Where’s the Beef In Wisconsin?

Wisconsin Beef Cattle Industry Facts

Ranks 3rd in the United States for increasing cattle numbers with 265,000 head of beef cattle
- Only 18 states are not decreasing herd size, of that only Nebraska and Washington are gaining more than Wisconsin.

Wisconsin has over 500 more beef than dairy farms with 14,800 beef farms
- 17th in the nation for number of farms with beef cattle
- Average herd size is 18 head

Ranks 12th in US for number of cattle on feed with 250,000 head
- Number of cattle on feed has doubled since 1987
- Average feedlot size is 28 head

Beef Cattle are ranked 3rd in agricultural cash receipts for the state behind dairy and corn
- In the upper Midwest Wisconsin is the only state to list beef in the top three

Ranks 5th in the US for cattle harvested
- Accounts for 5% of all cattle harvested in the US
- Produces 2.264 billion pounds of beef yearly
- Is ranked 2nd nationally for number of meat processing plants
- Provides 18% of the nation’s ground beef supply

Wisconsin is the home to 3 of the 4 largest AI Companies
- ABS Global, Inc., Genex Cooperative, Inc., and Accelerated Genetics

Top 10 Wisconsin Counties in Beef Cattle Numbers

1. Grant 6. Crawford
2. Iowa 7. Sauk
3. Lafayette 8. Buffalo
5. Monroe 10. Marathon

Wisconsin Beef Information Center
http://fyi.uwex.edu/wbic/
### Where does Wisconsin rank?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>No. Beef Cows</th>
<th>Avg Herd Size</th>
<th>No. Beef Operations</th>
<th>Top 3 Ag Total Receipts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>235,000</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12,700</td>
<td>Corn, beans, Hogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>429,000</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14,800</td>
<td>Corn, Soybeans, Hogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>904,000</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>20,800</td>
<td>Corn, Soybeans, Hogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14,400</td>
<td>Corn, Soybeans, Hogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>2,089,000</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>51,300</td>
<td>Soybeans, Corn, <strong>Cattle/calves</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>109,500</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7,900</td>
<td>Dairy, Corn, Soybeans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>294,000</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17,400</td>
<td>Soybeans, Corn, Dairy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wisconsin</strong></td>
<td><strong>265,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,800</strong></td>
<td>Dairy, Corn, <strong>Cattle/calves</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Beef Cow Cattle Inventory January 1**

Since 1986 Beef Cow Inventory has...
Decreased by 8.5% in United States
Grown by 44% in Wisconsin

Last Updated August, 2011

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