



Minnesota Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

Upper Midwest Region - Minnesota Field Office · 375 Jackson St Ste 610 · St. Paul, MN 55101 (651) 728-3113
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov/mn

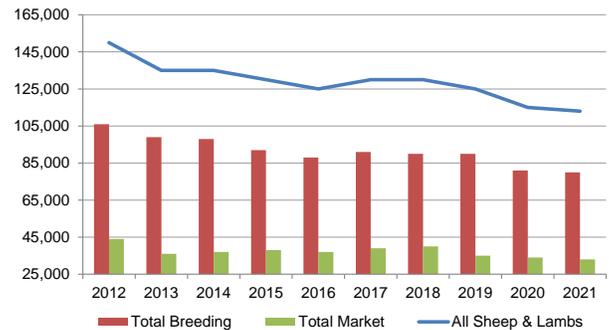
Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

January 29, 2021

Media Contact: Dan Lofthus

All sheep and lambs inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2021, totaled 113,000 head, down 2% from 2020, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total breeding stock, at 80,000 head, decreased 1% from a year ago. Compared with last year, market sheep and lambs decreased 3% to 33,000 head. The lamb crop for 2020 totaled 90,000 head. Wool production for the State was 600,000 pounds, down 3% from last year.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Minnesota: January 1



Sheep and Lambs Inventory by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2020 and 2021

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	115.0	113.0	98	5,200.0	5,170.0	99
Total breeding sheep	81.0	80.0	99	3,810.0	3,780.0	99
Ewes	65.0	64.0	98	2,980.0	2,960.0	99
Rams	4.0	4.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	12.0	12.0	100	660.0	650.0	98
Total market	34.0	33.0	97	1,390.0	1,390.0	100

Lamb Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2019 and 2020

	Minnesota			United States		
	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	90.0	90.0	100	3,230.0	3,210.0	99

Wool Production, Price and Value – Minnesota and United States: 2019 and 2020

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	98.0	98.0	100	3,320.0	3,275.0	99
Weight per fleece(pounds)	6.3	6.1	97	7.2	7.1	99
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	620	600	97	24,010	23,124	96
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.50	0.40	80	1.89	1.66	88
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	310	240	77	45,364	38,405	85

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, 2021, totaled 5.17 million head, down 1% from 2020. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.78 million head on January 1, 2021, decreased 1% from 3.81 million head on January 1, 2020. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.96 million head, were 1% below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2021, totaled 1.39 million head, unchanged from January 1, 2020. Market lambs comprised 94% of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6% of total market inventory.

The 2020 lamb crop of 3.21 million head was down 1% from 2019. The 2020 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2020, unchanged from 2019.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2020 was 23.1 million pounds, down 4% from 2019. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.28 million head, down 1% from 2019. The average price paid for wool sold in 2020 was \$1.66 per pound for a total value of 38.4 million dollars, down 15% from 45.4 million dollars in 2019.

Sheep death loss during 2020 totaled 210 thousand head, down 4% from 2019. Lamb death loss was down 5% from 388 thousand head to 370 thousand head in 2020.

**All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States:
January 1**

