



Minnesota Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

Minnesota Field Office · 375 Jackson St, Ste 610 · St. Paul, MN 55101 (651) 728-3113
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov/mn

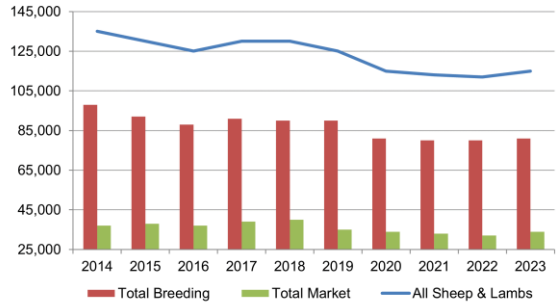
Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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Media Contact: Dan Lofthus

All sheep and lambs inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2023, totaled 115,000 head, up 3,000 head from 2022, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total **breeding stock**, at 81,000 head, was 1 percent above one year ago. **Market sheep and lambs** increased 6 percent from a year ago and totaled 34,000 head. The 2022 **lamb crop** was estimated at 90,000 head, up 6 percent from the 2021 lamb crop. **Wool** production for 2022 was 600,000 pounds, down 1 percent from 2021, with fleece weights averaging 6.0 pounds.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Minnesota: January 1



Sheep and Lambs Inventory by Class - Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2022 and 2023

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2022	2023	2023 as % of 2022	2022	2023	2023 as % of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	112.0	115.0	103	5,065.0	5,020.0	99
Total breeding sheep	80.0	81.0	101	3,710.0	3,665.0	99
Ewes	63.0	64.0	102	2,910.0	2,870.0	99
Rams	4.0	4.0	100	160.0	160.0	100
Replacement lambs	13.0	13.0	100	640.0	635.0	99
Total market	32.0	34.0	106	1,355.0	1,355.0	100

Lamb Crop - Minnesota and United States: 2021 and 2022

	Minnesota			United States		
	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	85.0	90.0	106	3,160.0	3,110.0	98

Wool Production, Price and Value - Minnesota and United States: 2021 and 2022

Class	Minnesota			United States			
	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021	
Sheep shorn	1,000 head	95.0	100.0	105	3,195.0	3,170.0	99
Weight per fleece	pounds	6.4	6.0	94	7.0	7.0	100
Production	1,000 pounds	605	600	99	22,451	22,224	99
Price per pound	dollars	0.45	0.34	76	1.70	1.53	90
Value ¹	1,000 dollars	272	204	75	38,177	33,907	89

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, 2023, totaled 5.02 million head, down 1 percent from 2022. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.67 million head on January 1, 2023, decreased 1 percent from 3.71 million head on January 1, 2022. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.87 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2023, totaled 1.36 million head, unchanged from January 1, 2022. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2022 lamb crop of 3.11 million head was down 2 percent from 2021. The 2022 lambing rate was 107 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2022 was 22.2 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2021. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.17 million head, down 1 percent from 2021. The average price paid for wool sold in 2022 was \$1.53 per pound for a total value of 33.9 million dollars, down 11 percent from 38.2 million dollars in 2021.

Sheep death loss during 2022 totaled 205,000 head, up 3 percent from 2021. Lamb death loss increased 3 percent from 365,000 head to 375,000 head in 2022.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

