

SOUTH DAKOTA LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY SUMMARY, 2008

CATTLE

The state's inventory of all cattle and calves on January 1, 2009 was 3,700,000 head, unchanged from 2008. Beef cows totaled 1,616,000 head, down 2 percent from 2008. The 2008 calf crop was 1,650,000 head, the same as 2007. Average value per head of all cattle on January 1, 2009 was \$940, down from \$1,040 in 2008.

HOGS

The number of hogs and pigs in the state on December 1, 2008, at 1,330,000 head, was down 9 percent from a year earlier. The December 1, 2008 value was \$95 per head compared with \$80 a year earlier. The pig crop for 2008 totaled 3,297,000 head, up 10 percent from 2007. The December through May pig crop increased 25 percent from 2007, but the June through November pig crop decreased 2 percent from the previous year.

SHEEP

The number of sheep and lambs on South Dakota farms and ranches on January 1, 2009, at 305,000, decreased 10 percent from the previous year. Breeding sheep and lambs numbered 245,000, down 9 percent from 2008.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 60,000 head, down 14 percent from a year earlier. The 2008 lamb crop, at 265,000 head, was down 7 percent from 2007. Value per head of all sheep and lambs on January 1, 2009 was \$121, down from \$134 the previous year. Sheep and lambs shorn during 2008 totaled 280,000 head, a decrease of 5 percent. Average fleece weight of shorn wool was 7.8 pounds, up from 7.7 pounds in 2007.

MILK PRODUCTION

The state's milk production in 2008 totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the 1.64 billion pounds in 2007. The average number of milk cows was 90,000 head, up from 85,000 head in 2007. Milk production per cow, at 19,956 pounds, increased 650 pounds in 2008.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Layers and pullets on farms on December 1, 2008 totaled 2,837,000, down 18 percent from a year earlier. Egg production in 2008 was 691 million eggs, down 18 percent from 2007. The average number of layers for 2008, at 2,548,000, was down 19 percent from the previous year. The number of turkeys raised in the state in 2008 was 4,700,000 head, 2 percent above 2007.

