



# News Release

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## **NORTH DAKOTA JANUARY 1 SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY**

FARGO, ND, January 30, 2015 - **All sheep and lamb inventory** in North Dakota on January 1, 2015 totaled a record low 64,000 head, down 2,000 head from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Breeding sheep inventory** totaled 50,000 head, unchanged from last year. Ewes one year and older totaled 42,000 head, up 1,000 head from 2013. Rams one year and older remained unchanged from last year's 2,000 head. Total replacement lambs was 6,000 head, down 1,000 head from last year.

**Market sheep and lambs** totaled 14,000 head, down 2,000 head from last year. A total of 1,000 head were mature sheep (one year and older) while the remaining 13,000 were under one year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 2,000 lambs were under 65 pounds; 4,000 were 65-84 pounds; 4,000 were 85-105 pounds; 3,000 were over 105 pounds.

**The 2014 lamb crop** totaled 55,000 head, unchanged from 2013. The 2014 lambing rate was 134 per 100 ewes one year and older, compared with 125 per 100 ewes in 2013.

**Shorn wool production** during 2014 was a record low 460,000 pounds, down 30,000 pounds from 2013. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 58,000 head, down 2,000 head from 2013. The average price paid for wool sold in 2014 was \$1.45 per pound, compared with \$1.25 in 2013. The total value of wool produced in North Dakota was \$667,000 in 2014.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/SheeGoat/SheeGoat-01-30-2015.pdf>

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