



# U.S. Beef Facts

**1** **91%** of beef farms and ranches are family owned, and **1/3** of farms in the US raise beef cattle.

Today's beef producers are producing the same amount of beef as 1977 with **33% fewer cattle**. This is due to improvements in **animal health, nutrition and genetics**. **2**

**3** Cattle are upcyclers, which means that for every *1 pound of feed protein*, they produce *1.19 lbs of beef protein*.

A 3 oz. serving of beef provides *25 grams of high quality protein and 10 essential nutrients*. **4**

**5** The average herd size for beef cattle in the US is **40 head** and all **50 states** are home to cow-calf operations.

Before it reaches your plate, grain finished cattle will spend approximately **5-7 months** with their mothers on *cow-calf operations*, then may be moved to a *stocker or backgrinder operation* before being sent to a **feedlot** at **6-12 months of age** where they will spend **4-6 months** under the care of a team of nutritionists, veterinarians and caregivers until they reach market weight and are *processed*. **6**