



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

4301 West 57th St., Suite 103, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57108
Media Contact: Dean C. Groskurth (800) 582-6443

SOUTH DAKOTA JANUARY 1 SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY

SIOUX FALLS, SD, January 30, 2015 - **All sheep and lamb inventory** in South Dakota on January 1, 2015 totaled 255,000 head, down 15,000 head from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Breeding sheep inventory totaled 200,000 head, down 10,000 head from last year. Ewes one year and older totaled a record low 162,000 head, down 10,000 head from the previous year. Rams one year and older totaled 6,000 head, down from last year's 7,000 head. Total replacement lambs totaled 32,000 head, up 1,000 from last year.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 55,000 head, down 5,000 head from last year. A total of 1,000 head were mature sheep (one year and older) while the remaining 54,000 were under one year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 2,000 lambs were under 65 pounds; 6,000 were 65-84 pounds; 16,000 were 85-105 pounds; 30,000 were over 105 pounds.

The 2014 lamb crop totaled 215,000 head, down 15,000 head from 2013. The 2014 lambing rate was 125 per 100 ewes one year and older, compared with 128 per 100 ewes in 2013.

Shorn wool production during 2014 was a record low 1,750,000 pounds, down 80,000 pounds from 2013. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 230,000 head, down 20,000 head from last year. The average price paid for wool sold in 2014 was \$1.52 per pound, compared with \$1.57 in 2013. The total value of wool produced in South Dakota was \$2,660,000 in 2014.

Access this complete report at:

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

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov

- # -

NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. The Agency invites you to express your thoughts and provide occasional feedback on our products and services by joining a data user community. To join, sign in at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.