



News Release

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In Cooperation with the Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, TX 78767 · (512) 916-5581 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Issue No.: PR-110-07

On: Texas Sheep and Lamb Inventory Down 2 Percent

For Information Contact:

For Immediate Release: February 2, 2007

Joey Owsley
Charles Drain

AUSTIN . . . The Texas inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 1.07 million head on January 1, 2007, down 2 percent from last year's level of 1.09 million head.

According to the annual report released by the Texas Field Office, the inventory of breeding sheep and lambs totaled 820,000 head, down 6 percent from 2006. Breeding ewes one year old and older were down 2 percent, at 675,000 head. Replacement lambs were down 22 percent from last year at 105,000 head.

The 2006 lamb crop totaled 520,000 head, down 7 percent from 2005, State Director David Abbe reported.

Market sheep and lambs in Texas were up 14 percent from last year, totaling 250,000 head. Sheep for market totaled 15,000 head, up 50 percent from 2006, while lambs for market totaled 235,000 head, up 12 percent from last year.

Lambs for market weighing less than 65 pounds totaled 95,000 head; lambs weighing 65 to 84 pounds totaled 30,000 head; lambs weighing 85 to 105 pounds totaled 50,000 head, and lambs weighing over 105 pounds totaled 60,000 head.

The January 1 Texas goat inventory was down 1 percent from last year at 1.30 million head.

Angora goats totaled 180,000 head, down 10 percent from last year, while meat and other goats were up 1 percent from last year to 1.09 million head.

Nationally, the inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 6.19 million head, down 1 percent from 2006.

United States breeding sheep inventory on January 1, 2007, decreased slightly to 4.64 million head. Ewes one year and older, at 3.71 million head, were 1 percent higher than last year.

The 2006 lamb crop was 4.09 million head, down 1 percent from 2005. The 2006 lambing rate was 112 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older, on hand January 1, 2006, down 3 percent from 2005.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.57 million head on January 1, 2007. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total.

Market lambs weighing less than 65 pounds accounted for 25 percent of the total; 65 to 84 pounds, 14 percent; 85 to 105 pounds, 25 percent; and more than 105 pounds, 36 percent. Market sheep account for 6 percent.

Nationally, the all goat inventory totaled 2.93 million head, up 3 percent from 2006. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.40 million head, up 5 percent. Milk goats increased 2 percent to 296,000 head and Angora goats decreased 8 percent to 238,000 head.

-30-

[Table on back]

**SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY,
LAMB CROP AND SHEEP OPERATIONS ^{1/}**

Item	Texas		
	January 1		2007 as percent of 2006
	2006	2007	
INVENTORY:	<u>1,000 head</u>		<u>Percent</u>
All sheep and lambs	1,090	1,070	98.2
Breeding sheep and lambs	870	820	94.3
Ewes 1 year old and older	690	675	97.8
Rams 1 year old and older	45	40	88.9
Replacement lambs under 1 year old . .	135	105	77.8
Market sheep and lambs	220	250	113.6
Sheep 1 year old and over	10	15	150.0
Lambs under 1 year old	210	235	111.9
Under 65 pounds	95	95	100.0
65-84 pounds	40	30	75.0
85-105 pounds	45	50	111.1
Over 105 pounds	30	60	200.0
All goats	*1,310	1,300	99.0
Angora goats	*200	180	90.0
Milk goats	30	30	100.0
Meat and other goats	1,080	1,090	101.0
	2005	2006	2006 as percent of 2005
	<u>1,000</u>		<u>Percent</u>
Lamb crop	560	520	92.9

^{1/} Inventory estimates now include Barbado and all hair sheep and lambs. * Revised.