

# COLORADO

## Cattle, Sheep and Goat Inventory

### SPECIAL PRESS RELEASE



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA NASS Colorado Field Office**  
P.O. Box 150969  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
Phone(303)236-2300

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### CATTLE INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2008

#### COLORADO

The January 1, 2008 inventory of all cattle and calves in Colorado totaled 2.75 million head, up 50,000 head from January 1, 2007. Beef cows, at 730,000 head, were up 5,000 from the previous year. Milk cows increased 5,000 head from last year to 120,000 head. Colorado's 2007 calf crop was up 1 percent from 2006 to 790,000.

Other class estimates as of January 1, 2008 and percent changes from 2007 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, up 13 percent from last year to 130,000; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, up 17 percent to 70,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, up 5 percent to 590,000; steers 500 pounds and over, down 4 percent to 890,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, up 11 percent to 50,000; and calves under 500 pounds, up 13 percent to 170,000 head. The total inventory included 1,140,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, which was up 1 percent from January 1, 2007.

#### UNITED STATES

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2008, totaled 96.7 million head, slightly below the 97.0 million on January 1, 2007. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.8 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.0 million on January 1, 2007. Beef cows, at 32.6 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 2007. Milk cows, at 9.22 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2007. Other class estimates on January 1, 2008, and the change from January 1, 2007, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, down slightly. Beef replacement heifers, 5.67 million, down 4 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.46 million, up 3 percent. Other heifers, 9.88 million, down slightly. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 17.3 million, up slightly. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down slightly. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.4 million, down 1 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.3 million, up slightly. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, down slightly. The 2007 calf crop was estimated at 37.4 million head, down slightly from 2006. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.2 million, down 1 percent from 2006.

### SHEEP & LAMB INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2008

#### COLORADO

The January 1, 2008 inventory of all sheep and lambs in Colorado totaled 420,000 head, up 5 percent from the 400,000 on hand as of January 1, 2007. The number of breeding sheep and lambs was unchanged from last year at 190,000 head while the number of market sheep and lambs increased 10 percent to 230,000. There was a 6 percent increase in the number of replacement lambs to 34,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older decreased 1 percent from last year to 150,000 head, while the number of rams one year old and older remained unchanged from last year at 6,000 head. Of the 230,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 2,000 head were market sheep and 228,000 head were market lambs. There were 4,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, up 3,000 from a year earlier; 28,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, up 8,000 from the previous year; 41,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 37,000 last year; and 155,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with the 150,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2007. The 2007 lamb crop, at 180,000 head, was down 5 percent from the 2006 lamb crop of 190,000.

Wool production in Colorado during 2007 totaled 2.70 million pounds, up from 2.6 million pounds produced in 2006. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 400,000 head, was up 5 percent from 380,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2007 totaled \$2.70 million, up 39 percent from a year earlier as producers received 100 dollar per pound of wool sold compared with 75 cents per pound the previous year.

## UNITED STATES

**All sheep and lamb inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 6.06 million head, down 2 percent from 2007. After consecutive increases in 2005 and 2006, inventory has now declined for the past two years.

**Breeding sheep inventory** decreased to 4.51 million head on January 1, 2008, down 2 percent from the 4.61 million head on January 1, 2007. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.62 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

**Market sheep and lambs** on January 1, 2008, totaled 1.55 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2007. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 26 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings.

**The 2007 lamb crop** of 4.05 million head, was down slightly from 200. The 2007 lambing rate was 110 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2007, down 1 percent from 2006.

**Shorn wool production** in the United States during 2007 was 34.5 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.71 million head, down 3 percent from 2006. The average price paid for wool sold in 2007 was \$0.88 per pound for a total value of 30.3 million dollars, up 23 percent from 24.5 million dollars in 2006.

## GOAT INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2008

### COLORADO

**All goat inventory** in Colorado on January 1, 2008, totaled 43,000 head. Meat and all other goats accounted for 32,000 head compared with 35,000 on January 1, 2007. Milk goats totaled 9,000 head, up from 8,000 head a year ago, and Angora goats were up to 2,000 head from 1,500 head last year.

## UNITED STATES

### Total Goat and Kid Inventory Up 3 Percent

**All goat inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 3.02 million head, up 3 percent from 2007. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.50 million head up 2 percent from 2007. **All market goats and kids** totaled 520,000 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2008 **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.50 million head, up 4 percent from 2007. **Milk goat** inventory increased 4 percent to 305,000 head while **angora goats** were down 12 percent totaling 210,000 head. The 2007 **kid crop** totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, up 1 percent from 2006.

**Mohair production** in the United States during 2007 was 1.14 million pounds. **Goats and kids clipped** totaled 185,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.20 pounds. **Mohair price** was \$3.78 per pound with a value of 4.31 million dollars.