



Sheep & Lamb Losses

Wyoming Field Office
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February 19, 2008

Dear Data Users,

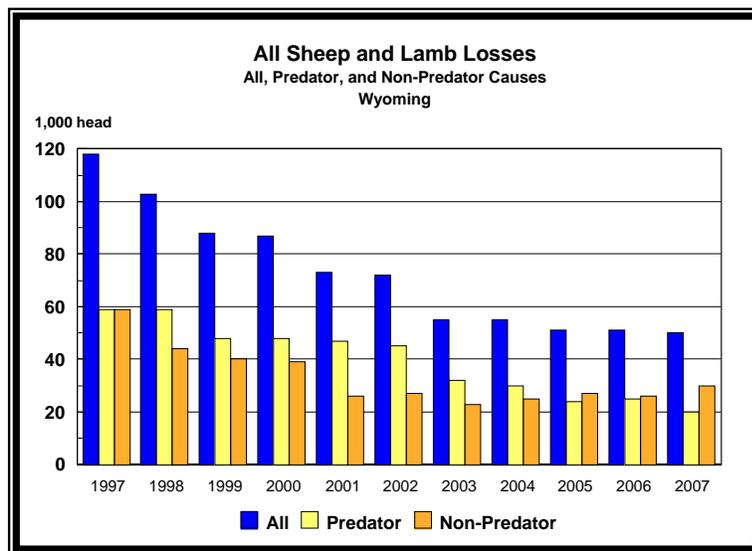
Wyoming sheep and lamb producers lost an estimated 50,000 head of sheep and lambs to predators, weather, lambing problems, disease and other causes in 2007 according to our annual survey. Total losses were down 1,000 head from the previous year. Predators accounted for 39 percent of the losses. The 2007 lamb crop totaled 290,000 lambs marked, docked, or branded which was down 6 percent from 2006. Adding in the lambs lost before docking results in a potential lamb supply of 308,000 head. Of these, 37,000 or 12 percent were lost to various causes, down 3,000 head from 2006.

These data are based on reports from producers on our annual January Sheep and Goat Survey. We thank all Wyoming ranchers and farmers for their help with this survey. We also thank the Wyoming Business Council, Agribusiness Division who funds this report as part of the annual agreement with our agency to provide statistics for Wyoming agriculture.

If you have any question about this report please call us toll-free at 1-800-892-1660.

Sincerely,

Glenda Shepler
Director



HIGHLIGHTS

PREDATOR LOSSES LOWER: Wyoming sheep producers lost 19,600 sheep and lambs to predators in 2007, down 20 percent from 2006. Coyotes were again the biggest predator taking 66 percent of the total predator losses and 26 percent of all losses. Losses to weather, disease and other non-predator causes increased by 4000 head to 30,400.

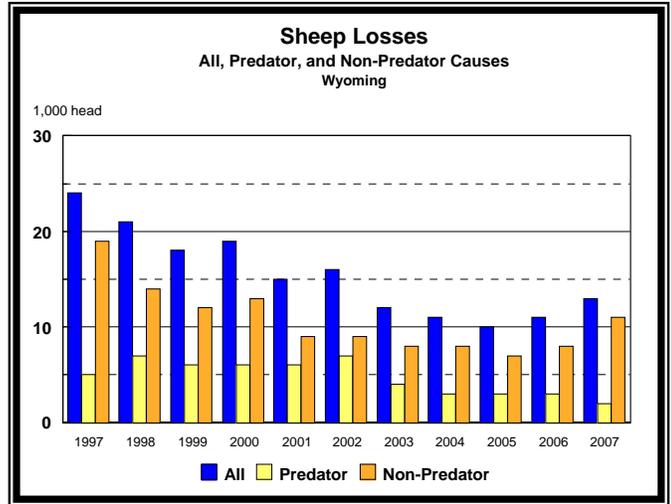
NON-PREDATOR LAMB LOSSES HIGHER: Sheep producers lost 37,000 lambs before or after docking in 2007, down 3,000 head (7 percent) from 2006. Losses to predators accounted for 47 percent of the total or 17,300 head, down 4,300 from 2006. Losses of lambs to weather, disease, and other non-predator causes were up 1,300 head to 19,700.

SHEEP LOSSES EDGE HIGHER: Sheep losses in Wyoming during 2007 totaled 13,000 head, up 2,000 head from 2006. Predator losses were down 700 head at 2,300 while non-predator losses were up 2,700 head to 10,700.

VALUE OF LOSSES DOWN SLIGHTLY: Sheep producers lost an estimated \$4.2 million due to sheep and lamb deaths in 2007, down slightly from the previous year. Predation accounted for \$1.4 million or 33 percent of the total.

Losses of Sheep by Cause: Wyoming, 2006 and 2007

Cause of Loss	2006		2007	
	Head	% of Total	Head	% of Total
Bears	400	3.6	300	2.3
Bobcats	100	0.9	100	0.8
Coyotes	2,100	19.1	1,300	10.0
Dogs	100	0.9	200	1.5
Eagles	—	—	—	0.0
Wolves	100	0.9	100	0.8
Foxes	—	—	—	0.0
Mountain Lion	200	1.8	200	1.5
Other Predators	—	—	100	0.8
Total Predators	3,000	27.2	2,300	17.7
Disease	600	5.5	600	4.6
Over-eating	100	0.9	100	0.8
Weather	800	7.3	5,500	42.3
Lambing Complications	1,700	15.5	1,200	9.2
Old Age	2,200	20.0	1,500	11.5
On Back	800	7.3	400	3.1
Poisoning	1,300	11.8	800	6.2
Theft	200	1.8	300	2.3
Other Non-Predators	300	2.7	300	2.3
Total Non-Predators	8,000	72.8	10,700	82.31
Total Loss All Causes	11,000	100.0	13,000	100.0



Losses of Lambs by Cause: Wyoming, 2006 and 2007

Cause of Loss	2006				2007			
	Before Docking	After Docking	Total Head	% of Total	Before Docking	After Docking	Total Head	% of Total
Bears	200	700	900	2.3	—	600	600	1.6
Bobcats	400	100	500	1.3	200	300	500	1.4
Coyotes	7,000	8,100	15,100	37.8	4,100	7,500	11,600	31.4
Dogs	100	300	400	1.0	200	500	700	1.9
Eagles	1,400	400	1,800	4.5	800	600	1,400	3.8
Wolves	100	100	200	0.5	—	400	400	1.1
Foxes	1,000	400	1,400	3.5	700	500	1,200	3.2
Mountain Lions	400	500	900	2.3	—	600	600	1.6
Other Predator	400	—	400	1.0	200	100	300	0.8
Total Predators	11,000	10,600	21,600	54.0	6,200	11,100	17,300	46.8
Disease	800	1,400	2,200	5.5	1,100	2,000	3,100	8.4
Over-eating	300	1,000	1,300	3.3	200	400	600	1.6
Weather	4,800	1,600	6,400	16.0	7,000	2,500	9,500	25.7
Lambing	5,200	—	5,200	13.0	3,200	—	3,200	8.6
On Back	100	—	100	0.3	—	300	300	0.8
Poisoning	200	800	1,000	2.5	100	800	900	2.4
Theft	—	100	100	0.3	—	300	300	0.8
Other Non-Predators	600	1,500	2,100	5.3	200	1,600	1,800	4.9
Total Non Predators	12,000	6,400	18,400	46.0	11,800	7,900	19,700	53.2
Total Loss All Causes	23,000	17,000	40,000	100.0	18,000	19,000	37,000	100.0

Losses of Sheep and Lambs by Cause: Wyoming, 2003-2007 1/

Cause of Loss	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Total Head	% of Total								
Bears	1,900	3.5	1,000	1.8	1,300	2.5	1,300	2.5	900	1.8
Bobcats	700	1.3	300	0.5	600	1.2	600	1.2	600	1.2
Coyotes	20,900	38.0	19,700	35.8	15,600	30.6	17,200	33.7	12,900	25.8
Dogs	400	0.7	500	0.9	300	0.6	500	1.0	900	1.8
Eagles	3,800	6.9	3,500	6.4	1,700	3.3	1,800	3.5	1,400	2.8
Wolves	400	0.7	200	0.4	1,000	2.0	300	0.6	500	1.0
Fox	2,200	4.0	2,700	4.9	1,800	3.5	1,400	2.7	1,200	2.4
Mountain Lions	900	1.6	1,400	2.5	1,200	2.4	1,100	2.2	800	1.6
Ravens 2/	—	—	400	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Predators	800	1.5	300	0.5	500	1.0	400	0.8	400	0.8
Total Predators	32,000	58.2	30,000	54.5	24,000	47.1	24,600	48.2	19,600	39.2
Disease 3/	3,300	6.0	5,700	10.4	4,200	8.2	4,200	8.2	4,400	8.8
Weather	5,600	10.2	6,600	12.0	9,100	17.8	7,200	14.1	15,000	30.0
Lambing Complications	5,500	10.0	6,700	12.2	7,100	13.9	6,900	13.5	4,400	8.8
Old Age	2,100	3.8	1,900	3.5	1,500	2.9	2,200	4.3	1,500	3.0
On Back	700	1.3	700	1.3	500	1.0	900	1.8	700	1.4
Poison	2,300	4.2	2,000	3.6	2,800	5.5	2,300	4.5	1,700	3.4
Theft	500	0.9	300	0.5	200	0.4	300	0.6	600	1.2
Other Causes	3,000	5.5	1,100	2.0	1,600	3.1	2,400	4.7	2,100	4.2
Total Non-Predators	23,000	41.8	25,000	45.5	27,000	52.9	26,400	51.8	30,400	60.8
Total Loss All Causes	55,000	100.0	55,000	100.0	51,000	100.0	51,000	100.0	50,000	100.0

1/ Includes all lamb losses both before and after docking.

2/ Included in "Other Predators" except in 2004.

3/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating) which in 2007 accounted for deaths of 200 lambs before docking, 400 after docking, and 100 sheep.

Value of Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Wyoming, 2006 and 2007 1/ 2/

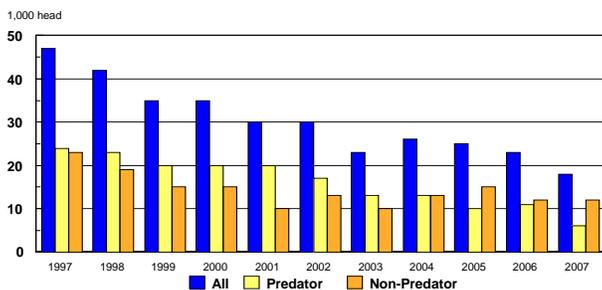
Cause of Loss	Sheep		Lambs		Sheep & Lambs	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Dollars		Dollars		Dollars	
Bears	59,400	44,600	57,800	36,700	117,200	81,300
Bobcats	14,900	14,900	32,100	30,600	47,000	45,500
Coyotes	311,900	193,100	969,400	709,900	1,281,300	903,000
Dogs	14,900	29,700	25,700	42,800	40,600	72,500
Eagles	—	—	115,600	85,700	115,600	85,700
Wolves	14,900	14,900	12,800	24,500	27,700	39,400
Foxes	—	—	89,900	73,400	89,900	73,400
Mountain Lions	29,700	29,700	57,800	36,700	87,500	66,400
Other Predators	—	14,900	25,700	18,400	25,700	33,300
Total Predators	445,700	341,800	1,386,800	1,058,700	1,832,500	1,400,500
Disease 3/	89,100	89,100	141,200	189,700	230,300	278,800
Overeating	14,900	14,900	83,500	36,700	98,400	51,600
Weather	118,800	816,800	410,900	581,400	529,700	1,398,200
Lambing Complications	252,500	178,200	333,800	195,800	586,300	374,000
Old Age	326,700	222,800	—	—	326,700	222,800
On Back	118,800	59,400	6,400	18,400	125,200	77,800
Poison	193,100	118,800	64,200	55,100	257,300	173,900
Theft	29,700	44,600	6,400	18,400	36,100	63,000
Other Causes	44,600	44,600	134,800	110,200	179,400	154,800
Total Non-Predators	1,188,200	1,589,200	1,181,200	1,205,700	2,369,400	2,794,900
Total Loss All Causes	1,633,900	1,931,000	2,568,000	2,264,400	4,201,900	4,195,400

1/Includes all lamb losses both before and after docking.

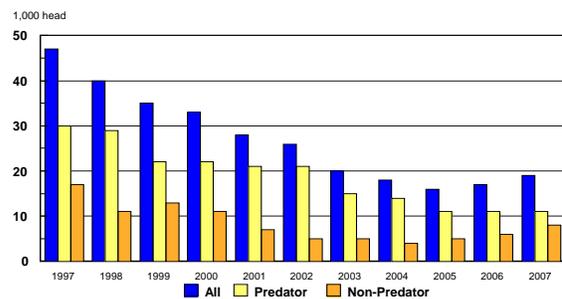
2/Sheep value is based on a two year average value per head of ewes 1+ years. Two year average ewe value 2006-\$157.00, 2007-\$140.00. Lamb value per head is based on the annual average price received by farmers and ranchers for a 60 lb. lamb. Lamb value 2006-\$64.20, preliminary 2007-\$61.20.

3/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating) which in 2007 accounted for deaths of 200 lambs before docking, 400 after docking, and 100 sheep

Lamb Losses Before Docking
All, Predator, and Non-Predator Causes
Wyoming



Lamb Losses After Docking
All, Predator, and Non-Predator Causes
Wyoming



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Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Total by Cause within each Agricultural Statistics District, Wyoming 2007 1/

Cause of Loss	Agricultural Statistics District					State
	North West	North East	West	South Central	South East	
	Head					
Bears	100	200	300	300	—	900
Bobcats	—	100	100	—	400	600
Coyotes	1,900	3,200	2,900	1,800	3,100	12,900
Dogs	200	200	200	100	200	900
Eagles	200	500	100	200	400	1,400
Wolves	200	—	100	100	100	500
Foxes	100	300	300	100	400	1,200
Mountain Lions	200	400	100	—	100	800
Other Predators	—	—	200	200	—	400
Total Predators	2,900	4,900	4,300	2,800	4,700	19,600
Disease 2/ Overeating	1100 200	500 100	600 100	400 100	1100 200	3700 700
Weather	2000	9300	800	900	2000	15000
Lambing Complications	800	1000	400	300	1900	4400
Old Age	300	300	400	100	400	1500
On Back	100	200	100	100	200	700
Poison	300	300	500	400	200	1700
Theft	100	300	—	200	—	600
Other Non-Predators	300	600	300	600	300	2100
Total Non-Predators	5,200	12,600	3,200	3,100	6,300	30,400
Total Loss All Causes	8,100	17,500	7,500	5,900	11,000	50,000

1/ Includes all lambs losses both before and after docking.

2/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating)

Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Percent by Cause within each Agricultural Statistics District, Wyoming 2007 1/

Cause of Loss	Agricultural Statistics District					State
	North West	North East	West	South Central	South East	
	Percent					
Bears	1.2	1.1	4.0	5.1	—	1.8
Bobcats	—	0.6	1.3	—	3.6	1.2
Coyotes	23.4	18.3	38.7	30.5	28.2	25.8
Dogs	2.5	1.1	2.7	1.7	1.8	1.8
Eagles	2.5	2.9	1.3	3.4	3.7	2.8
Wolves	2.5	—	1.3	1.7	0.9	1.0
Fox	1.2	1.7	4.0	1.7	3.6	2.4
Mountain Lions	2.5	2.3	1.3	—	0.9	1.6
Other Predators	—	—	2.7	3.4	—	0.8
Total Predators	35.8	28.0	57.3	47.5	42.7	39.2
Disease 2/ Overeating	13.6 2.5	2.9 0.6	8.1 1.3	6.7 1.7	10.0 1.8	7.4 1.4
Weather	24.7	53.2	10.7	15.2	18.2	30.0
Lambing Complications	9.9	5.7	5.3	5.1	17.3	8.8
Old Age	3.7	1.7	5.3	1.7	3.7	3.0
On Back	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.4
Poison	3.7	1.7	6.7	6.8	1.8	3.4
Theft	1.2	1.7	—	3.4	—	1.2
All Other Causes	3.7	3.4	4.0	10.2	2.7	4.2
Total Non-Predators	64.2	72.0	42.7	52.5	57.3	60.8
Total Loss All Causes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Includes all lambs losses both before and after docking.

2/ Includes enterotoxemia (over-eating)