



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, 2018, totaled 75,000 head according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total **breeding stock**, at 63,000 head, was unchanged from a year ago. Total **market sheep and lambs** decreased 8 percent from a year ago and totaled 12,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2017 was 57,000 head. **Wool** production for the State was 330,000 pounds, down 3 percent from last year.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Wisconsin: January 1



All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Wisconsin and United States: January 1, 2017 and 2018

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	76.0	75.0	99	5,250.0	5,230.0	100
Total breeding sheep	63.0	63.0	100	3,875.0	3,830.0	99
Ewes	48.0	48.0	100	3,045.0	3,005.0	99
Rams	3.0	3.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	12.0	12.0	100	660.0	655.0	99
Total market	13.0	12.0	92	1,375.0	1,400.0	102

Lamb Crop – Wisconsin and United States: 2016 and 2017

	Wisconsin			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	60.0	57.0	95	3,250.0	3,200.0	98

Wool Production, Price and Value – Wisconsin and United States: 2016 and 2017

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	51.0	50.0	98	3,585.0	3,440.0	96
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	6.7	6.6	99	7.3	7.2	99
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	340	330	97	26,050	24,700	95
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.70	0.65	93	1.45	1.47	101
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	238	215	90	37,721	36,424	97

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

United States Sheep and Lambs

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2018 totaled 5.23 million head, down slightly from 2017. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.83 million head on January 1, 2018, decreased 1 percent from 3.88 million head on January 1, 2017. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.01 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2018 totaled 1.40 million head, up 2 percent from January 1, 2017. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2017 lamb crop of 3.20 million head was down 2 percent from 2016. The 2017 lambing rate was 105 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2017, unchanged from 2016.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2017 was 24.7 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2016. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.44 million head, down 4 percent from 2016. The average price paid for wool sold in 2017 was \$1.47 per pound for a total value of 36.4 million dollars, down 3 percent from 37.7 million dollars in 2016.

Sheep death loss during 2017 totaled 213 thousand head, down 2 percent from 2016. Lamb death loss decreased 2 percent from 373 thousand head to 367 thousand head in 2017.

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

