

By [Michael Fielding](#) on 2/24/2014

This will continue to pressure the market— PLAN AHEAD!!

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on Feb. 1, according to USDA's latest Cattle on Feed report.

The inventory was 3 percent below Feb. 1, 2013. "Should it prove accurate, the February 1 COF figure of 96 percent of last year's level will mark the 17th straight month of smaller inventories, year-on-year, in these 1000 head-plus lots," economists Steve Meyer and Len Steiner wrote in their Feb. 19 Daily Livestock Report.

Placements in feedlots during January totaled 2.03 million, 9 percent above the same period in 2013. Net placements were 1.96 million head. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 470,000, 600-699 pounds were 440,000, 700-799 pounds were 560,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 559,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.79 million, 5 percent below the same period in 2013. Other disappearance totaled 71,000 during January, 10 percent below 2013.