



In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
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Sheep Inventory

Iowa: All sheep and lambs inventory at 260,000 head, up 10.6 percent from last year. Total breeding stock, at 180,000 head, increased by 2.9 percent from a year ago. Compared to last year, market sheep and lambs increased 33.3 percent to 80,000 head, and the lamb crop increased 9.5 percent to 230,000 head.

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 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 2006. The 2007 lambing rate was 110 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2007, down 1 percent from 2006.

**All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class,
Iowa and United States, January, 2007-2008**

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Sheep and Lambs	235	260	111	6,165.0	6,055.0	98
Total Breeding Sheep	175	180	103	4,610.0	4,505.0	98
Ewes	141	148	105	3,696.0	3,617.0	98
Rams	8	8	100	195.0	193.0	99
Replacement Lambs	26	24	92	719.0	695.0	97
Total Market	60	80	133	1,555.0	1,550.0	100
	2006	2007	2007 as % of 2006	2006	2007	2007 as % of 2006
Lamb Crop	210	230	110	4,065.0	4,050.0	100

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