



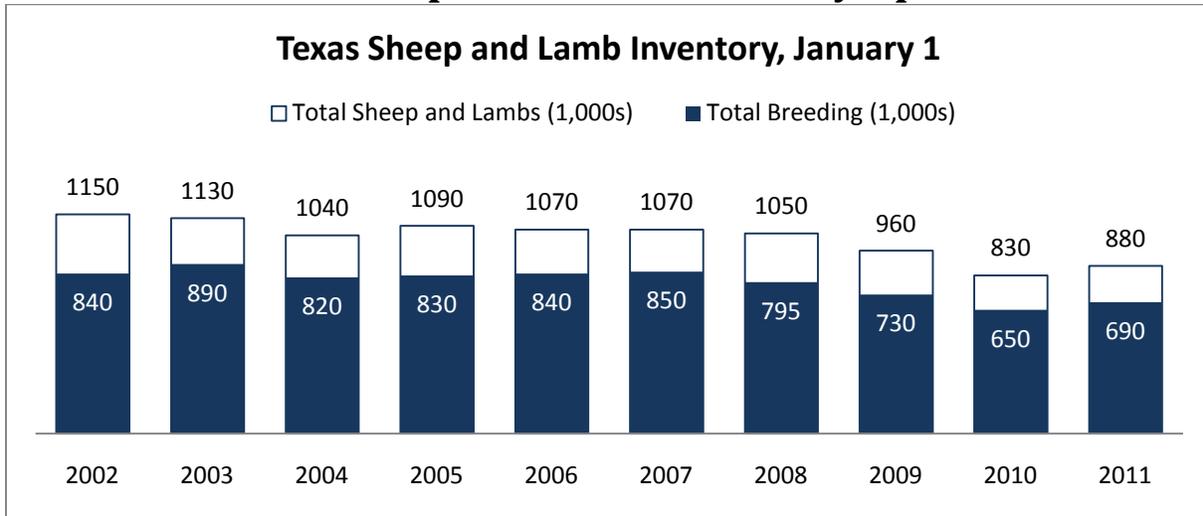
News Release

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture
Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767 800-626-3142 www.nass.usda.gov/tx

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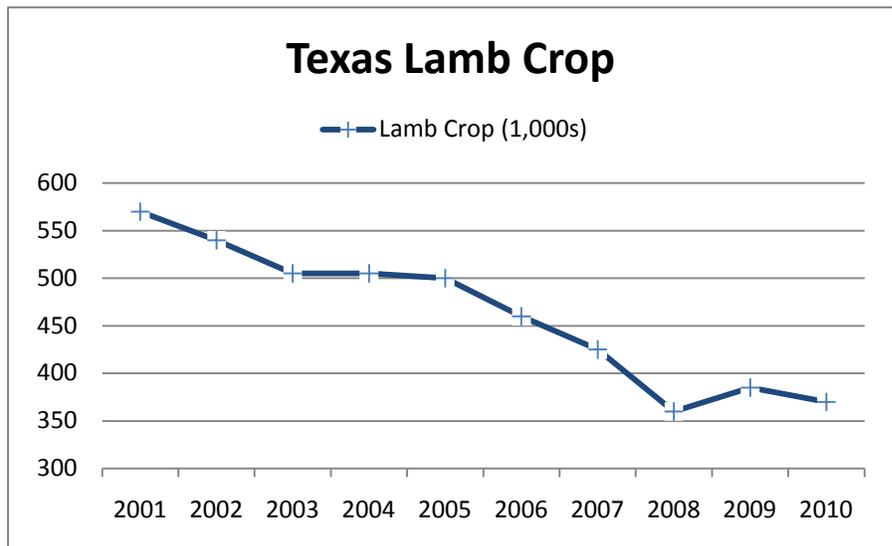
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2011 Texas Sheep and Lamb Inventory Up 6 Percent



Texas Sheep: The Texas inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 880,000 head on January 1, 2011, up 6 percent from last year’s level of 830,000 head. According to the annual report released by the Texas Field Office, the inventory of breeding sheep and lambs totaled 690,000 head, also up 6 percent from 2009. Breeding ewes one year old and older were up 3 percent, at 525,000 head. Replacement lambs were up from last year at 125,000 head. The 2010 lamb crop at 370,000 head was down 4 percent from 2009.

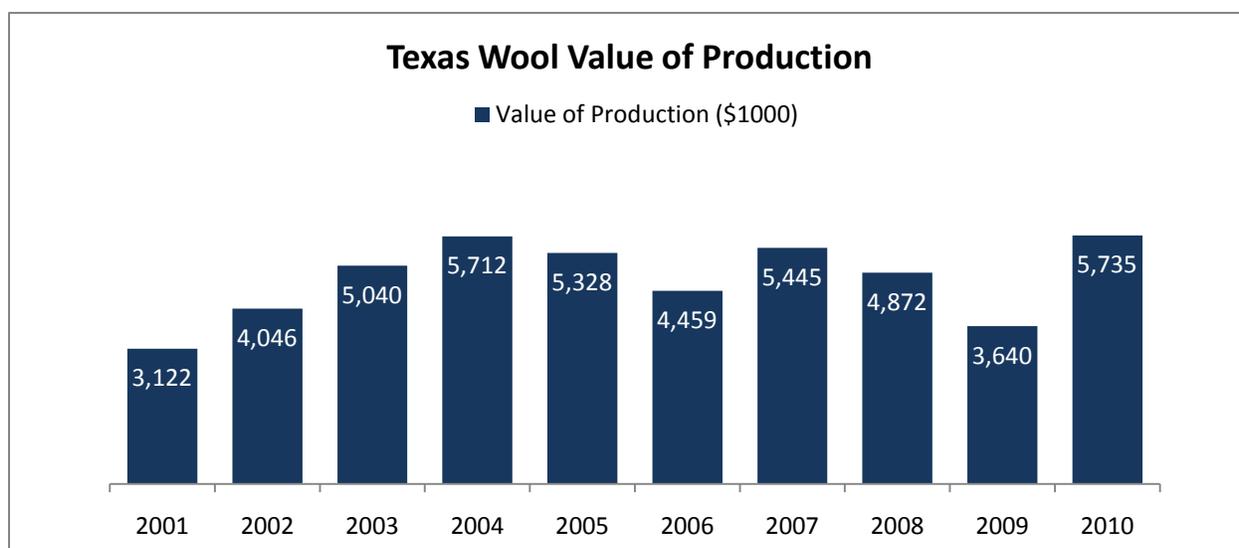
Market sheep and lambs in Texas were up 6 percent from last year, totaling 190,000 head. Sheep for market totaled 10,000 head, equal to 2010, while lambs for market totaled 180,000 head, up 6 percent from last year. Lambs for market weighing less than 65 pounds totaled 90,000 head; lambs weighing 65 to 84 pounds totaled 29,000 head; lambs weighing 85 to 105 pounds totaled 16,000 head, and lambs weighing over 105 pounds totaled 45,000 head.

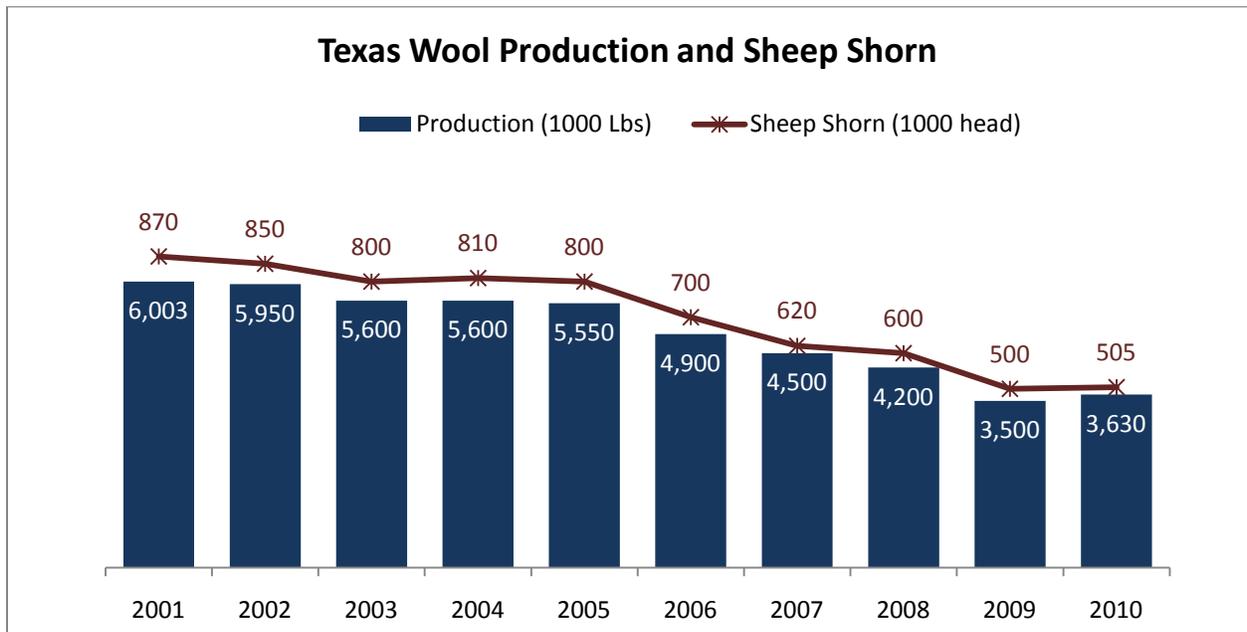


Texas Sheep Inventory	2008	2009	2010	2010/2009
	1000 head			Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	960	830	880	106
Breeding Sheep and Lambs	730	650	690	106
Ewes 1 year and older	590	510	525	103
Rams 1 year and older	40	35	40	114
Replacement lambs under 1 year old	100	105	125	119
Market Sheep and Lambs	230	180	190	106
Sheep 1 Year old and over	10	10	10	100
Lambs under 1 year old	220	170	180	106
Under 65 pounds	85	75	90	120
65 - 84 pounds	35	20	29	145
85 - 105 pounds	50	15	16	107
Over 105 pounds	50	60	45	75
Lamb Crop	385	370		*96

* Lamb Crop percent is derived from 2010/2009.

Texas Wool Production: Texas producers sheared 505,000 sheep and lambs during the year, up 2 percent from the previous year. Average fleece weights were up, at 7.2 pounds. Wool production totaled 3.63 million pounds during 2010, 4 percent above previous year's total. Total value of the state's wool production was up 58 percent from the previous year to 5.74 million dollars. The price per pound averaged \$1.58, up 52 percent from the average for 2009.





U.S. Highlights: Nationally, the inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 5.53 million head, down 2 percent from 2010. United States breeding sheep inventory on January 1, 2011 were at 4.12 million head. Ewes one year and older, at 3.26 million head, were 2 percent lower than last year. The 2010 lamb crop was 3.6 million head, down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older, unchanged from 2009.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.42 million head on January 1, 2011. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total. Market lambs weighing less than 65 pounds accounted for 27 percent of the total; 65 to 84 pounds, 12 percent; 85 to 105 pounds, 21 percent; and more than 105 pounds, 34 percent. Market sheep account for the remaining 6 percent.

A random sample of U.S. producers was surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all sheep and goat producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. About 23,000 operators were contacted during the first half of January by mail, telephone and face-to-face personal interview and 81 percent of the reports were usable. Regardless of when operators responded, they were asked to report inventories as of January 1.

Link to the US report: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/SheeGoat//2010s/2011/SheeGoat-01-28-2011.pdf>

Link to USDA-NASS website: www.nass.usda.gov