



# Wisconsin Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

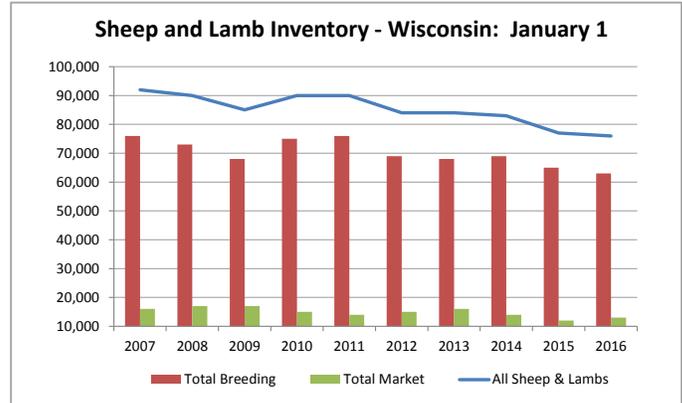
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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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All sheep and lambs inventory in Wisconsin as of January 1, 2016, totaled 76,000 head. This was the lowest sheep and lamb inventory since records started in 1920 according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. The 2016 inventory was down 1 percent from last year. Total **breeding stock**, at 63,000 head, was down 3 percent from a year ago. Compared to last year, **market sheep and lambs** increased 8 percent to 13,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2015 decreased 4 percent to 65,000. **Wool** production for the State was 365,000 pounds, up 4 percent from last year.



## All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Wisconsin and United States: January 1, 2015 and 2016

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
All sheep and lambs .....	(1,000 head) 77.0	(1,000 head) 76.0	(percent) 99	(1,000 head) 5,280.0	(1,000 head) 5,320.0	(percent) 101
Total breeding sheep .....	65.0	63.0	97	3,935.0	3,965.0	101
Ewes .....	50.0	49.0	98	3,110.0	3,125.0	100
Rams .....	3.0	2.0	67	175.0	175.0	100
Replacement lambs .....	12.0	12.0	100	650.0	665.0	102
Total market .....	12.0	13.0	108	1,345.0	1,355.0	101

## Lamb Crop – Wisconsin and United States: 2015 and 2016

	Wisconsin			United States		
	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
Lamb crop .....	(1,000 head) 68.0	(1,000 head) 65.0	(percent) 96	(1,000 head) 3,440.0	(1,000 head) 3,440.0	(percent) 100

## Wool Production, Price and Value – Wisconsin and United States: 2014 and 2015

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	50.0	51.0	102	3,680.0	3,680.0	100
Weight per fleece .....(pounds)	7.0	7.2	103	7.3	7.4	101
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	350	365	104	26,680	27,050	101
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.75	0.75	100	1.46	1.45	99
Value <sup>1</sup> .....(1,000 dollars)	263	274	104	38,909	39,298	101

<sup>1</sup> Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

## United States Inventory

**All sheep and lamb** inventory in the United States on January 1, 2016 totaled 5.32 million head, up 1 percent from 2015. **Breeding sheep** inventory at 3.97 million head on January 1, 2016, increased 1 percent from 3.94 million head on January 1, 2015. **Ewes one year old and older**, at 3.13 million head, were slightly above last year. **Market sheep and lambs** on January 1, 2016 totaled 1.36 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2015. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2015 **lamb crop** of 3.44 million head was unchanged from 2014. The 2015 **lambing rate** was 111 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2015, also unchanged from 2014.

**Shorn wool** production in the United States during 2015 was 27.1 million pounds, up 1 percent from 2014. **Sheep and lambs shorn** totaled 3.68 million head, unchanged from 2014. The average price paid for wool sold in 2015 was \$1.45 per pound for a total value of 39.3 million dollars, up 1 percent from 38.9 million dollars in 2014.

**Sheep death loss** during 2015 totaled 230 thousand head, up 5 percent from 2014. **Lamb death loss** increased 3 percent from 365 thousand head to 375 thousand head in 2015.

