National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) Beef 2007–08 Study

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) NAHMS is planning its Beef 2007–08 national study. The information needs assessment phase, in which input is solicited from all stakeholders, is currently underway and will help establish the study objectives. The study objectives will be announced by Spring 2007. Twenty-four States have been selected to participate in the study (see map below).

On October 1, 2007, enumerators from USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service will schedule initial interviews with approximately 4,000 beef producers from the participating States. The second phase of the study will begin in January 2008 when veterinary medical officers representing the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will begin conducting followup interviews with beef producers who indicate further interest in the study.

Data gathered in the last NAHMS’ cow-calf study, Beef ’97, provided valuable information on health, production and management practices. The Beef 2007–08 study will update this information, monitor trends within the beef industry, and address areas of utmost concern for producers and industry stakeholders. Beef 2007–08 results will be published in 2008 and early 2009.