



Iowa Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

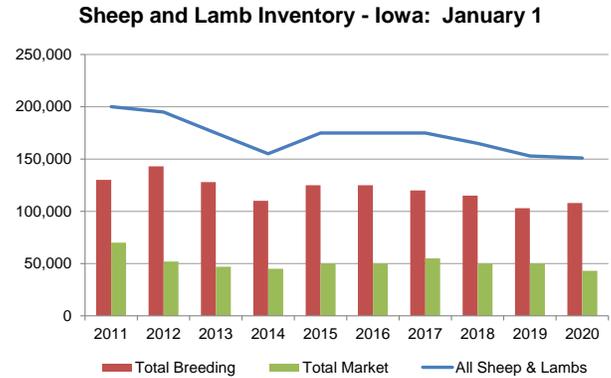
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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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All sheep and lambs inventory in Iowa as of January 1, 2020, totaled 151,000 head according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. The sheep and lambs inventory is down 2,000 head from last year. Total **breeding stock**, at 108,000 head, was 5 percent above one year ago. **Market sheep and lambs** dropped 14 percent from a year ago and totaled 43,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2019 increased 5 percent to 115,000 head. **Wool production** for the State was 740,000 pounds, with fleece weights averaging 5.7 pounds.



All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2019 and 2020

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
All sheep and lambs	(1,000 head) 153.0	(1,000 head) 151.0	(percent) 99	(1,000 head) 5,230.0	(1,000 head) 5,200.0	(percent) 99
Total breeding sheep	103.0	108.0	105	3,820.0	3,810.0	100
Ewes	80.0	85.0	106	3,000.0	2,980.0	99
Rams	4.0	4.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	19.0	19.0	100	650.0	660.0	102
Total market	50.0	43.0	86	1,410.0	1,390.0	99

Lamb Crop – Iowa and United States: 2018 and 2019

	Iowa			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
Lamb crop	(1,000 head) 110.0	(1,000 head) 115.0	(percent) 105	(1,000 head) 3,235.0	(1,000 head) 3,230.0	(percent) 100

Wool Production, Price and Value – Iowa and United States: 2018 and 2019

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	140.0	130.0	93	3,372.0	3,320.0	98
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	5.4	5.7	106	7.2	7.2	100
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	760	740	97	24,400	24,010	98
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.59	0.45	76	1.75	1.89	108
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	448	333	74	42,772	45,364	106

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, 2020, totaled 5.20 million head, down 1 percent from 2019. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.81 million head on January 1, 2020, decreased slightly from 3.82 million head on January 1, 2019. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.98 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2020, totaled 1.39 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2019. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2019 lamb crop of 3.23 million head was down slightly from 2018. The 2019 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2019, up 1 percent from 2018.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2019 was 24.0 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2018. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.32 million head, down 2 percent from 2018. The average price paid for wool sold in 2019 was \$1.89 per pound for a total value of 45.4 million dollars, up 6 percent from 42.8 million dollars in 2018.

Sheep death loss during 2019 totaled 219 thousand head, up 1 percent from 2018. Lamb death loss was unchanged from last year at 388 thousand head.

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

