



AGRI-VIEW

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MORE THAN HALF OF BARLEY ACRES PLANTED TO LACEY

For the second time in three years, Lacey has topped Robust as the variety with the most acres planted to barley. Lacey accounts for 54.6 percent of the state's planted barley acreage, or 71,000 acres. Robust, last year's top barley variety in the state, accounts for 27.8 percent of the state's planted barley acreage or 36,200 acres. Total planted barley acreage for Minnesota in 2008 is estimated at 130,000 acres, unchanged from 2007. The Northwest District contains the largest portion of state's barley acreage at 90,900 acres, followed by the Central District at 15,000 acres, the West Central District at 7,800 acres, and the Southeast District at 6,900 acres. The remaining five districts combined contain an estimated 9,400 acres of barley.

Lacey, a six-row malting variety is characterized by its high yield, medium maturity, good lodging resistance, and kernel plumpness. The Northwest District contains the most Lacey barley, with 55,200 acres. The West Central District accounts for 6,000 acres, the Central District for 4,800 acres, and the Southeast District for 2,100 acres. The remaining districts are estimated to contain 2,900 acres of Lacey barley. Robust, a six-row malting variety is characterized by good kernel plumpness and medium yield, maturity, and lodging resistance. Most of the Robust variety is planted in the Northwest District with 20,900 acres. Robust is also the variety with the largest acreage in the Central District with 7,700 acres. Robust is estimated at 1,900 acres in the Southeast District and 1,700 acres in the West Central District. The five remaining districts contain an estimated 4,000 acres of Robust barley. Tradition is the third largest planted barley acreage in the state, with 10,400 acres, or 8.0 percent, and is mostly concentrated in the Northwest District. Tradition is a six-rowed malting variety with high yield and medium maturity, lodging resistance, and kernel plumpness.

Royal, Drummond, and Conlon, all malting varieties, each account for one to three percent of the state planted acreage. Royal has 4,100 acres or 3.2 percent of the state total, with planting concentrated in the Southeast and Central districts. Drummond has 2,800 acres, with plantings spread between districts. Conlon has 2,400 acres, or 1.8 percent of the state total, with planting concentrated in the Northwest District.

The remaining 3,100 acres of the state's barley acreage are attributed to other varieties including: Excel, Legacy, Stellar-ND, MNBrite, Morex, Stander, Haybet, Stark, M109 and Hazen. The American Malting Barley Association, Inc. (AMBA) has recommended the following Two-Row Malting Barley Varieties for 2008: AC Metcalfe, CDC Copeland, Conlon, Conrad, Craft, Harrington, Merit, and Scarlett. The following are Six-Row Malting Barley varieties as recommended by the AMBA for 2008: Drummond, Foster, Lacey, Legacy, Robust, Stander, Stellar-ND, and Tradition. Barley varietal information was provided by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Minnesota. Partial funding for this variety survey was provided by the American Malting Barley Association, Inc.

BARLEY: PERCENT SEEDED BY VARIETY, MINNESOTA, 2004-2008

Variety	Percent of State Total					2008 Acres Planted
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
Conlon	1/	1/	1.0	1.5	1.8	2,400
Drummond	1/	1/	1/	1/	2.2	2,800
Excel	1.2	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
Lacey	37.8	38.9	43.8	36.8	54.6	71,000
Legacy	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.8	1/	1/
Robust	52.8	49.0	40.8	44.8	27.8	36,200
Royal	2.7	2.0	3.7	2.2	3.2	4,100
Stander	1/	1.4	1/	1/	1/	1/
Stellar-ND	1/	1/	1/	4.3	1/	1/
Tradition	1/	2.6	3.8	6.2	8.0	10,400
Other	4.2	4.1	5.4	2.2	2.4	3,100
STATE	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	130,000

1/ Less than one percent, included in Other.

Note: Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Minnesota Board of
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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 4 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.3 million head on July 1, 2008. The inventory was 4 percent below July 1, 2007, and 5 percent below July 1, 2006. The inventory included 6.43 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.82 million head, down 3 percent from 2007.

Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.51 million, 9 percent below 2007 and 22 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.45 million head. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 365,000, 600-699 pounds were 325,000, 700-799 pounds were 383,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 440,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during June totaled 1.97 million, 8 percent below 2007 and 10 percent below 2006. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of June since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during June, 15 percent above 2007, but 5 percent below 2006.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2006-2007 1/

State	July 1, 2007	June 1, 2008	July 1, 2008		
			Number	as % of 2007	as % of June
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent	Percent
AZ	343	365	356	104	98
CA	545	525	520	95	99
CO	940	920	820	87	89
ID	220	215	200	91	93
IA	510	520	500	98	96
KS	2,140	2,190	2,080	97	95
NE	2,050	2,250	2,050	100	91
NM	132	*150	154	117	103
OK	325	305	300	92	98
SD	197	205	185	94	90
TX	2,870	2,690	2,660	93	99
WA	150	145	140	93	97
Other States	315	335	330	105	99
US	10,737	*10,815	10,295	96	95

* Revised

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

JULY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY DOWN SLIGHTLY

All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 2008, totaled 104.3 million head, slightly below the 104.8 million on July 1, 2007, and down 1 percent from the 105.2 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.4 million, was down slightly from both July 1, 2007, and July 1, 2006.

Beef cows, at 33.2 million, were down 1 percent from July 1, 2007, and 1 percent below two years ago.

Milk cows, at 9.25 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2007, and 1 percent above two years ago.

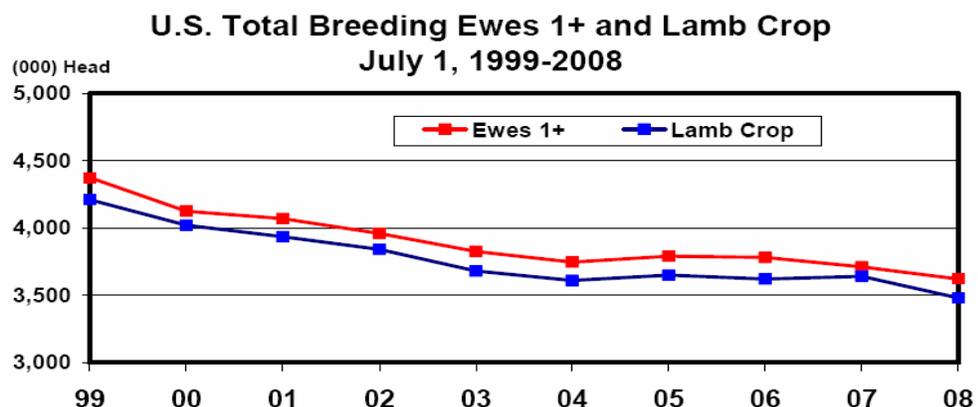
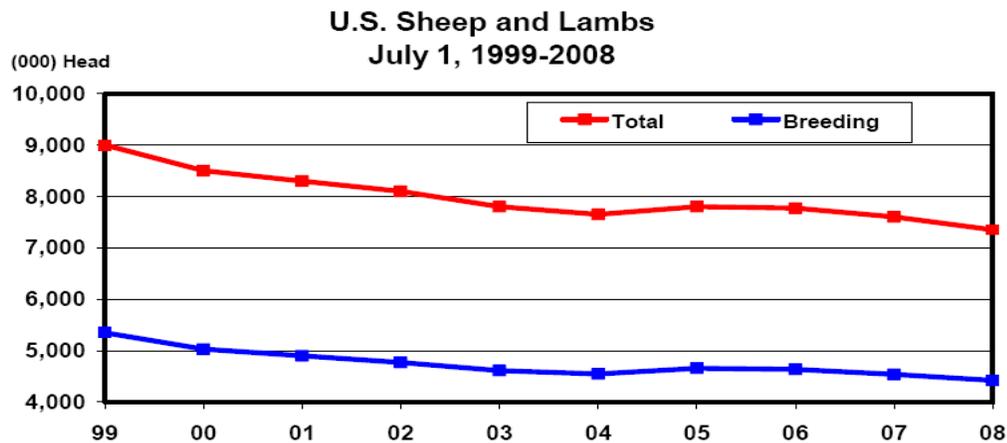
SHEEP, LAMB, AND GOAT INVENTORY

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2008, totaled 7.35 million head, down 3 percent from July 1, 2007, and 5 percent below July 1, 2006. Breeding sheep inventory, at 4.42 million head on July 1, 2008, was down 3 percent from July 1, 2007. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 2.93 million head, were down 4 percent from last July.

The breeding herd consists of 3.62 million ewes one year old and older, 180,000 rams one year old and older, and 620,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). Market lamb inventory, at 2.86 million head, was comprised of 1.67 million lambs under 65 pounds, 595,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 340,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 250,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 75,000 head.

The 2008 lamb crop in the United States is expected to total 3.97 million head, down 2 percent from the 2007 lamb crop of 4.05 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2008 totaled 3.48 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 490,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2008.

All goat inventory on July 1, 2008, totaled 3.73 million head, up 4 percent from the previous July number. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.81 million head, up 4 percent from July 2007. **All market goats and kids** totaled 925,000 head, up 2 percent from the previous July. On July 1, 2008, meat and all other goats totaled 3.15 million head, up 5 percent from July 2007. Milk goat inventory was up 4 percent, increasing to 350,000 head, while **angora goat** numbers fell 12 percent, to 230,000 head. The 2008 **kid crop** is expected to total 2.03 million head, up 5 percent from the 2007 kid crop of 1.94 million head.



JUNE EGG OUTPUT DOWN 3 PERCENT

Minnesota layers produced 226 million eggs during June 2008, versus 234 million in June 2007, down 3 percent from the previous year. Laying flocks in the U.S. produced 7.37 billion eggs in June, nearly equal to a year ago.

POULTRY STATS - JUNE

		2007	2008
Total Eggs Produced	MN	234 Mil.	226 Mil.
	U.S.	7,380 Mil.	7,366 Mil.
Number of Layers	MN	10.6 Mil.	10.0 Mil.
	U.S.	340.2 Mil.	338.5 Mil.
Eggs per 100 Layers	MN	2,218	2,259
	U.S.	2,169	2,176
CHICKENS:			
Hatched (June)			
Egg-Type	MN	1.2 Mil.	1.1 Mil.
	U.S.	40.6 Mil.	42.5 Mil.
Broiler-Type	U.S.	808.3 Mil.	806.2 Mil.
Eggs in Incubators (July 1)			
Egg-Type	WNC*	8.2 Mil.	9.2 Mil.
	U.S.	32.9 Mil.	35.9 Mil.
Broiler-Type	WNC*	29.2 Mil.	28.9 Mil.
	U.S.	666.0 Mil.	657.9 Mil.
TURKEYS:			
Hatched (June)			
	WNC*	10.1 Mil.	9.9 Mil.
	U.S.	26.7 Mil.	26.2 Mil.
Eggs in Incubators (July 1)			
	WNC*	12.5 Mil.	12.3 Mil.
	U.S.	33.3 Mil.	32.8 Mil.

*West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North & South Dakota, Minnesota.)

MINNESOTA PELT PRODUCTION DOWN 10 PERCENT FROM 2006

Minnesota, one of the nation's leading mink-producing states, placed fifth in 2007 pelt production, behind Wisconsin, Utah, Oregon, and Idaho. Total state production for 2007 amounted to 218,500 mink pelts, down 10 percent from 242,950 in 2006.

Total U.S. production for 2007 was 2.83 million pelts, down 1 percent from 2.87 million pelts in 2006. Wisconsin, the leading mink-producing state, produced 914,100 pelts in 2007, 32.3 percent of the nation's total. Utah, the second ranked mink-producing state, produced 21.2 percent, with 599,430 pelts. Oregon came in third, with a production of 278,500 pelts, and Idaho came in fourth, with a production of 221,000 pelts in 2007.

The total U.S. mink pelts produced during the 2007 crop year were valued at \$186 million, up 34 percent from \$139 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2007 crop year was \$65.70, up from \$48.40 in 2006.

Minnesota ranked fourth nationally in total number of females bred to produce kits in 2008 - behind Wisconsin, Utah, and Oregon. Minnesota females bred for 2008, at 54,100, are down 7 percent from 2007. Of these females, Mahogany color class claimed 30.5 percent; Black, 28.7 percent; Demi/Wild, 14.8 percent; Blue Iris, 15.7 percent; and White, 7.2 percent.

The number of mink females in the U.S. bred to produce kits in 2008 totaled 691,170, down 1 percent from the previous year. In the leading states, the number of females bred and changes from the previous year are as follows: Wisconsin-217,830, up 1 percent; Utah-155,910, up slightly; Oregon-57,210, down 1 percent; and Minnesota-54,100, down 7 percent.

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