

Wisconsin Goat Inventory Holds Steady

On January 1, 2009, inventory of milk goats (does, bucks, and kids) in Wisconsin totaled 40,000 head, up 5,000 head from a year ago. Wisconsin continues to lead the nation in milk goat inventory. Wisconsin's meat and other goats totaled 18,000 head. Statewide, there were 1,000 Angora goats.

U.S. all goat inventory on January 1, 2009, totaled 3.07 million head, 2 percent lower than last year. This is the first decline in goat numbers since NASS started publishing goat numbers in 2005. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.54 million head, and market goats were 528,000 head. The 2008 kid crop was 1.96 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2007. Meat goats (and goats other than milk and angora) totaled 2.55 million head, a decrease of 2 percent. Milk goats in the U.S. totaled 335,000, 4 percent higher than the previous year.

Nationwide, there were 185,000 Angora goats, down 10 percent. Mohair production during 2008 was 1.18 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 193,500. Average weight per clip was 6.1 pounds. Mohair price averaged \$3.31 per pound, and the total value of production was \$3.91 million.