

NASS Survey Training

Sheep & Goat Report: January 1, 2022 (SHEEP GOAT INV)



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

NOD-Training Group
December 2021



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:
 - Mail out around Dec 21
 - Web reporting available
- Release:
 - *Sheep and Goats*
 - January 31, 2022 at 3 P.M. (Eastern)



Sheep and Goats

ISSN: 1949-1611

Released January 29, 2021, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

January 1 Sheep and Lambs Inventory Down 1 Percent

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2021 totaled 5.17 million head, down 1 percent from 2020. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.78 million head on January 1, 2021, decreased 1 percent from 3.81 million head on January 1, 2020. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.96 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2021 totaled 1.39 million head, unchanged from January 1, 2020. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2020 lamb crop of 3.21 million head was down 1 percent from 2019. The 2020 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2020, unchanged from 2019.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2020 was 23.1 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2019. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.28 million head, down 1 percent from 2019. The average price paid for wool sold in 2020 was \$1.66 per pound for a total value of 38.4 million dollars, down 15 percent from 45.4 million dollars in 2019.

Sheep death loss during 2020 totaled 210 thousand head, down 4 percent from 2019. Lamb death loss was down 5 percent from 388 thousand head to 370 thousand head in 2020.





Sheep and Goats

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January 1 All Goats and Kids Inventory Down 3 Percent

All goats and kids inventory in the United States on January 1, 2021 totaled 2.58 million head, down 3 percent from 2020. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.12 million head, down 3 percent from 2020. Does one year old and older, at 1.57 million head, were down 3 percent from last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 465 thousand head, down 3 percent from a year ago.

Kid crop for 2020 totaled 1.66 million head for all goats, up 1 percent from 2019.

Meat and all other goats totaled 2.05 million head on January 1, 2021, down 2 percent from 2020. Milk goat inventory was 420 thousand head, down 3 percent from January 1, 2020, while Angora goats were down 10 percent, totaling 117 thousand head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2020 was 589 thousand pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 113 thousand head. Average weight per clip was 5.2 pounds. Mohair price was \$5.07 per pound with a value of 2.99 million dollars.



Some States Screen For Sheep and Goats In The Same Question

- Were any Sheep, Lambs, Goats or Kids **regardless of ownership**
 - On this operation on January 1, 2022?
 - On this operation at any time during 2021?
 - OR will there be any at any time in 2022?
 - Yes: Continue with survey
 - No: Were you operating a farm or ranch on January 1, 2022?

Some States Screen for Sheep & Goats Separately

- Did this operation *own or custom feed* any sheep or lambs, **regardless of location**:
 - On January 1, 2022?
 - At any time during 2021?
 - OR will there be any at any time during 2022?
 - If Yes, go to Item 3 (proceed with sheep inventory)
 - If No, go to Item 2a. Did this operation *own* any goats or kids, regardless of location:
 - » On January 1, 2022?
 - » At any time during 2021?
 - » OR will there be any at any time during 2022?
 - If Yes, continue with survey
 - If No, Were you operating a farm or ranch on Jan. 1, 2022

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)

Sheep & Lambs: Current Inventory

- Total sheep and lambs
 - Confirm what they reported adds back to their total!
 - Then, of the total sheep and lambs, were any **in another state**
 - If so, list the state/s and how many head were in each of these states
 - Asked only in some Western states

Sheep & Lambs: 2021 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 2021
 - 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 2021
 - 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 (2020): 7.1 pounds
 - What was average price received for **raw (or unprocessed) wool**
 - Price per pound OR total dollars received
 - Average wool price (2020): \$1.66 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 in dollars per head for each type of sheep inventory**
 - Looking for average value per head not cents per pound
 - To the nearest dollar per animal
- **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 & Lamb Losses

UT and WY only

- Types of Sheep & Lamb Deaths and Losses
 - Asking about both lamb and sheep losses
 - 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*

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
- High number of deaths/losses

Goat & Kid Screening

- Goat or Kid “presence”
 - Depending on the state:
 - On the operation **regardless of ownership**
 - OR
 - Own any **regardless of location**
 - On January 1, 2022?
 - If Yes, go to Item 2 (proceed with goat inventory)
 - If No, will there be any at any time during 2022?
 - Were there any in 2021?
 - » 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 2021
 - How many **kids born** (exclude kids born dead)
- Death and Losses During 2021
 - How many kids died **before** weaning (exclude kids born dead)
 - How many kids died **after** weaning
 - How many goats died

Goats & Kids

- **Inventory Value in dollars per head**
 - 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 2021
 - 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 2020 = 5.2 pounds
 - What was **average price** received
 - Price per pound OR total dollars received
 - 2020 average value of Mohair production: \$5.07 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
- Please call your supervisor or Regional Office with any questions or concerns
- Thank you and have a good survey!!