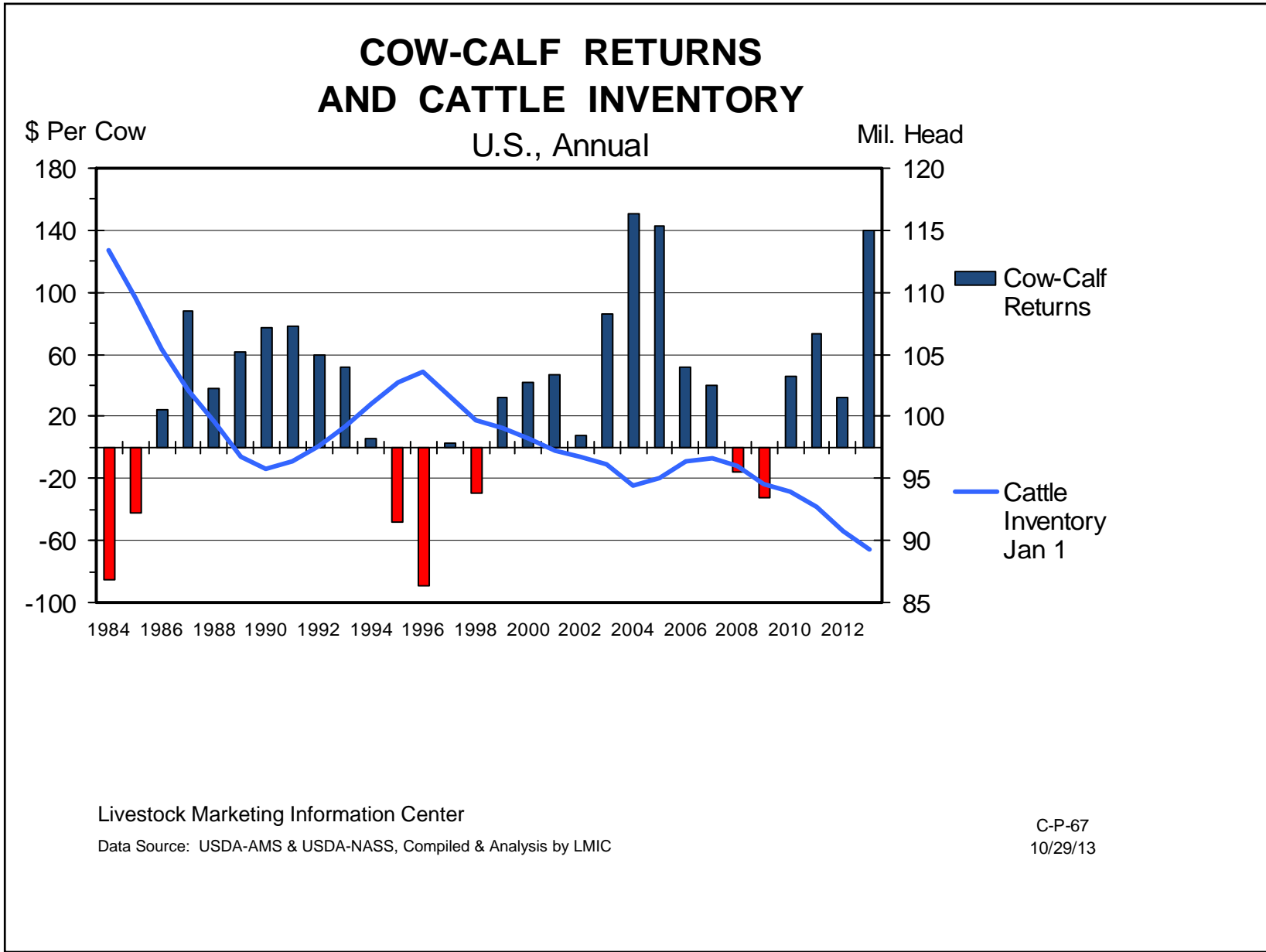


Table 1. Beef Cows that Calved (1,000 hd)								
<i>State / Region</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>1994 (% of US)</i>	<i>2004 (% of US)</i>	<i>2010 (% of US)</i>	<i>2013 (% of US)</i>
TX	5,800	5,383	5,140	4,015	16.8%	16.5%	16.4%	13.7%
NE	1,920	1,848	1,781	1,805	5.5%	5.7%	5.7%	6.2%
MO	2,200	2,085	1,968	1,757	6.4%	6.4%	6.3%	6.0%
OK	1,853	1,920	2,073	1,754	5.4%	5.9%	6.6%	6.0%
SD	1,598	1,711	1,618	1,688	4.6%	5.3%	5.2%	5.8%
MT	1,478	1,432	1,465	1,506	4.3%	4.4%	4.7%	5.1%
KS	1,473	1,550	1,434	1,328	4.3%	4.8%	4.6%	4.5%
KY	1,155	1,128	1,070	1,028	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	3.5%
IA	1,075	974	885	925	3.1%	3.0%	2.8%	3.2%
ND	941	937	869	922	2.7%	2.9%	2.8%	3.1%
US	34,603	32,531	31,371	29,295				
Great Plains	9,023	8,766	8,575	8,658	26.1%	26.9%	27.3%	29.6%
Southeast	8,597	8,022	7,560	7,204	24.8%	24.7%	24.1%	24.6%
Southern Plains	7,653	7,303	7,213	5,769	22.1%	22.4%	23.0%	19.7%
Cornbelt	5,100	4,705	4,487	4,271	14.7%	14.5%	14.3%	14.6%
West	3,844	3,404	3,193	3,054	11.1%	10.5%	10.2%	10.4%
Northeast	386	331	343	340	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%

Source: USDA data, compiled by LMIC, modified for presentation by Glynn Tonsor. Regions defined as: *Great Plains* (CO, KS, MT, NE, ND, SD, WY), *Southeast* (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV), *Southern Plains* (OK, TX), *Cornbelt* (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI), and *West* (AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA).

Originally posted in February 4, 2013 *In The Cattle Markets* article.

Table 2. Heifers for Beef Cow Replacement (1,000 hd)								
<i>State / Region</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>1994 (% of US)</i>	<i>2004 (% of US)</i>	<i>2010 (% of US)</i>	<i>2013 (% of US)</i>
TX	980	740	760	600	15.4%	13.4%	13.9%	11.2%
NE	260	280	320	350	4.1%	5.1%	5.9%	6.5%
MO	370	280	280	270	5.8%	5.1%	5.1%	5.0%
OK	345	370	405	280	5.4%	6.7%	7.4%	5.2%
SD	280	290	285	315	4.4%	5.3%	5.2%	5.9%
MT	355	420	340	435	5.6%	7.6%	6.2%	8.1%
KS	280	230	240	230	4.4%	4.2%	4.4%	4.3%
KY	205	160	150	150	3.2%	2.9%	2.8%	2.8%
IA	160	125	130	150	2.5%	2.3%	2.4%	2.8%
ND	190	156	165	207	3.0%	2.8%	3.0%	3.9%
US	6,364	5,508	5,451	5,361				
Great Plains	1,715	1,631	1,615	1,838	26.9%	29.6%	29.6%	34.3%
Southeast	1,596	1,266	1,223	1,140	25.1%	23.0%	22.4%	21.3%
Southern Plains	1,325	1,110	1,165	880	20.8%	20.2%	21.4%	16.4%
Cornbelt	873	777	752	779	13.7%	14.1%	13.8%	14.5%
West	749	630	599	603	11.8%	11.4%	11.0%	11.3%
Northeast	107	94	97	120	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	2.2%

Source: USDA data, compiled by LMIC, modified for presentation by Glynn Tonsor. Regions defined as: *Great Plains* (CO, KS, MT, NE, ND, SD, WY), *Southeast* (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV), *Southern Plains* (OK, TX), *Cornbelt* (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI), and *West* (AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA).

Originally posted in February 4, 2013 *In The Cattle Markets* article.

Broader Perspective

- The Center For Food Integrity (@foodintegrity) tweeted on Wed, Sep 04, 2013:

“Science tells us if we can
do something.

Society tells us if we
should do it.”

-- See recent *In the Cattle Markets* article:

<http://www.lmic.info/memberspublic/InTheCattleMarket.html>

Global Beef Production Trends

Top Global Beef Exporting Countries: Cattle Inventory Status Update, 000 Head

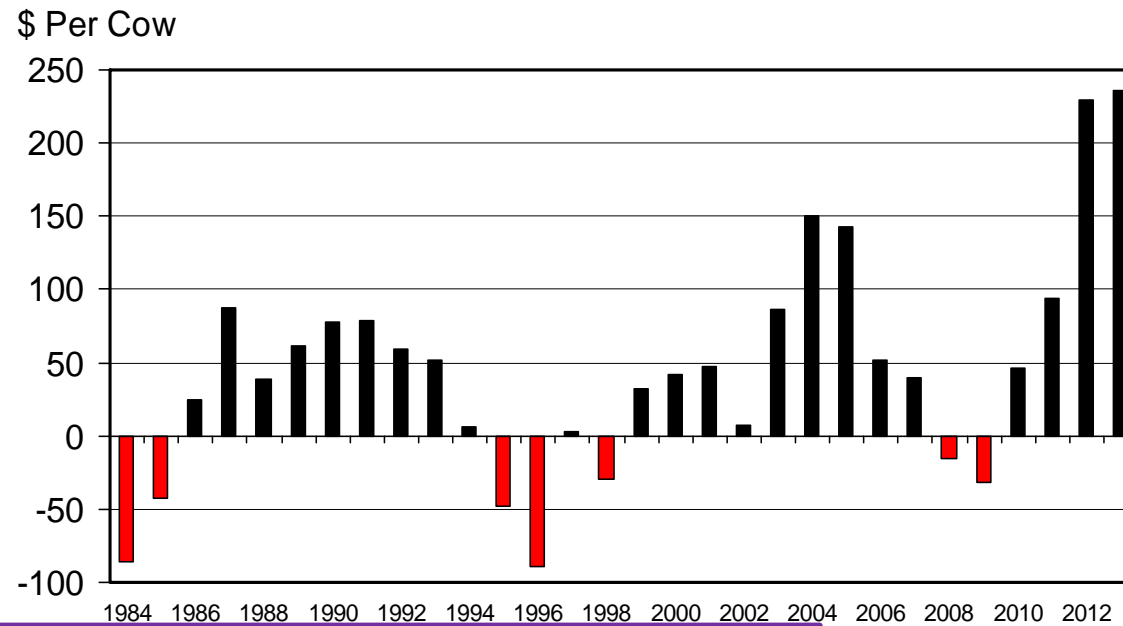
	2011	2012	2013F	% ch. vs. 2012	2014F	% ch. vs. 2013	% ch. vs. 2012	% ch. vs. 2011
Australia	27,550	28,506	29,879	4.8%	29,925	0.2%	5.0%	8.6%
Brazil	190,925	197,550	203,273	2.9%	208,638	2.6%	5.6%	9.3%
USA	92,682	90,769	89,300	-1.6%	87,960	-1.5%	-3.1%	-5.1%
New Zealand	9,864	10,021	10,199	1.8%	10,127	-0.7%	1.1%	2.7%
Uruguay	11,241	11,232	11,384	1.4%	11,604	1.9%	3.3%	3.2%
Canada	12,155	12,215	12,320	0.9%	12,380	0.5%	1.4%	1.9%
Mexico	21,456	20,090	18,521	-7.8%	17,337	-6.4%	-13.7%	-19.2%
Argentina	48,156	49,597	51,095	3.0%	52,195	2.2%	5.2%	8.4%

Source: Estimates for 2014 are from Unofficial USDA Post Estimates. US 2014 estimate is from Steiner

<http://www.dailylivestockreport.com/documents/dlr%2010-11-13.pdf>

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COW CALF RETURNS

Returns Over Cash Cost (Includes Pasture Rent), Annual



**TREND: PROMISING YET
UNFULLFILLED TO-DATE
HERD EXPANSION**

C-P-66
03/21/12

