

GENERAL EXPLANATIONS Continued

Table 12. **Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales by Number Per Farm: 1974**

Farms With Sales of \$2,500 and Over	Inventory				Sales			
	Farms (1,000)	Percent	Number (1,000)	Percent	Farms (1,000)	Percent	Number (1,000)	Percent
Farms.....	1,079.6	100.0	104,292	100.0	1,071.9	100.0	67,253	100.0
Cattle and calves per farm:								
1 to 9.....	85.7	8.0	421	.4	253.3	23.6	1,271	1.9
10 to 19.....	116.6	10.8	1,658	1.6	247.6	23.1	3,456	5.1
20 to 49.....	327.6	30.3	10,768	10.3	341.7	31.9	10,384	15.4
50 to 99.....	285.0	26.4	19,674	18.9	127.3	11.9	8,531	12.7
100 to 199.....	167.2	15.5	22,247	21.3	58.0	5.4	7,739	11.5
200 to 499.....	75.2	7.0	21,574	20.7	31.8	3.0	9,237	13.7
500 to 999.....	15.3	1.4	10,056	9.6	7.7	.7	5,090	7.6
1,000 to 2,499.....	5.5	.5	7,895	7.6	3.1	.3	4,438	6.6
2,500 and over.....	1.6	.1	9,999	9.6	1.4	.1	17,109	25.4

Table 13. **Cows by Number Per Farm: 1974, 1969, and 1964**

Farms With Sales of \$2,500 and Over	1974	1969	1964
Farms.....	938,054	1,018,131	1,210,982
Cows per farm:			
1 to 4.....	65,177	87,838	164,746
5 to 9.....	75,661	94,984	135,840
10 to 19.....	169,667	220,025	289,471
20 to 29.....	154,925	186,680	221,873
30 to 49.....	203,067	213,282	214,762
50 to 99.....	172,375	142,216	122,608
100 to 199.....	65,412	49,700	41,042
200 to 499.....	25,566	19,034	
500 to 999.....	4,535	3,162	20,640
1,000 and over.....	1,669	1,210	

Table 14. **Cows, Milk Cows, and Beef Cows: 1900 to 1974**

	Total cows, including heifers that had calved (millions)	Milk cows (millions)	Beef cows, including heifers that had calved (millions)
1974...	51.9	10.7	41.2
1969...	45.5	11.2	34.3
1964...	47.3	14.6	32.7
1959...	41.3	16.5	24.8
1954...	45.2	20.2	25.0
1950...	37.3	21.2	16.1
1940...	33.6	24.1	9.5
1930...	28.3	20.5	7.8
1920...	32.4	19.7	12.7
1900...	28.7	17.1	11.6

Those farms with cows are increasing the size of their herds. From 1969 to 1974, there was a 33-percent increase in the number of farms having cow herds of 100 head or more. The inventory number of cows other than milk cows (beef cows) increased by 7 million in the 5-year period (table 14).

Farms selling cattle and calves decreased by 13 percent from 1969 to 1974, and the total number of cattle and calves sold decreased by 6.1 percent.

On farms with a value of sales of \$2,500 and over, cattle sold, excluding

Table 15. **Cattle, Excluding Calves, and Number Fattened on Grain and Concentrates—Sales by Number Sold Per Farm: 1974 and 1969**

	Cattle, excluding calves sold			
	Farms		Number	
	1974	1969	1974	1969
Farms....	869,485	891,203	49,843,468	41,131,336
Cattle sold per farm:				
1 to 19....	541,361	647,907	4,239,643	4,171,593
20 to 49....	189,357	133,584	5,654,011	3,971,962
50 to 99....	70,231	51,578	4,711,416	3,494,269
100 to 199....	36,494	29,964	4,864,879	4,048,310
200 to 499....	22,351	19,577	6,482,925	5,767,251
500 and over.....	9,691	8,593	23,890,594	19,677,951
500 to 999.....	5,861	5,167	3,852,078	3,430,896
1,000 and over....	3,830	3,426	20,038,516	16,247,055
	Cattle fattened on grain and concentrates sold			
	Farms		Number	
	1974	1969	1974	1969
Farms....	210,725	146,748	26,070,304	22,988,615
Cattle sold per farm:				
1 to 19....	117,800	64,689	935,172	529,171
20 to 49....	46,316	33,002	1,390,547	1,025,757
50 to 99....	20,177	19,352	1,365,193	1,338,112
100 to 199....	12,463	14,083	1,680,394	1,929,992
200 to 499....	9,180	10,760	2,694,065	3,201,313
500 and over.....	4,789	4,862	18,004,933	14,964,270
500 to 999.....	2,586	2,805	1,720,156	1,870,773
1,000 and over....	2,203	2,057	16,284,777	13,093,497
1,000 to 2,499....	1,244	(NA)	1,772,987	(NA)
2,500 and over....	959	(NA)	14,511,790	(NA)

Table 16. **Milk Cows on Farms: 1974 and 1969**

All Farms	1974		1969	
	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent
United States, total.....	10,654,516	100.0	11,174,521	100.0
Northeast.....	2,008,146	18.8	2,022,877	18.1
North central....	5,015,836	47.1	5,396,943	48.3
South.....	2,158,808	20.3	2,442,385	21.9
West.....	1,471,726	13.8	1,312,316	11.9

calves sold, decreased by 2 percent. Most of this decrease was on farms from which less than 10 head were sold. These farms accounted for almost 16 percent of all cattle sold from farms with sales of \$2,500 and over.

In 1969, both cattle and calves fattened on grain or concentrates for 30 days or more and sold for slaughter were counted; however in 1974, operators were asked to count as fattened cattle only those weighing 500 pounds or more and fattened on grain or concentrates for 30 days or more and sold for slaughter.

Farms fattening cattle on grains and concentrates for slaughter increased by 44 percent between 1969 and 1974. In 1969, 65 percent of fattened cattle were sold from farms selling 500 head or more. By 1974, the percentage of fattened cattle sold coming from these farms had increased to nearly 70 percent (table 15)

Milk

The U.S. milk cow inventory on Dec. 31, 1974, was 10.7 million cows—5 percent below 1969. Farms having milk cows numbered 404,000. Approximately 247,000 farms with sales of \$2,500 and over had sales of dairy products. The value of dairy products sold from these farms was \$8.2 billion and accounted for 21 percent of the total value of livestock, poultry, and their products sold from farms with sales of \$2,500 and over in 1974 (table 16).

Milk production in the United States is largely concentrated in the Northeast and Great Lakes States and in California. These 16 States accounted for 64 percent of the total value of dairy products sold from farms with sales of \$2,500 and over in 1974; they also accounted for 64 percent of the farms with sales of \$2,500 and over reporting dairy products sold in the United States. Among these States, Wisconsin and California led with 2.5 million or 23.5 percent of these cows.

The Nation's milk supply is being produced by fewer but larger herds; small herds no longer play the important role in milk production they once did. The number of milk cows also have been