



Iowa Ag News - Sheep

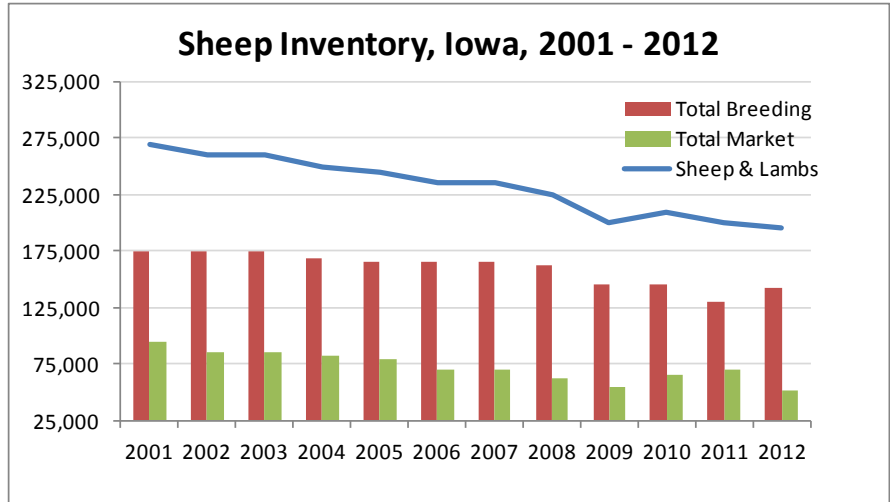
Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 284-4340 · (800) 772-0825
fax (515) 284-4342 or (800) 719-1794 · www.nass.usda.gov/ia

Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

January 27, 2012

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

All sheep and lambs inventory in Iowa totaled 195,000 head, down nearly 3 percent from last year according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total breeding stock, at 143,000 head, is approximately 13 percent higher than a year ago. Compared to last year, market sheep and lambs decreased nearly 29 percent to 52,000 head, and the lamb crop decreased nearly 3 percent to 155,000.



All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, Iowa and United States, January, 2011-2012

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	200	195	98	5,480.0	5,345.0	98
Total breeding sheep	127	143	113	4,080.0	3,975.0	97
Ewes	104	115	111	3,255.0	3,155.0	97
Rams	5	5	100	190.0	170.0	89
Replacement lambs	18	23	128	665.0	650.0	98
Total market	73	52	71	1,400.0	1,370.0	98
	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010
Lamb crop	160	155	97	3,570	3,510	98

United States Inventory

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2012, totaled 5.35 million head, down 2 percent from 2011. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 3.98 million head on January 1, 2012, down 3 percent from 4.08 million head on January 1, 2011. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.16 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2012, totaled 1.37 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2011. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Twenty-two percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 22 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 38 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2011 lamb crop of 3.51 million head, was down 2 percent from 2010. The 2011 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2011, an increase of 2 percent from 2010.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2011 was 29.3 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2010. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.03 million head, also down 4 percent from 2010. The average price paid for wool sold in 2011 was a record high \$1.67 per pound for a total value of 48.9 million dollars, up 40 percent from 35.0 million dollars in 2010.

Sheep death loss during 2011 totaled 240 thousand head, an increase of 4 percent from 2010. Lamb death loss increased 3 percent from 370 thousand head in 2010 to 380 thousand head in 2011.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2012, totaled 2.86 million head, down 4 percent from 2011. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.38 million head, down 4 percent from 2011. Does one year old and older, at 1.78 million head, were 3 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 487 thousand head, down 5 percent from a year ago.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

