

## Nebraska Livestock Facts

- \$11.7 billion – the value of the Nebraska livestock industry, accounting for nearly half of Nebraska agriculture receipts.
- \$3.5 billion in grain is consumed annually by Nebraska livestock; making livestock the largest consumer of Nebraska corn, soybeans, and sorghum.
- 76,600 jobs are directly or indirectly associated with animal agriculture as estimated by Nebraska Public Power District economists.
- \$13.2 billion in total economic impacts (direct and secondary) of the animal industry sector.
- 1 in 3 jobs in Nebraska are dependent on agriculture/agribusiness.
- Livestock operations generate significant amounts of tax revenue each year that helps pay for schools and community services enjoyed by everyone.
- Livestock can be a way to grow a family operation and create opportunities for the younger generations to live and work on the farm and in rural communities.

### Livestock Friendly County

It's a sign that your county supports and encourages animal agriculture.

## Livestock by the Numbers

### Nebraska's National Rankings

- 1st – Commercial red meat production, 2012
- 1st – Commercial cattle slaughter, 2012
- 1st – Cattle on feed, Feb, 2014
- 2nd – All cattle and calves, 2013
- 4th – Cash receipts from all livestock, 2014
- 4th – Beef cows, 2014
- 5th – Calves born, 2013
- 6th – All hogs and pigs on farms, 2013
- 7th – Commercial hog slaughter, 2013
- 10th – Commercial egg production, 2013
- 10th – Laying hens, 2013
- 26th – Dairy production, 2013

- *Courtesy of USDA NASS, NE Field Office, 2014*

### For more information:

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Department of Agriculture

**Supporting  
Nebraska's  
Livestock  
Industry**



## Livestock in Nebraska

Nebraska has a long history of livestock production. Even before statehood, settlers drove cattle north from Texas to graze in the Sandhills. Railhead shipping points like the one in Ogallala ensured a market for Nebraska's beef.

Since those days, livestock has remained firmly ingrained in our way of life. Nebraska has the natural resources to produce high quality livestock to meet consumer demand.

Today, livestock production consumes Nebraska produced feed grains, contributes to the tax base, and provides an opportunity for our sons and daughters to remain in rural Nebraska.

### Livestock Friendly Counties

December 2014

Adams	Box Butte	Banner
Cuming	Dawes	Dawson
Deuel	Dodge	Gage
Garden	Grant	Hitchcock
Holt	Jefferson	Knox
Johnson	Keith	Kimball
Lincoln	Merrick	Morrill
Otoe	Pawnee	Saline
Saunders	Scotts Bluff	Sheridan
Wayne	Webster	

## What is the Livestock Friendly County Program?

The Livestock Friendly County Program is a voluntary program that recognizes counties that actively support and nurture the livestock industry.

Created by the Nebraska Legislature in 2003, the program helps create a partnership between the county and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to encourage development in the livestock sector and to recognize the significance of livestock on our rural economy.



## Why a Livestock Friendly County Program for Nebraska?

Livestock production is one of Nebraska's largest industries, contributing nearly \$12 billion directly to our state's economy; much of this in rural communities.

Livestock production also creates demand for other products and services including veterinarian, feed, hardware, construction, mechanical, and many, many others.

## How does a County Apply?

The county board of commissioners/supervisors must:

- Hold a public hearing and approve a resolution to apply for the designation.
- Complete the application form including copies of currently existing documents and regulations.
- The county does not need to create any new documents.
- All counties are welcome to apply.

Local producer and community groups can encourage their county board to submit a Livestock Friendly County application.

## What are the Benefits?

Every county has something to gain from pursuing the designation. Through the application process a county will evaluate its goals and how livestock can be a dynamic component in the county's economic future.

Being designated Livestock Friendly is a sign of support for the livestock industry and all businesses in the county. This gives businesses the confidence to make long-term decisions about investing in and expanding operations.