

## NASS Survey Training

# Sheep & Goat Report: January 1, 2023 (SHEEP GOAT INV)



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

Workforce Performance and Staff Development Section  
December 2022



# 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, 2023 at 3 P.M. (Eastern)



# 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, 2023?
  - On this operation at any time during 2022?
  - OR will there be any at any time in 2023?
    - Yes: Continue with survey
    - No: Were you operating a farm or ranch on January 1, 2023?

# Some States Screen for Sheep & Goats Separately

- Did this operation *own or custom feed* any sheep or lambs, **regardless of location**:
  - On January 1, 2023?
  - At any time during 2022?
  - OR will there be any at any time during 2023?
    - 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, 2023?
      - » At any time during 2022?
      - » OR will there be any at any time during 2023?
        - If Yes, continue with survey
        - If No, Were you operating a farm or ranch on Jan. 1, 2023

# 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.**





# Info From Previous Year Survey



## Sheep and Goats

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Released January 31, 2022, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### January 1 Sheep and Lambs Inventory Down 2 Percent

**All sheep and lambs inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2022 totaled 5.07 million head, down 2 percent from 2021. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.71 million head on January 1, 2022, decreased 2 percent from 3.78 million head on January 1, 2021. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.91 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2022 totaled 1.36 million head, down 3 percent from January 1, 2021. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

**The 2021 lamb crop** of 3.16 million head was down 2 percent from 2020. The 2021 lambing rate was 107 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2021, down 1 percent from 2020.

**Shorn wool production** in the United States during 2021 was 22.5 million pounds, down 3 percent from 2020. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.20 million head, down 2 percent from 2020. **The average price paid for wool sold in 2021 was \$1.70 per pound** for a total value of 38.2 million dollars, down 1 percent from 38.4 million dollars in 2020.

**Sheep death loss** during 2021 totaled 200,000 head, down 5 percent from 2020. Lamb death loss decreased 1 percent from 370,000 head to 365,000 head in 2021.



# 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!

(Asked in some Western states)

- 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

## Did You Know????

Sheep and goats have rectangular pupils that give them amazing peripheral vision!!



# Sheep & Lambs: 2022 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 2022
  - 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 (2021): 7.0 pounds
  - What was average price received for **raw (or unprocessed) wool**
    - Price per pound OR total dollars received
    - Average wool price (2021): \$1.70 per pound
    - It is not uncommon to give the wool to the shearer or dispose of the wool without selling it.

**Did You Know????**

**One pound of wool can make up to 10 miles of yarn!!**

# 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
- Large number of Sheep or Lambs for Home Consumption

# 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, 2023?
    - If Yes, go to Item 2 (proceed with goat inventory)
    - If No, will there be any at any time during 2023?
    - Were there any in 2022?
      - » If Yes, go to Item 5 (Kid Crop and Other Disposition)
      - » If No, go to Conclusion

# Info From Previous Year Survey



## Sheep and Goats

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Released January 31, 2022, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### January 1 All Goats and Kids Inventory Down 1 Percent

**All goats and kids inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2022 totaled 2.55 million head, down 1 percent from 2021. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.09 million head, down 1 percent from 2021. Does one year old and older, at 1.55 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 457,000 head, down 2 percent from a year ago.

**Kid crop** for 2021 totaled 1.60 million head for all goats, down 3 percent from 2020.

**Meat and all other goats** totaled 2.03 million head on January 1, 2022, down 1 percent from 2021. Milk goat inventory was 410,000 head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2021, while Angora goats were down 9 percent, totaling 110,000 head.

**Mohair production** in the United States during 2021 was 546,000 pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 105,500 head. Average weight per clip was 5.2 pounds. Mohair price was \$5.58 per pound with a value of 3.05 million dollars.



# 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 2022
  - How many **kids born** (exclude kids born dead)
- Death and Losses During 2022
  - 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**
  - For each of the different inventory items of goats
- **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

**Did you Know??**

**Goat meat is the most consumed meat per capita worldwide!!**

# Goats & Kids

- Mohair Production and Price in 2022
  - 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
    - 2021 average value of Mohair production: \$5.58 per pound

**Did you Know??**  
**Cashmere comes from goats.**



# 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!!

