



NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW ENGLAND FIELD OFFICE

53 Pleasant Street, Rm 3450 Concord, NH 03301-9902



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Contact: Gary Keough
(603) 224-9639

New England Sheep and Goats Inventory

Total Sheep and Lamb Inventory Down 2 Percent

All sheep and lamb inventory in New England on January 1, 2015, totaled 43 thousand head, down 2 percent from 2014, according to Gary Keough, State Statistician of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New England Field Office. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 34 thousand head on January 1, 2015, down 6 percent from 36 thousand head on January 1, 2014. Ewes one year old and older, at 26 thousand head, were 4 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2015, totaled 9 thousand head, up 13 percent from January 1, 2014. Market lambs comprised 67 percent of the total market inventory. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65 – 84 pounds, 11 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 13 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 33 percent of total market inventory.

The 2014 lamb crop of 29 thousand head was down 9 percent from 2013. The 2014 lambing rate was 107 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2014, up 10 percent from 2013.

Shorn wool production in the New England during 2014 was 205 thousand pounds, down 7 percent from 2013. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 30 thousand head, down 9 percent from 2013. The average price paid for wool sold in 2014 was \$0.85 per pound for a total value of 174 thousand dollars, down 1 percent from 176 thousand dollars in 2013.

Sheep death loss during 2014 totaled 1.5 thousand head, an increase of 25 percent from 2013. Lamb death loss increased 50 percent from 2.0 thousand head in 2013 to 3.0 thousand head in 2014.

New England Goat Inventory

Milk goat inventory was 14,500 head on January 1, 2015, down 2 percent. There are no **meat and other goat** data available for New England for January 1, 2015.

The complete Sheep and Goats Report and all other NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

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