



Sheep & Lamb Losses

Wyoming Field Office
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February 19, 2008

Dear Data Users,

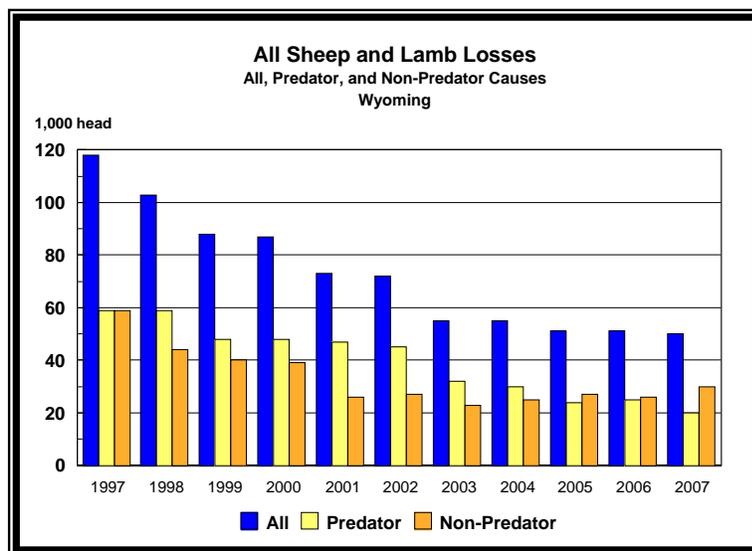
Wyoming sheep and lamb producers lost an estimated 50,000 head of sheep and lambs to predators, weather, lambing problems, disease and other causes in 2007 according to our annual survey. Total losses were down 1,000 head from the previous year. Predators accounted for 39 percent of the losses. The 2007 lamb crop totaled 290,000 lambs marked, docked, or branded which was down 6 percent from 2006. Adding in the lambs lost before docking results in a potential lamb supply of 308,000 head. Of these, 37,000 or 12 percent were lost to various causes, down 3,000 head from 2006.

These data are based on reports from producers on our annual January Sheep and Goat Survey. We thank all Wyoming ranchers and farmers for their help with this survey. We also thank the Wyoming Business Council, Agribusiness Division who funds this report as part of the annual agreement with our agency to provide statistics for Wyoming agriculture.

If you have any question about this report please call us toll-free at 1-800-892-1660.

Sincerely,

Glenda Shepler
Director



HIGHLIGHTS

PREDATOR LOSSES LOWER: Wyoming sheep producers lost 19,600 sheep and lambs to predators in 2007, down 20 percent from 2006. Coyotes were again the biggest predator taking 66 percent of the total predator losses and 26 percent of all losses. Losses to weather, disease and other non-predator causes increased by 4000 head to 30,400.

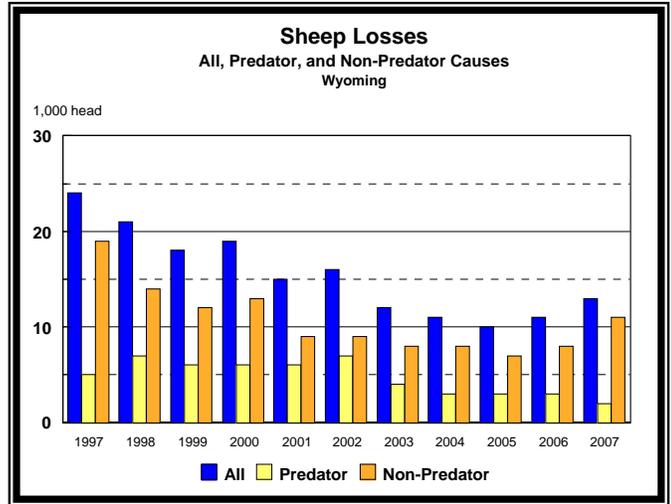
NON-PREDATOR LAMB LOSSES HIGHER: Sheep producers lost 37,000 lambs before or after docking in 2007, down 3,000 head (7 percent) from 2006. Losses to predators accounted for 47 percent of the total or 17,300 head, down 4,300 from 2006. Losses of lambs to weather, disease, and other non-predator causes were up 1,300 head to 19,700.

SHEEP LOSSES EDGE HIGHER: Sheep losses in Wyoming during 2007 totaled 13,000 head, up 2,000 head from 2006. Predator losses were down 700 head at 2,300 while non-predator losses were up 2,700 head to 10,700.

VALUE OF LOSSES DOWN SLIGHTLY: Sheep producers lost an estimated \$4.2 million due to sheep and lamb deaths in 2007, down slightly from the previous year. Predation accounted for \$1.4 million or 33 percent of the total.

Losses of Sheep by Cause: Wyoming, 2006 and 2007

| Cause of Loss | 2006 | | 2007 | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Head | % of Total | Head | % of Total |
| Bears | 400 | 3.6 | 300 | 2.3 |
| Bobcats | 100 | 0.9 | 100 | 0.8 |
| Coyotes | 2,100 | 19.1 | 1,300 | 10.0 |
| Dogs | 100 | 0.9 | 200 | 1.5 |
| Eagles | — | — | — | 0.0 |
| Wolves | 100 | 0.9 | 100 | 0.8 |
| Foxes | — | — | — | 0.0 |
| Mountain Lion | 200 | 1.8 | 200 | 1.5 |
| Other Predators | — | — | 100 | 0.8 |
| Total Predators | 3,000 | 27.2 | 2,300 | 17.7 |
| Disease | 600 | 5.5 | 600 | 4.6 |
| Over-eating | 100 | 0.9 | 100 | 0.8 |
| Weather | 800 | 7.3 | 5,500 | 42.3 |
| Lambing Complications | 1,700 | 15.5 | 1,200 | 9.2 |
| Old Age | 2,200 | 20.0 | 1,500 | 11.5 |
| On Back | 800 | 7.3 | 400 | 3.1 |
| Poisoning | 1,300 | 11.8 | 800 | 6.2 |
| Theft | 200 | 1.8 | 300 | 2.3 |
| Other Non-Predators | 300 | 2.7 | 300 | 2.3 |
| Total Non-Predators | 8,000 | 72.8 | 10,700 | 82.31 |
| Total Loss All Causes | 11,000 | 100.0 | 13,000 | 100.0 |



Losses of Lambs by Cause: Wyoming, 2006 and 2007

| Cause of Loss | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Before Docking | After Docking | Total Head | % of Total | Before Docking | After Docking | Total Head | % of Total |
| Bears | 200 | 700 | 900 | 2.3 | — | 600 | 600 | 1.6 |
| Bobcats | 400 | 100 | 500 | 1.3 | 200 | 300 | 500 | 1.4 |
| Coyotes | 7000 | 8100 | 15100 | 37.8 | 4100 | 7500 | 11600 | 31.4 |
| Dogs | 100 | 300 | 400 | 1.0 | 200 | 500 | 700 | 1.9 |
| Eagles | 1400 | 400 | 1800 | 4.5 | 800 | 600 | 1400 | 3.8 |
| Wolves | 100 | 100 | 200 | 0.5 | — | 400 | 400 | 1.1 |
| Foxes | 1000 | 400 | 1400 | 3.5 | 700 | 500 | 1200 | 3.2 |
| Mountain Lions | 400 | 500 | 900 | 2.3 | — | 600 | 600 | 1.6 |
| Other Predator | 400 | — | 400 | 1.0 | 200 | 100 | 300 | 0.8 |
| Total Predators | 11,000 | 10,600 | 21,600 | 54.0 | 6,200 | 11,100 | 17,300 | 46.8 |
| Disease | 800 | 1400 | 2200 | 5.5 | 1100 | 2000 | 3100 | 8.4 |
| Over-eating | 300 | 1000 | 1300 | 3.3 | 200 | 400 | 600 | 1.6 |
| Weather | 4800 | 1600 | 6400 | 16.0 | 7000 | 2500 | 9500 | 25.7 |
| Lambing | 5200 | **** | 5200 | 13.0 | 3200 | **** | 3200 | 8.6 |
| On Back | 100 | — | 100 | 0.3 | — | 300 | 300 | 0.8 |
| Poisoning | 200 | 800 | 1000 | 2.5 | 100 | 800 | 900 | 2.4 |
| Theft | — | 100 | 100 | 0.3 | — | 300 | 300 | 0.8 |
| Other Non-Predators | 600 | 1500 | 2100 | 5.3 | 200 | 1600 | 1800 | 4.9 |
| Total Non Predators | 12,000 | 6,400 | 18,400 | 46.0 | 11,800 | 7,900 | 19,700 | 53.2 |
| Total Loss All Causes | 23,000 | 17,000 | 40,000 | 100.0 | 18,000 | 19,000 | 37,000 | 100.0 |

Losses of Sheep and Lambs by Cause: Wyoming, 2003-2007 3/

| Cause of Loss | 2003 | | 2004 | | 2005 | | 2006 | | 2007 | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Total Head | % of Total |
| Bears | 1,900 | 3.5 | 1,000 | 1.8 | 1,300 | 2.5 | 1,300 | 2.5 | 900 | 1.8 |
| Bobcats | 700 | 1.3 | 300 | .5 | 600 | 1.2 | 600 | 1.2 | 600 | 1.2 |
| Coyotes | 20,900 | 38.0 | 19,700 | 35.8 | 15,600 | 30.6 | 17,200 | 33.7 | 12,900 | 25.8 |
| Dogs | 400 | .7 | 500 | .9 | 300 | .6 | 500 | 1.0 | 900 | 1.8 |
| Eagles | 3,800 | 6.9 | 3,500 | 6.4 | 1,700 | 3.3 | 1,800 | 3.5 | 1,400 | 2.8 |
| Wolves | 400 | .7 | 200 | .4 | 1,000 | 2.0 | 300 | 0.6 | 500 | 1.0 |
| Fox | 2,200 | 4.0 | 2,700 | 4.9 | 1,800 | 3.5 | 1,400 | 2.7 | 1,200 | 2.4 |
| Mountain Lions | 900 | 1.6 | 1,400 | 2.5 | 1,200 | 2.4 | 1,100 | 2.2 | 800 | 1.6 |
| Ravens 2/ | — | — | 400 | .7 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Predators | 800 | 1.5 | 300 | .5 | 500 | 1.0 | 400 | 0.8 | 400 | 0.8 |
| Total Predators | 32,000 | 58.2 | 30,000 | 54.5 | 24,000 | 47.1 | 24,600 | 48.2 | 19,600 | 39.2 |
| Disease 1/ | 3,300 | 6.0 | 5,700 | 10.4 | 4,200 | 8.2 | 4,200 | 8.2 | 4,400 | 8.8 |
| Weather | 5,600 | 10.2 | 6,600 | 12 | 9,100 | 17.8 | 7,200 | 14.1 | 15,000 | 30.0 |
| Lambing Complications | 5,500 | 10.0 | 6,700 | 12.2 | 7,100 | 13.9 | 6,900 | 13.5 | 4,400 | 8.8 |
| Old Age | 2,100 | 3.8 | 1,900 | 3.5 | 1,500 | 2.9 | 2,200 | 4.3 | 1,500 | 3.0 |
| On Back | 700 | 1.3 | 700 | 1.3 | 500 | 1.0 | 900 | 1.8 | 700 | 1.4 |
| Poison | 2,300 | 4.2 | 2,000 | 3.6 | 2,800 | 5.5 | 2,300 | 4.5 | 1,700 | 3.4 |
| Theft | 500 | .9 | 300 | .5 | 200 | .4 | 300 | 0.6 | 600 | 1.2 |
| Other Causes | 3,000 | 5.5 | 1,100 | 2.0 | 1,600 | 3.1 | 2,400 | 4.7 | 2,100 | 4.2 |
| Total Non-Predators | 23,000 | 41.8 | 25,000 | 45.5 | 27,000 | 52.9 | 26,400 | 51.8 | 30,400 | 60.8 |
| Total Loss All Causes | 55,000 | 100.0 | 55,000 | 100.0 | 51,000 | 100.0 | 51,000 | 100.0 | 50,000 | 100.0 |

1/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating) which in 2007 accounted for deaths of 200 lambs before docking, 400 after docking, and 100 sheep.

2/ Included in "Other Predators" except in 2004.

3/ Includes all lamb losses both before and after docking.

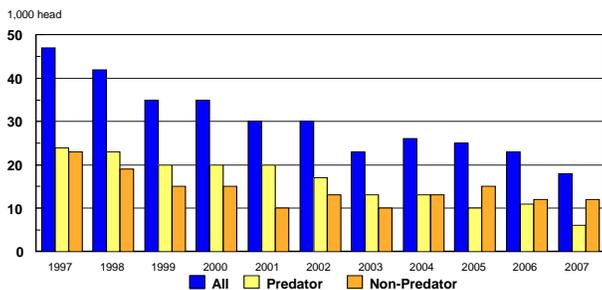
Value of Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Wyoming, 2006 and 2007 1/ 2/

| Cause of Loss | Sheep | | Lambs | | Sheep & Lambs | |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 |
| | Dollars | | Dollars | | Dollars | |
| Bears | 59,400 | 44,600 | 57,800 | 36,700 | 117,200 | 81,300 |
| Bobcats | 14,900 | 14,900 | 32,100 | 30,600 | 47,000 | 45,500 |
| Coyotes | 311,900 | 193,100 | 969,400 | 709,900 | 1,281,300 | 903,000 |
| Dogs | 14,900 | 29,700 | 25,700 | 42,800 | 40,600 | 72,500 |
| Eagles | — | — | 115,600 | 85,700 | 115,600 | 85,700 |
| Wolves | 14,900 | 14,900 | 12,800 | 24,500 | 27,700 | 39,400 |
| Foxes | — | — | 89,900 | 73,400 | 89,900 | 73,400 |
| Mountain Lions | 29,700 | 29,700 | 57,800 | 36,700 | 87,500 | 66,400 |
| Other Predators | — | 14,900 | 25,700 | 18,400 | 25,700 | 33,300 |
| Total Predators | 445,700 | 341,800 | 1,386,800 | 1,058,700 | 1,832,500 | 1,400,500 |
| Disease 3/ | 89,100 | 89,100 | 141,200 | 189,700 | 230,300 | 278,800 |
| Overeating | 14,900 | 14,900 | 83,500 | 36,700 | 98,400 | 51,600 |
| Weather | 118,800 | 816,800 | 410,900 | 581,400 | 529,700 | 1,398,200 |
| Lambing Complications | 252,500 | 178,200 | 333,800 | 195,800 | 586,300 | 374,000 |
| Old Age | 326,700 | 222,800 | — | — | 326,700 | 222,800 |
| On Back | 118,800 | 59,400 | 6,400 | 18,400 | 125,200 | 77,800 |
| Poison | 193,100 | 118,800 | 64,200 | 55,100 | 257,300 | 173,900 |
| Theft | 29,700 | 44,600 | 6,400 | 18,400 | 36,100 | 63,000 |
| Other Causes | 44,600 | 44,600 | 134,800 | 110,200 | 179,400 | 154,800 |
| Total Non-Predators | 1,188,200 | 1,589,200 | 1,181,200 | 1,306,700 | 2,369,400 | 278,800 |
| Total Loss All Causes | 1,633,900 | 1,931,000 | 2,568,000 | 2,264,400 | 4,201,900 | 4,195,400 |

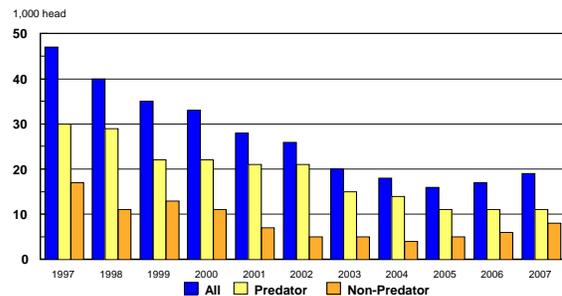
1/Includes all lamb losses both before and after docking.

2/Sheep value is based on a two year average value per head of ewes 1+ years. Two year average ewe value 2006-\$157.00, 2007-\$140.00. Lamb value per head is based on the annual average price received by farmers and ranchers for a 60 lb. lamb. Lamb value 2006-\$64.20, preliminary 2007-\$61.20.

Lamb Losses Before Docking
All, Predator, and Non-Predator Causes
Wyoming



Lamb Losses After Docking
All, Predator, and Non-Predator Causes
Wyoming



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Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Total by Cause within each Agricultural Statistics District, Wyoming 2007 1/

| Cause of Loss | Agricultural Statistics District | | | | | State |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | North West | North East | West | South Central | South East | |
| | Head | | | | | |
| Bears | 100 | 200 | 300 | 300 | — | 900 |
| Bobcats | — | 100 | 100 | — | 400 | 600 |
| Coyotes | 1,900 | 3,200 | 2,900 | 1,800 | 3,100 | 12,900 |
| Dogs | 200 | 200 | 200 | 100 | 200 | 900 |
| Eagles | 200 | 500 | 100 | 200 | 400 | 1,400 |
| Wolves | 200 | — | 100 | 100 | 100 | 500 |
| Foxes | 100 | 300 | 300 | 100 | 400 | 1,200 |
| Mountain Lions | 200 | 400 | 100 | — | 100 | 800 |
| Other Predators | — | — | 200 | 200 | — | 400 |
| Total Predators | 2,900 | 4,900 | 4,300 | 2,800 | 4,700 | 19,600 |
| Disease | 1100 | 500 | 600 | 400 | 1100 | 3700 |
| Overeating | 200 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 200 | 700 |
| Weather | 2000 | 9300 | 800 | 900 | 2000 | 15000 |
| Lambing Complications | 800 | 1000 | 400 | 300 | 1900 | 4400 |
| Old Age | 300 | 300 | 400 | 100 | 400 | 1500 |
| On Back | 100 | 200 | 100 | 100 | 200 | 700 |
| Poison | 300 | 300 | 500 | 400 | 200 | 1700 |
| Theft | 100 | 300 | — | 200 | — | 600 |
| Other Non-Predators | 300 | 600 | 300 | 600 | 300 | 2100 |
| Total Non-Predators | 5,200 | 12,600 | 3,200 | 3,100 | 6,300 | 30,400 |
| Total Loss All Causes | 8,100 | 17,500 | 7,500 | 5,900 | 11,000 | 50,000 |

1/ Includes all lambs losses both before and after docking.

2/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating)

Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Percent by Cause within each Agricultural Statistics District, Wyoming 2007 1/

| Cause of Loss | Agricultural Statistics District | | | | | State |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | North West | North East | West | South Central | South East | |
| | Percent | | | | | |
| Bears | 1.2 | 1.1 | 4.0 | 5.1 | — | 1.8 |
| Bobcats | — | 0.6 | 1.3 | — | 3.6 | 1.2 |
| Coyotes | 23.5 | 18.3 | 38.7 | 30.5 | 28.2 | 25.8 |
| Dogs | 2.5 | 1.1 | 2.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Eagles | 2.5 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 2.8 |
| Wolves | 2.5 | — | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 1.0 |
| Fox | 1.2 | 1.7 | 4.0 | 1.7 | 3.6 | 2.4 |
| Mountain Lions | 2.5 | 2.3 | 1.3 | — | 0.9 | 1.6 |
| Other Predators | — | — | 2.7 | 3.4 | — | 0.8 |
| Total Predators | 35.8 | 28.0 | 57.3 | 47.5 | 42.7 | 39.2 |
| Disease | 13.6 | 2.9 | 8.0 | 6.8 | 10.0 | 7.4 |
| Overeating | 2.5 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.4 |
| Weather | 24.7 | 53.1 | 10.7 | 15.3 | 18.2 | 30.0 |
| Lambing Complications | 9.9 | 5.7 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 17.3 | 8.8 |
| Old Age | 3.7 | 1.7 | 5.3 | 1.7 | 3.6 | 3.0 |
| On Back | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.4 |
| Poison | 3.7 | 1.7 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 1.8 | 3.4 |
| Theft | 1.2 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| All Other Causes | 3.7 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 10.2 | 2.7 | 4.2 |
| Total Non-Predators | 64.2 | 72.0 | 42.7 | 52.5 | 57.3 | 60.8 |
| Total Loss All Causes | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

1/ Includes all lambs losses both before and after docking.

2/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating)