



News Release

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JANUARY 1 SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY

According to the Kentucky Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service sheep and lamb inventories increased and goat inventories decreased in Kentucky from last year.

The total number of **sheep** in **Kentucky** on January 1, 2016, was estimated at 53,000 head, an increase of 5,000 from the previous year's estimate. All breeding sheep and lambs were estimated at 42,000 head and all market sheep and lambs were estimated at 11,000 head. Breeding ewes were increased to 33,000, but breeding rams remained constant at 2,000 head. Replacement lambs numbered 7,000, an increase of 1,000 from 2015. Lamb crop for 2015 increased by 3,000 from last year to 43,000 head.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2016 totaled 5.32 million head, up 1 percent from 2015. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.97 million head on January 1, 2016, increased 1 percent from 3.94 million head on January 1, 2015. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.13 million head, were slightly above last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2016 totaled 1.36 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2015. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory. The 2015 lamb crop of 3.44 million head was unchanged from 2014. The 2015 lambing rate was 111 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2015, also unchanged from 2014.

All meat and other **goats** in **Kentucky** were estimated at 59,000 head, down 1,000 head from January 2015. Milk goats at 5,000 head, were down 700 head from the previous year's estimate.

All goat inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2016 totaled 2.62 million head, down 1 percent from 2015. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.16 million head, down 1 percent from 2015. Does one year old and older, at 1.61 million head, were 2 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 459 thousand head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Kid crop for 2015 totaled 1.68 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2014. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.10 million head on January 1, 2016, down 1 percent from 2015. Milk goat inventory was 375 thousand head, up 3 percent from January 1, 2015, while Angora goats were down 6 percent, totaling 150 thousand head.