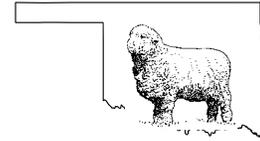




OKLAHOMA SHEEP



Oklahoma
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

NASS

Oklahoma Department of
Agriculture, Food and Forestry
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OKLAHOMA JANUARY 1 SHEEP INVENTORY DOWN 7 FROM LAST YEAR

OKLAHOMA: Oklahoma's sheep producers had 70,000 head of all sheep and lambs on hand January 1, 2004, down 7 percent from last year. Breeding ewes one year and older, at 43,000 head, is down 5,000 from last year. Rams and replacement lambs were unchanged from the previous year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2004, totaled 15,000 head. Market lamb inventory included 8,000 lambs under 65 pounds, up 2,000 head; 2,000 between 65 - 84 pounds, down 1,000 head; 2,000 between 85-105 pounds, unchanged; and 2,000 over 105 pounds, down 1,000 head from January 1, 2003.

The 2003 lamb crop was 48,000 head, down 8 percent from the previous year.

UNITED STATES: All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2004, totaled 6.09 million head, down 3 percent from 2003 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.48 million head on January 1, 2004, down 4 percent from 4.66 million head on January 1, 2003. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.60 million head, were 4 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2004, totaled 1.61 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2003. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 16 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 23 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, 30 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2003 lamb crop of 4.12 million head was down 5 percent from 2002 and established a new record low. The 2003 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2003, unchanged from 2002.

SHEEP: NUMBER BY CLASSES, JANUARY 1, 2003-2004, AND LAMB CROP 2002-2003

CLASS	OKLAHOMA			UNITED STATES		
	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
All Sheep & Lambs	75	70	93	6,300	6,090	97
Breeding Sheep	60	55	92	4,658	4,480	96
Ewes 1 Year +	48	43	90	3,770	3,601	96
Rams 1 Year +	3	3	100	193	189	98
Replacement Lambs	9	9	100	695	691	99
Market Sheep & Lambs	15	15	100	1,642	1,610	98
Market Sheep 1 Year +	1	1	100	67	67	100
Market Lambs	14	14	100	1,575	1,543	98
Lambs Under 65 lbs.	6	8	133	441	433	98
Lambs 65-84 lbs.	3	2	67	266	256	96
Lambs 85-105 lbs.	2	2	100	393	367	93
Lambs over 105 lbs.	3	2	67	475	487	103
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
Lamb Crop 1/	52	48	92	4,357	4,120	95

1/ Lamb crop: Lambs born in the Eastern States plus lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

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