



Iowa Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

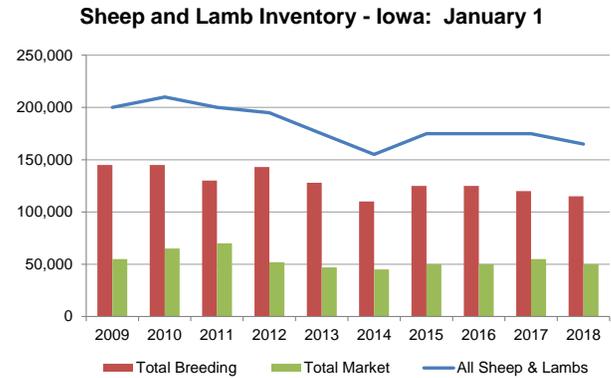
Upper Midwest Regional Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 776-3400 · (800) 772-0825
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

January 31, 2018

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

All sheep and lambs inventory in Iowa as of January 1, 2018, totaled 165,000 head according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. The sheep and lambs inventory is down 10,000 head from last year. Total **breeding stock**, at 115,000 head, was 4 percent below one year ago. **Market sheep and lambs** decreased 9 percent from a year ago and totaled 50,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2017 decreased 8 percent to 115,000 head. **Wool production** for the State was 780,000 pounds, with fleece weights averaging 5.6 pounds.



All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2017 and 2018

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	175.0	165.0	94	5,250.0	5,230.0	100
Total breeding sheep	120.0	115.0	96	3,875.0	3,830.0	99
Ewes	95.0	91.0	96	3,045.0	3,005.0	99
Rams	5.0	5.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	20.0	19.0	95	660.0	655.0	99
Total market	55.0	50.0	91	1,375.0	1,400.0	102

Lamb Crop – Iowa and United States: 2016 and 2017

	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	125.0	115.0	92	3,250.0	3,200.0	98

Wool Production, Price and Value – Iowa and United States: 2016 and 2017

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	165.0	140.0	85	3,585.0	3,440.0	96
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	5.5	5.6	102	7.3	7.2	99
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	900	780	87	26,050	24,700	95
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.56	0.52	93	1.45	1.47	101
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	504	406	81	37,721	36,424	97

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

United States Sheep and Lambs

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2018 totaled 5.23 million head, down slightly from 2017. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.83 million head on January 1, 2018, decreased 1 percent from 3.88 million head on January 1, 2017. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.01 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2018 totaled 1.40 million head, up 2 percent from January 1, 2017. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2017 lamb crop of 3.20 million head was down 2 percent from 2016. The 2017 lambing rate was 105 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2017, unchanged from 2016.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2017 was 24.7 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2016. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.44 million head, down 4 percent from 2016. The average price paid for wool sold in 2017 was \$1.47 per pound for a total value of 36.4 million dollars, down 3 percent from 37.7 million dollars in 2016.

Sheep death loss during 2017 totaled 213 thousand head, down 2 percent from 2016. Lamb death loss decreased 2 percent from 373 thousand head to 367 thousand head in 2017.

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

