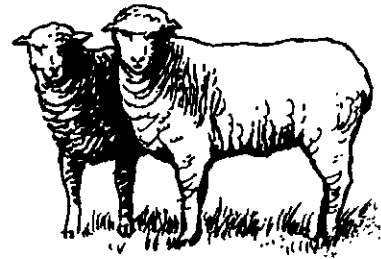


WOOL



SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION 1970

Release:
July 27, 1970
3:00 P.M. EDT

WOOL PRODUCTION DOWN 2 PERCENT

Wool shorn and to be shorn in the United States during 1970 is estimated at 161,880,000 pounds, grease basis, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is 2 percent below the 1969 production of 165,825,000. The 1970 production is equivalent to 77,217,000 pounds, clean basis, compared with 79,099,000 pounds in 1969, based on a conversion factor of 47.7 percent.

The number of sheep and lambs shorn and to be shorn is estimated at 19,023,000 head, a 3 percent decrease from the 19,587,000 head shorn in 1969. The 1970 average weight per fleece is 8.51 pounds compared with 8.47 pounds last year.

WESTERN STATES WOOL PRODUCTION 2 PERCENT LOWER

Shorn wool production in the Western Sheep States (11 Western States, South Dakota, and Texas) is estimated at 122,692,000 pounds, 2 percent below the 1969 clip of 124,692,000 pounds. Wool production is smaller in all Western States except Wyoming, New Mexico, Nevada, and Texas.

Sheep shorn and to be shorn in 1970 are estimated at 14,087,000 head, 2 percent less than the 14,413,000 head shorn in 1969. The average fleece weight is 8.71 pounds, compared with 8.65 pounds in 1969.

Texas, the leading wool producing State, expects a total clip of 30,620,000 pounds, 3 percent more than the 1969 production of 29,717,000 pounds. Texas sheep and lambs-shorn-and-to-be shorn, at 4,029,000 head, is unchanged, and the average fleece weight of 7.6 pounds is 0.2 pound more than in 1969. Wyoming, the second ranking wool producing State, expects a production of 17,786,000 pounds, up 2 percent from the 17,456,000 pounds produced last year. Wool production in California, the third ranking State, is expected to total 11,708,000 pounds, 7 percent below last year.

NATIVE STATES WOOL PRODUCTION DOWN 5 PERCENT

A wool clip of 38,924,000 pounds is estimated in the 35 Native or "fleece" wool States (excluding 13 Western States and Alaska). This is 5 percent less than the 40,864,000 pounds shorn in 1969. The smaller 1970 clip results from a 5 percent decline in the number of sheep and lambs shorn. The average fleece weight is 7.92 pounds, slightly less than the 7.93 pounds in 1969.

Wool shorn 1968-1970, by States

State	Number sheep shorn 1/			Weight per fleece 2/			Wool production		
	1968	1969	1970	1968	1969	1970	1968	1969	1970
	- 1,000 head -			- Pounds -			- 1,000 pounds -		
Maine	17	16	15	7.4	7.2	7.4	126	115	111
N. H.	5.2	5.4	5.1	7.1	7.0	7.1	37	38	36
Vt.	6.5	6.5	6.1	8.1	8.0	8.2	53	52	50
Mass.	9.3	9.5	9.2	7.0	6.9	7.2	65	66	66
R. I.	1.7	1.9	1.7	7.3	6.9	7.1	12	13	12
Conn.	5.1	5.4	4.9	7.2	7.0	7.3	37	38	36
N. Y.	91	89	86	8.0	7.6	7.7	728	679	663
N. J.	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.9	62	62	60
Pa.	158	156	152	7.4	7.4	7.3	1,169	1,154	1,110
Ohio	697	678	658	8.6	8.3	8.4	5,996	5,646	5,547
Ind.	262	247	233	8.0	7.8	7.6	2,095	1,921	1,769
Ill.	384	359	330	7.4	7.5	7.6	2,826	2,689	2,510
Mich.	253	240	246	8.5	8.4	8.3	2,163	2,017	2,050
Wis.	141	139	126	8.1	8.1	8.1	1,145	1,124	1,019
Minn.	503	456	434	8.1	8.1	8.3	4,053	3,716	3,610
Iowa	832	771	725	8.1	8.0	8.1	6,703	6,148	5,875
Mo.	294	264	248	8.0	8.2	8.0	2,354	2,155	1,974
N. Dak.	338	301	290	9.7	9.8	9.6	3,280	2,948	2,796
S. Dak.	1,133	1,065	1,022	9.6	9.4	9.3	10,925	9,958	9,534
Nebr.	368	360	347	7.7	7.8	7.6	2,840	2,800	2,647
Kans.	373	352	343	8.5	8.4	8.2	3,182	2,944	2,806
Del.	1.9	1.8	1.6	6.8	7.2	7.4	13	13	12
Md.	17	17	18	6.9	7.1	7.2	117	121	130
Va.	195	183	176	6.3	6.4	6.1	1,228	1,171	1,074
W. Va.	165	162	158	5.9	6.0	5.9	973	972	932
N. C.	18	17	15	6.7	6.8	6.5	121	116	98
S. C.	1.8	1.4	1.3	6.7	6.8	7.0	12	10	9
Ga.	5.4	5.1	5.0	6.7	6.8	6.6	36	35	33
Fla.	5.5	5.3	4.7	6.1	5.7	5.9	34	30	28
Ky.	115	95	84	7.3	7.2	7.1	840	684	596
Tenn.	48	41	36	5.8	5.9	5.7	278	242	205
Ala.	6.2	5.7	5.4	6.4	6.3	6.0	40	36	32
Miss.	16	15	14	4.8	4.8	4.9	77	72	69
Ark.	7.7	6.7	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.8	52	45	44
La.	25	22	21	4.9	4.9	5.0	122	108	105
Okla.	113	109	99	8.4	8.1	8.2	949	884	810
Texas	4,419	4,029	4,029	7.5	7.4	7.6	33,363	29,717	30,620
Mont.	1,075	1,017	987	10.1	9.7	9.8	10,848	9,891	9,703
Idaho	712	676	616	10.8	10.7	10.5	7,679	7,216	6,492
Wyo.	1,736	1,719	1,750	10.2	10.2	10.2	17,690	17,456	17,786
Colo.	1,182	1,148	1,099	8.8	8.8	8.6	10,455	10,077	9,471
N. Mex.	806	774	784	9.1	9.2	9.2	7,374	7,096	7,209
Ariz.	461	489	482	7.4	7.3	7.1	3,433	3,570	3,413
Utah	1,013	1,004	919	9.9	9.6	10.1	10,006	9,604	9,314
Nev.	209	188	192	10.0	9.9	10.0	2,090	1,861	1,920
Wash.	152	138	130	9.1	9.2	9.2	1,383	1,266	1,201
Oreg.	603	560	534	8.0	7.9	8.1	4,834	4,452	4,321
Calif.	1,750	1,606	1,543	7.7	7.8	7.6	13,429	12,528	11,708
48 States	20,738	19,564	19,000	8.55	8.46	8.51	177,327	165,556	161,616
Alaska	23	23	23	11.5	11.7	11.5	264	269	264
Hawaii	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
U. S.	20,761	19,587	19,023	8.55	8.47	8.51	177,591	165,825	161,880

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.

2/ For Texas and California the weight per fleece is the average per animal and not the average per shearing since some sheep are shorn more than once each year.