



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

Iowa: All sheep and lambs inventory at 200,000 head, down 11.1 percent from last year. Total breeding stock, at 145,000 head, decreased by 10.5 percent from a year ago. Compared to last year, market sheep and lambs decreased 12.7 percent to 55,000 head, and the lamb crop decreased 6.15 percent to 183,000 head.

United States: All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2009, totaled 5.75 million head, down 3 percent from 2008.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.25 million head on January 1, 2009, down 4 percent from 4.43 million head on January 1, 2008. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.40 million head, were 4 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2009, totaled 1.50 million head, down 1 percent from January 1,

2008. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-three percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 11 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 39 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings.

The 2008 lamb crop of 3.71 million head, was down 5 percent from 2007. The 2008 lambing rate was 105 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2008, down 3 percent from 2007.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2008 was 33.0 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2007. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.43 million head, down 5 percent from 2007. The average price paid for wool sold in 2008 was \$0.99 per pound for a total value of 32.5 million dollars, up 7 percent from 30.2 million dollars in 2007.

**All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class,
Iowa and United States, January, 2008-2009**

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008
	<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	225	200	89	5,950.0	5,747.0	97
Total Breeding Sheep	162	145	90	4,431.5	4,247.0	96
Ewes	130	120	92	3,540.0	3,403.5	96
Rams	8	7	88	194.5	195.0	100
Replacement Lambs	24	18	75	697.0	648.5	93
Total Market	63	55	87	1,518.5	1,500.0	99
	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
Lamb Crop	195	183	94	3,895.0	3,710.0	95

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