

NASS Survey Training

Sheep & Goat Report: January 1, 2020
(SHEEP GOAT INV)



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
December 2019



Survey Overview

- Producers use the information to refine their production and marketing strategies based on inventory levels, anticipated prices, etc.
- Suppliers, packers, and government agencies use the sheep and goat inventory estimates to evaluate the expected slaughter volume and to determine potential supplies for export.
- USDA and producer organizations can better prepare and plan for crisis situations such as disease outbreaks with accurate inventory and production data.



Survey Information

- Project Code: **155**-January Sheep Survey
- Interviewer's Manual:
 - Sheep and Lambs: Chapter 13
 - Goats and Kids: Chapter 14
 - Livestock Inventory Values: Chapter 16
- Questionnaires:
 - Mailed out around Dec 20
 - Web reporting option (EDR) also available
- Release:
 - *Sheep and Goats*
 - January 31, 2020 at 3 P.M. (Eastern)



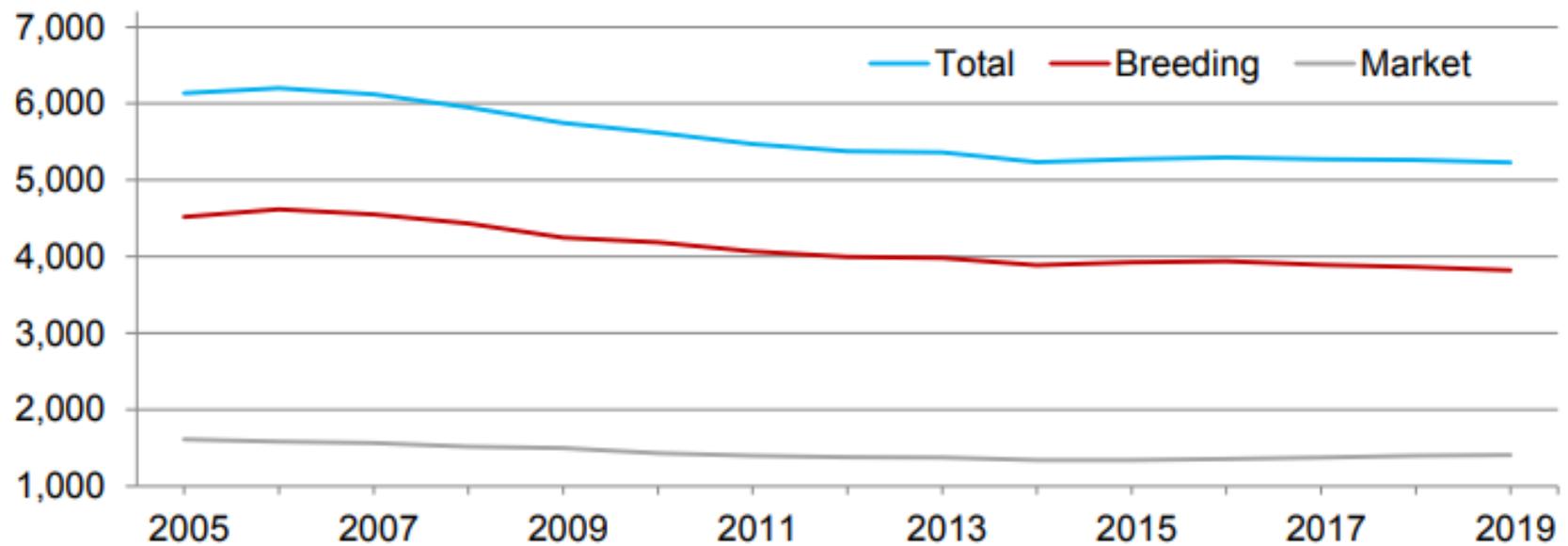
January 1, 2019 Sheep and Goat Info

- Sheep:
 - 5.23 million head in the US
 - TX, CA, CO, WY, & UT top 5 states for total inventory
 - Producing 24.4 million pounds of wool
 - Average Price \$1.75 per pound or \$36.8 million
- Goats:
 - 2.62 million head in the US
 - Meat/Other: 2.06 million head
 - TX, TN, OK, CA, & MO
 - Milk: 430,000 head
 - WI, CA, IA, & TX
 - Angora: 137,000 head
 - TX, AZ, & NM
 - Mohair: 755,000 pounds
 - 133,000 goats and kids clipped
 - \$5.25 per pound or \$3.96 million



All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head



Sheep & Lambs: Death Loss 2015 Report

- 2014 Total sheep and lambs lost: 585,000 animals valued at \$102 million
- Percentage of death loss remained steady for both sheep and lambs
- Predator death loss:
 - 1.8% of total Sheep inventory
 - 6.8% of total Lamb inventory
 - Top predators: Coyotes (54.3%) and Dogs (21.4%)
- 58% of operations used Nonlethal methods for predator control. Most common methods include:
 - Fencing – 54.8% of operations
 - Guard dogs – 40.5% of operations
 - Use of lamb sheds – 34.4% of operations
 - Night Penning – 33.7% of operation
- For more info: Full 64 page Death Loss 2015 Report

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/sheep/downloads/sheep_death/SheepDeathLoss2015.pdf



Introduction/Screening

- Be sure to verify/update all contact information
- Sheep, Lamb, Goat or Kid “presence”
 - Depending on the state:
 - On the operation **regardless of ownership**
 - OR
 - Own or custom feed **regardless of location**
 - On January 1, 2020?
 - At any time during 2019?
 - Will there be any at any time in 2020?
 - If No, were you operating a farm or ranch on January 1, 2019?
 - Yes: Go to Conclusion
 - No: Go to Change in Operator



Sheep & Lamb Screening

- Sheep or Lamb “presence”
 - Depending on the state:
 - On the operation **regardless of ownership**
 - OR
 - Own or custom feed **regardless of location**
 - On January 1, 2020?
 - If Yes, go to Item 2 (proceed with sheep inventory)
 - If No, will there be any at any time during 2020?
 - Were there any in 2019?
 - » If Yes, go to Item 5 (Lamb Crop and Disposition questions)
 - » If No, go to Item 24 (Did you quit raising sheep in 2019?)



Pets, 4H projects, etc.

- Some operations may have very few animals and feel their operation should not be included in the survey
- **All sheep and goats should be recorded even if they are just for pets, 4-H projects, etc.**



Sheep & Lambs: Current Inventory

- Sheep and lambs for breeding
 - **Ewes** (female) 1 year old and older
 - **Rams** (male) 1 year old and older
 - May also be referred to as “bucks”
 - Typically 1 ram per 25-50 ewes
 - **Replacement lambs** less than 1 year old
 - Includes both males and females intended for the breeding flock
 - Include unweaned lambs for breeding
- Sheep and lambs **custom fed by others**
 - Asked only in some Western states
 - How many were being custom fed
 - Who was the custom feeder



Sheep & Lambs: Current Inventory

- Sheep and lambs for market
 - Lambs under **65 pounds**
 - Lambs **65 to 84 pounds**
 - Lambs **85 to 105 pounds**
 - Lambs **over 105 pounds**
 - *Typically around 50-80 lbs when placed on feed; slaughtered around 100-120 lbs*
 - **Sheep 1 year old** and older (not used for breeding)
- Total sheep and lambs
 - Confirm what they reported adds back to their total!
- Sheep and lambs **in another state**
 - What state and how many
 - Asked only in some Western states



Sheep & Lambs: 2019 Production and Disposition

- Lamb Crop
 - How many lambs born (exclude those born dead)
 - Some Western states: Lambs dropped that were or will be marked, docked, or branded
- *Multiple births are common, can have more lambs born than ewes*
- Death and Losses During 2019
 - How many **lambs died**
 - Total
 - OR** (in some Western states)
 - *Before* being marked, docked, or branded & *After* being marked, docked, or branded
 - How many **sheep 1 year or older died**
- *Around 1-10% for sheep; 2-15% for lamb crop*
 - *Varies geographically*



Sheep & Lambs:

- Wool Production & Price in 2019
 - How many **head shorn** (both sheep and lambs)
 - How many **pounds of wool** shorn (include tags and wool not sold)
 - Total pounds **OR** average fleece weight (nearest tenth)
 - Average fleece weight (2018): 7.2 pounds
 - What was average price received for **raw (or unprocessed) wool**
 - Price per pound OR total dollars received
 - Average wool price (2018): \$1.75 per pound
 - It is not uncommon to give the wool to the shearer or dispose of the wool without selling it.



Sheep & Lambs

- **Inventory Values**
 - Breeding ewes 1 year and older
 - Breeding rams 1 year and older
 - Breeding replacement lambs less than 1 year old
 - Market lambs less than 1 year old
 - Market sheep 1 year old and older
- **Slaughter for consumption **by this operation****
 - Not animals sold for slaughter
 - Lambs and sheep slaughtered at commercial establishments
 - Lambs and sheep slaughtered on this operation



Sheep & Lambs Losses

- Types of Sheep & Lamb Deaths and Losses
 - Asking about both lamb and sheep losses
 - Version A, E, HI, TX:
 - Lambs Less Than 1 Year Old
 - Sheep, 1 Year or Older
 - Version B, D, NM:
 - Lambs BEFORE being marked, docked, or branded
 - Lambs AFTER being marked, docked, or branded
 - Sheep, 1 year or older
- **Lost to predators** (broken out by each cause)
 - Bears, coyotes, wolves, etc.
- **Non-predator losses** (broken out by each cause)
 - Disease, weather related causes, lambing problems, other non-predator causes, etc
- *Sum of these losses must match total Deaths and Losses reported earlier*



Sheep & Lambs Losses

- Were Predator losses reported?
 - If Yes, were predator losses first-hand sightings?
- Were Non-predator losses reported?
 - If Yes, were non-predator losses confirmed by testing/necropsy?
- Injured but not killed by predators?
- Nonlethal predator control methods?
 - Guard dogs, Lammas, Donkeys, Fencing, etc.
- If above Nonlethal predator controls were used, then
 - Money spent on nonlethal predator control?
 - If Yes, how much?



Sheep & Lambs Losses

- Use any lethal predator controls?
 - If Yes, was money spent on lethal predator controls?
 - If Yes, how much?
- State or Federal assisted trapper for predator control?
- Official ID? (eartag with US shield or Scrapie tag)



Sheep & Lambs Losses

- Did Sheep or Lambs (permanently) leave the operation? (exclude any deaths) If yes:
 - Lambs
 - How many left? (not including slaughter or deaths)
 - What percent had an official ID?
 - Sheep
 - How many left? (not including deaths)
 - What percent had an official ID?
- If still raising sheep, go to Section 2 – Goats
 - Did you quit raising sheep during 2019?
 - If Yes, indicate main reason



Things to watch out for:

- Large change in current to previous inventory
- Sheep and lambs present but no wool production
- High/low average fleece weight
- High price received for wool
- Deaths/losses by **type** doesn't match **total** number of deaths/losses reported earlier
 - Also need agreement with Predator Loss section



Goat & Kid Screening

- Goat or Kid “presence”
 - Depending on the state:
 - On the operation **regardless of ownership**
 - OR
 - Own or custom feed **regardless of location**
 - On January 1, 2020?
 - If Yes, go to Item 2 (proceed with goat inventory)
 - If No, will there be any at any time during 2020?
 - Were there any in 2019?
 - » If Yes, go to Item 5 (Kid Crop and Other Disposition)
 - » If No, go to Conclusion



Goats & Kids: Current Inventory

- Inventories broken out by Angora; Milk; Meat & Other
 - All breeds are based on utilization
- January 1 reference date
- Goats & Kids for Breeding
 - **Does** (female) 1 year old and older
 - **Bucks** (males) 1 year old and older
 - *May also be referred to as “billies”*
 - **Replacement kids** less than 1 year old
 - *Includes both males and females intended for the breeding herd*



Goats & Kids:Current Inventory

- Goats & Kids for Market
 - **Market kids** less than 1 year old
 - Include kids that will not be kept for breeding
 - **Market goats** 1 year old and older
 - Include goats not used for breeding
- Confirm Total Goats & Kids
 - By types: Angora; Milk; Meat & Other
 - *Again to make sure their total equals what they've reported*



Goats & Kids: Production and Disposition

- Kid Crop for 2019
 - How many **kids born** (exclude kids born dead)
- Death and Losses During 2019
 - How many kids died **before** weaning (exclude kids born dead)
 - How many kids died **after** weaning
 - How many goats died



Goats & Kids

- **Inventory Value**
 - Breeding does 1 year and older
 - Breeding bucks 1 year and older
 - Breeding replacement kids less than 1 year old
 - Market kids less than 1 year old
 - Market goats 1 year old and older
- Slaughter for **consumption by this operation**
 - Not animals sold for slaughter
 - Kids and goats slaughtered at commercial establishments
 - Kids and goats slaughtered on this operation



Goats & Kids

- Mohair Production and Price in 2019
 - How many **Angora goats and kids clipped**
 - How many **pounds of mohair** clipped (include tags)
 - Total pounds **OR** average fleece weight (nearest tenth)
 - Average weight per clip in 2018 = 5.7 pounds
 - What was **average price** received
 - Price per pound OR total dollars received
 - 2018 average value of Mohair production: \$5.25 per pound



Things to watch out for:

- Ratio of bucks to does is low/high
- Total number of goats seems high
- Ratio of kids born to does is high/low
- Ratio of kid deaths to total kid crop is high
- Ratio of goat deaths to total breeding stock is high
- Breeding/market inventory values are high/low
- Slaughter for home consumption seems high
- Mohair production per goat is high/low
- Mohair price is high/low



Things to remember

- No Sheep or Goats? Go to Section 3
 - May very well still be in business
 - Will the land be used for any agricultural purpose?
- Out of business?
 - Be sure to work through the screening questions
 - And determine what happened/current status
 - Capture as much new operator information as possible
- Encounter something odd?
 - Be sure to leave a detailed comment about the situation
 - Your field office staff *really* appreciate that extra information



Reluctant Responses

- Small farmer/operation
 - I'm glad you brought that up. All operations are important, big or small. The management practices of a smaller operation are different from the larger ones, and this is your chance to let your voice be heard. Information you provide can help others become aware of the challenges facing small operators.



Reluctant Responses (2)

- Prices are not good.
 - I understand your concern about prices. Others have expressed that same feeling. That's why it's so important to share your information. Accurate information from producers like yourself lets everyone know the true condition of the current markets and can be valuable in helping to address those price concerns.



In Summary:

- Know the different “parts” of the inventory
- Be aware of the inventory “sum of parts”
- Work through some practices on your iPad before going out to interview
- Please call your supervisor or Regional Office with any questions or concerns
- Thank you, and have a good survey!!

