

Wool and Mohair



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released March 30, 1993, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Production estimates refer to 1992 and inventory and stocks estimates to January 1, 1993.

1992 Wool Production Down 5 Percent

Shorn wool production in the United States during 1992 was 83.4 million pounds, down 5 percent from 1991. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 10.6 million head, a decrease of 4 percent from 1991. The average price paid for wool sold in 1992 was \$0.74 per pound for a total value of \$60.5 million, up 28 percent from \$47.2 million in 1991.

There were 48.3 million pounds of domestic and foreign apparel and carpet scoured raw wool stored in the United States on January 1, 1993.

Wool: Production, Price, and Value, United States, 1990-92

Years	Sheep and Lambs Shorn 1/	Weight Per Fleece	Shorn Wool Production	Price Per Pound 2/	Value
	1,000 Head	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1990	11,222	7.84	88,033	0.800	69,534
1991	*11,009	*7.97	*87,740	0.550	*47,178
1992	10,568	7.89	83,411	0.740	60,473

1/ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. 2/ Weighted by sales.
* Revised.

Wool Stocks: Apparel and Carpet Wool, Scoured Basis, United States, January 1, 1993 1/

Year	Grand Total	Apparel		Carpet
		Total	Domestic : Foreign	
		Million Pounds		
1993	48.3	46.3	26.6 : 19.7	2.0

1/ Including washed wool, stocks held on consignment, stocks in Custom bonded warehouses and stocks in the process of manufacture up to the carding operation. Data does not include pulled wool and stocks held for the account of domestic growers except that held on consignment for growers. Data not included for companies with stocks of less than 10,000 pounds.

For information call Linda Simpson at (202) 720-3578. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Mohair production in the five major producing states (Arizona, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) during 1992 was 15.6 million pounds, down 5 percent from 1991. Goats and kids clipped, at 2.25 million head, was up slightly from 1991. Average weight per head clipped was 6.9 pounds compared with 7.3 pounds a year earlier. Value of mohair production was \$13.4 million, down 36 percent from 1991.

Mohair: Production, Price, and Value, 5 States, 1990-92

Years	Goats Clipped	Average Clip Per Goat	Production	Price Per Pound	Value
	1,000 Head	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1990	2,174	7.5	16,304	0.93	15,163
1991	*2,250	7.3	*16,328	1.28	*20,812
1992	2,254	6.9	15,582	0.86	13,389

Mohair: Production, Price, and Value by Selected States and 5 State Total, 1991-92

State	Goats Clipped		Average Clip Per Goat		Production		Price Per Pound		Value	
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
AZ	90	82	4.4	4.4	400	360	0.49	0.60	196	216
MI	*14	11	8.0	8.6	*112	95	1.39	0.77	*156	73
NM	110	105	4.5	4.5	495	473	0.84	0.78	416	369
OK	66	56	7.9	8.1	521	454	1.26	0.83	656	377
TX	1,970	2,000	7.5	7.1	14,800	14,200	1.31	0.87	19,388	12,354
5 Sts	*2,250	2,254	7.3	6.9	*16,328	15,582	1.28	0.86	*20,812	13,389

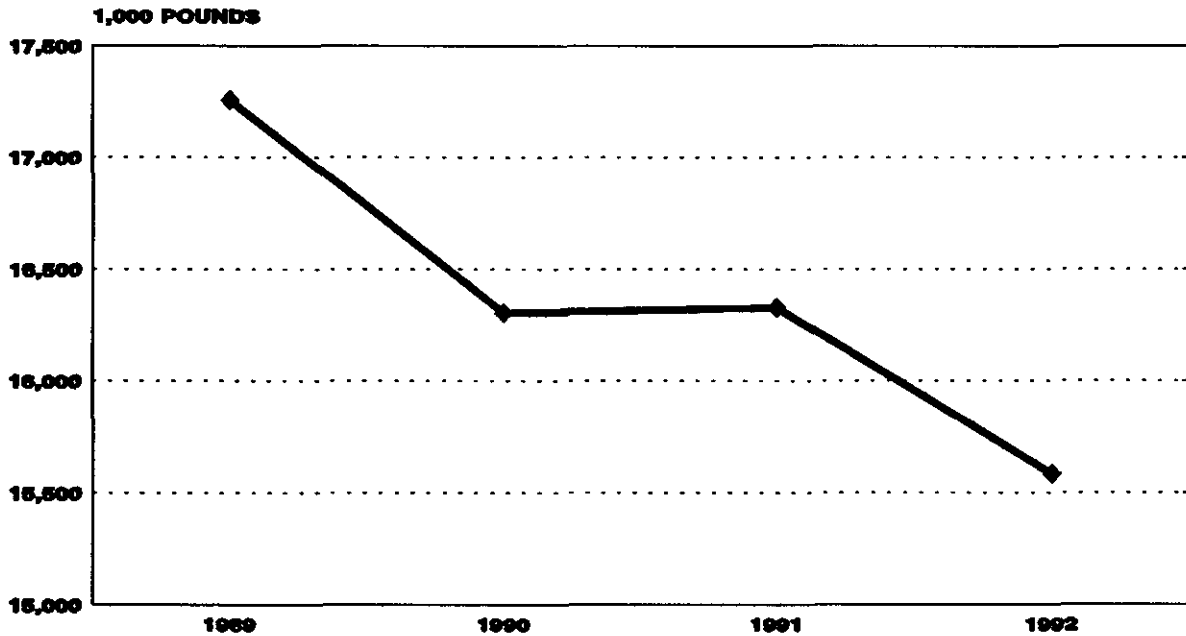
1/ Weighted by sales.

2/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price for individual States; US value is summation of State's value.

* Revised.

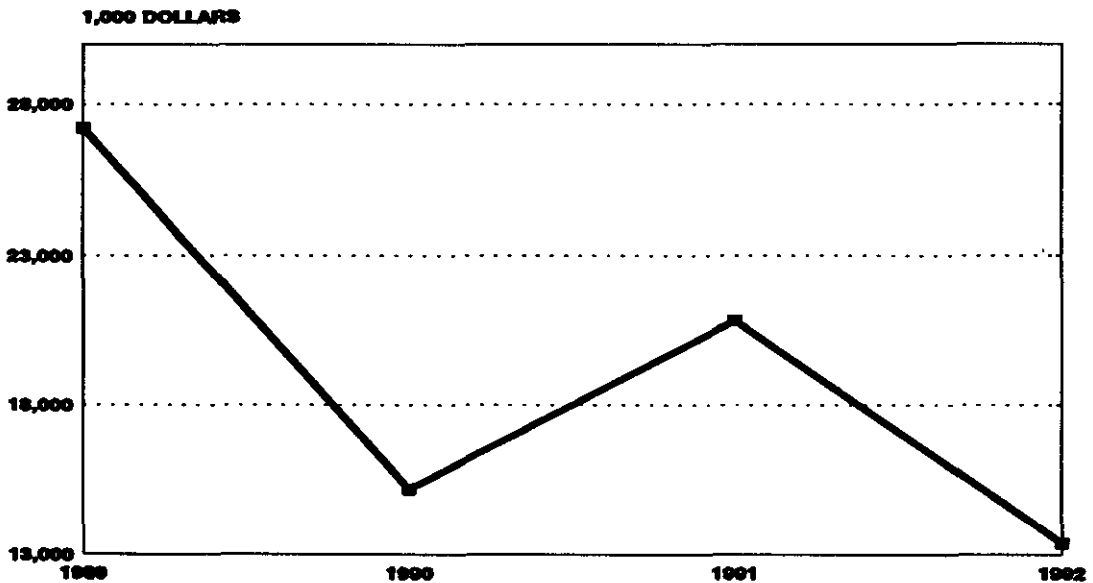
MOHAIR PRODUCTION

ARIZONA, MICHIGAN, NEW MEXICO, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS 1989 to 1992



MOHAIR VALUE OF PRODUCTION

ARIZONA, MICHIGAN, NEW MEXICO, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS 1989 TO 1992



Production multiplied by marketing year average price for individual states.

Wool: Number of Sheep and Lambs Shorn, Weight Per Fleece, and Production
by State and United States, 1991-92

State	Sheep & Lambs Shorn		Weight Per Fleece		Production	
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992
	--- 1,000 Head ---		--- Pounds ---		--- 1,000 Pounds ---	
AL	6.0	6.0	6.7	6.0	40	36
AK	1.8	0.7	8.9	7.1	16	5
AZ	207.0	188.0	7.2	6.9	1,490	1,300
CA	930.0	880.0	7.7	7.7	7,160	6,780
CO	769.0	758.0	7.4	7.9	5,724	5,954
CT	6.5	7.0	7.5	7.6	49	53
ID	*279.0	253.0	10.1	10.0	*2,816	2,527
IL	114.0	116.0	7.0	7.0	800	810
IN	97.0	92.0	7.0	7.0	681	644
IA	480.0	390.0	6.6	6.4	3,150	2,491
KS	197.0	185.0	*7.8	7.3	*1,535	1,353
KY	32.0	24.0	6.7	7.3	214	174
LA	13.0	13.0	6.7	6.8	87	88
ME	12.0	12.0	7.2	7.6	86	91
MD	28.0	30.0	6.8	6.6	190	198
MA	12.0	11.5	7.3	7.5	88	86
MI	95.0	99.0	*7.9	7.4	*746	730
MN	260.0	242.0	7.0	7.0	1,816	1,696
MO	122.0	106.0	6.8	6.6	832	703
MT	641.0	614.0	10.2	9.7	6,542	5,971
NE	154.0	139.0	7.3	7.2	1,130	998
NV	90.0	73.0	9.5	9.5	854	697
NH	9.2	8.5	7.6	7.4	70	63
NJ	9.5	10.4	7.1	6.7	67	70
NM	427.0	410.0	9.7	9.4	4,130	3,835
NY	70.0	61.0	7.1	7.1	498	431
NC	14.5	14.8	6.6	6.9	96	102
ND	*195.0	185.0	*9.4	9.2	*1,825	1,700
OH	285.0	220.0	6.6	6.9	1,871	1,523
OK	*113.0	92.0	6.6	6.7	*750	620
OR	*468.0	419.0	6.4	6.6	*3,005	2,752
PA	101.0	106.0	7.0	7.0	707	742
SD	630.0	590.0	9.0	8.7	5,684	5,119
TN	8.5	8.1	7.1	6.8	60	55
TX	2,330.0	2,450.0	7.2	7.2	16,700	17,600
UT	*456.0	440.0	10.4	9.9	*4,741	4,377
VT	20.0	19.0	7.2	7.5	144	143
VA	112.0	94.0	6.1	6.2	679	580
WA	70.0	64.0	8.6	8.8	600	560
WV	*78.0	67.0	*5.8	6.0	*452	402
WI	91.0	88.0	7.2	7.5	654	660
WY	*900.0	930.0	*9.4	9.0	*8,475	8,365
Oth Sts <u>1/</u>	74.7	52.4	6.5	6.2	486	327
US	*11,008.7	10,568.4	*7.97	7.89	*87,740	83,411

1/ AR, DE, FL, GA, HI, MS, RI, and SC. * Revised.

Wool: Price, and Value by State
and United States, 1991-92

State	Price Per Pound <u>1/</u>		Value <u>2/</u>	
	1991	1992	1991	1992
	---- Dollars ----		--- 1,000 Dollars ---	
AL	0.36	0.33	14	12
AK	1.00	1.20	16	6
AZ	0.42	0.56	626	728
CA	0.56	0.67	4,010	4,543
CO	0.52	0.74	2,976	4,406
CT	0.60	0.62	29	33
ID	0.47	0.68	*1,324	1,718
IL	0.17	0.28	136	227
IN	0.18	0.26	123	167
IA	0.21	0.32	662	797
KS	0.38	0.52	*583	704
KY	0.26	0.40	56	70
LA	0.29	0.33	25	29
ME	0.66	0.64	57	58
MD	0.34	0.44	65	87
MA	0.53	0.62	47	53
MI	0.26	0.36	*194	263
MN	0.25	0.34	454	577
MO	0.25	0.39	208	274
MT	0.57	0.85	3,729	5,075
NE	0.29	0.44	328	439
NV	0.52	0.74	444	516
NH	0.56	0.64	39	40
NJ	0.45	0.44	30	31
NM	0.65	0.91	2,685	3,490
NY	0.39	0.56	194	241
NC	0.25	0.42	24	43
ND	0.37	0.58	*675	986
OH	0.25	0.34	468	518
OK	0.39	0.51	*293	316
OR	0.34	0.48	*1,022	1,321
PA	0.29	0.42	205	312
SD	0.54	0.72	3,069	3,686
TN	0.39	0.40	23	22
TX	0.83	0.96	13,861	16,896
UT	0.51	0.78	*2,418	3,414
VT	0.65	0.60	94	86
VA	0.25	0.44	170	255
WA	0.41	0.59	246	330
WV	0.25	0.40	*113	161
WI	0.21	0.33	137	218
WY	0.61	0.86	*5,170	7,194
Oth Sts <u>3/</u>	0.28	0.40	136	131
US	0.55	0.74	*47,178	60,473

1/ Weighted by sales. 2/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price for individual States; US value is summation of State's value.

3/ AR, DE, FL, GA, MS, RI, and SC. * Revised.

Wool: Number of Sheep and Lambs Shorn, Weight Per Fleece, and Production
United States, 1909-92

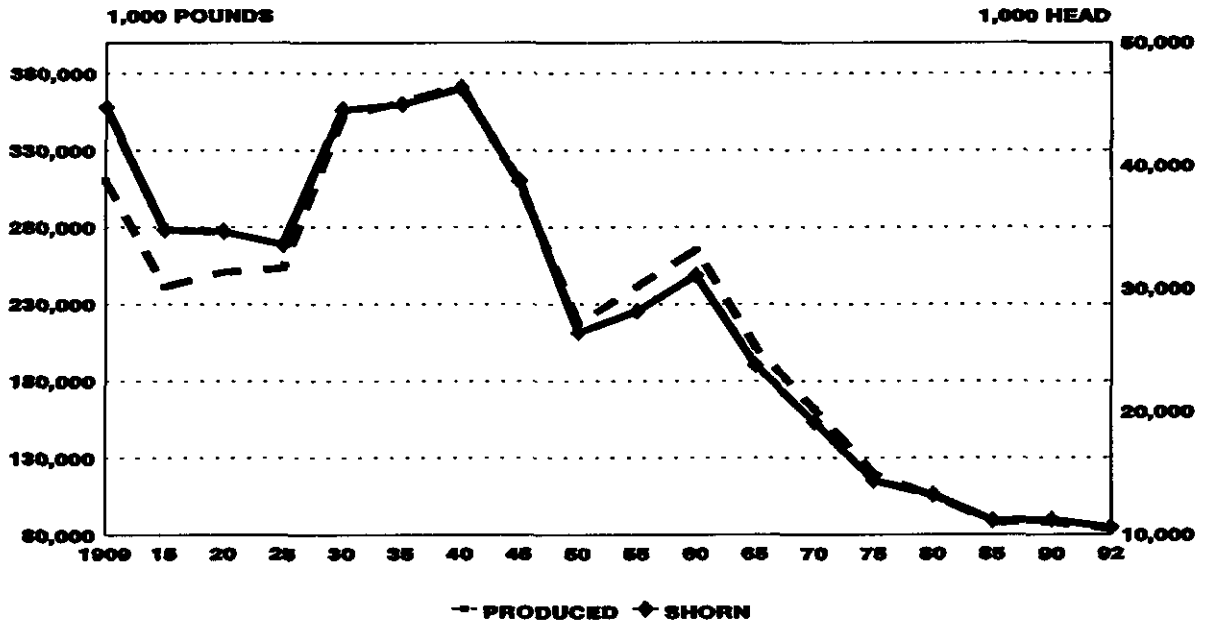
Year	Sheep & Lambs Shorn	Weight Per Fleece	Production
	1,000 Head	Pounds	1,000 Pounds
1909	44,758	6.90	310,179
1910	44,671	6.80	305,834
1911	43,621	6.90	301,552
1912	40,512	6.90	277,880
1913	38,529	6.90	265,888
1914	36,452	6.90	250,621
1915	34,758	6.90	241,175
1916	34,532	7.10	244,037
1917	32,971	7.20	236,914
1918	35,001	7.30	253,993
1919	36,817	7.30	270,091
1920	34,621	7.20	250,888
1921	33,080	7.30	241,723
1922	31,412	7.30	228,367
1923	30,953	7.40	230,168
1924	31,790	7.50	238,205
1925	33,564	7.50	253,203
1926	34,997	7.70	269,261
1927	37,414	7.70	289,404
1928	39,795	7.90	314,820
1929	42,011	7.80	327,795
1930	44,549	7.90	352,129
1931	46,832	8.04	376,301
1932	45,207	7.76	350,996
1933	46,005	8.13	374,152
1934	46,421	7.95	368,860
1935	44,991	8.04	361,531
1936	44,663	7.91	353,211
1937	44,284	8.04	356,078
1938	44,889	8.02	359,925
1939	45,195	8.00	361,689
1940	46,313	8.03	372,014
1941	47,722	8.12	387,520
1942	49,287	7.88	388,297
1943	47,892	7.91	378,843
1944	43,165	7.84	338,318
1945	38,763	7.95	307,976
1946	34,647	8.11	280,908
1947	30,953	8.12	251,425
1948	28,649	8.09	231,770
1949	26,382	8.07	212,899
1950	26,380	8.22	216,944
1951	27,347	8.34	228,091
1952	28,051	8.32	233,309
1953	27,845	8.34	232,258
1954	27,692	8.52	235,807
1955	28,149	8.57	241,284
1956	28,469	8.51	242,177
1957	28,415	8.41	239,101
1958	29,403	8.29	243,713
1959	30,763	8.45	259,939
1960	31,081	8.54	265,277

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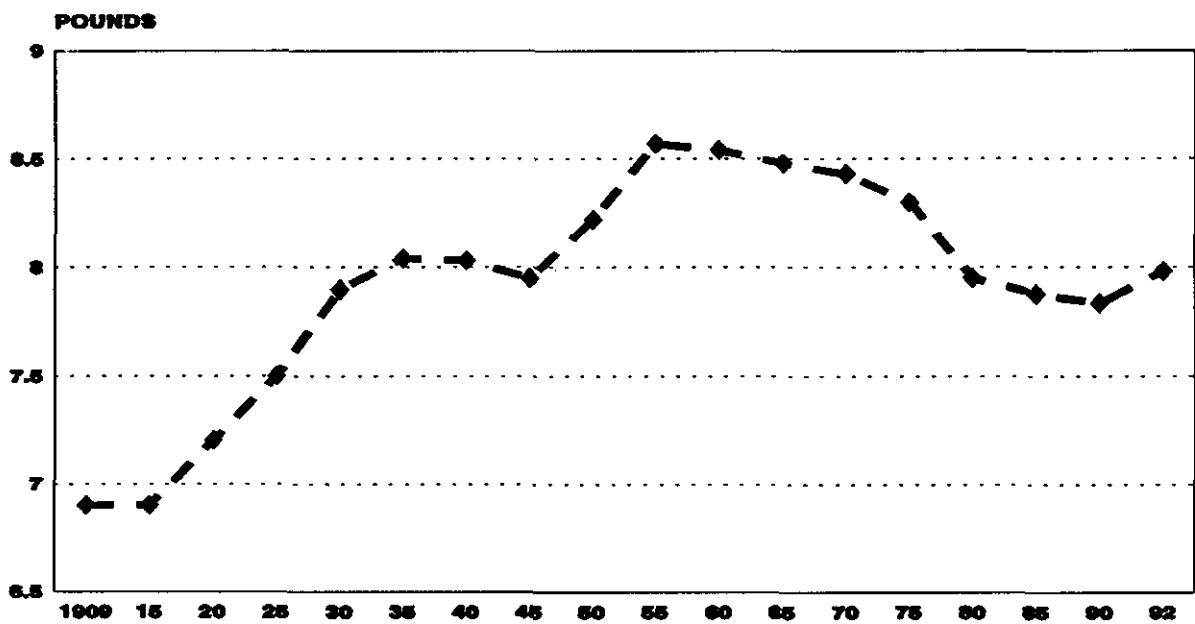
Wool: Number of Sheep and Lambs Shorn, Weight Per Fleece, and Production
United States, 1909-92 (continued)

Year	Sheep & Lambs Shorn	Weight Per Fleece	Production
	1,000 Head	Pounds	1,000 Pounds
1961	30,454	8.51	259,161
1962	29,193	8.45	246,636
1963	27,264	8.53	232,446
1964	25,455	8.34	212,333
1965	23,756	8.48	201,463
1966	22,923	8.51	195,053
1967	22,056	8.57	188,984
1968	20,759	8.55	177,396
1969	19,584	8.46	165,749
1970	19,163	8.43	161,587
1971	19,036	8.41	160,156
1972	18,770	8.44	158,506
1973	17,425	8.25	143,738
1974	15,956	8.23	131,382
1975	14,403	8.30	119,535
1976	13,536	8.21	111,100
1977	13,217	8.12	107,328
1978	12,719	8.09	102,942
1979	13,069	8.02	104,867
1980	13,263	7.95	105,419
1981	13,493	8.14	109,787
1982	13,199	8.04	106,129
1983	12,866	8.00	102,890
1984	12,322	7.77	95,670
1985	11,247	7.88	88,055
1986	10,827	7.82	84,372
1987	10,922	7.75	84,450
1988	11,531	7.76	89,482
1989	11,314	7.89	89,220
1990	11,222	7.84	88,033
1991	11,009	7.97	87,740
1992	10,568	7.89	83,411

SHEEP and LAMBS SHORN and WOOL PRODUCED UNITED STATES, 1909 to 1992



WEIGHT PER FLEECE UNITED STATES 1909 to 1992



Raw Carpet and Apparel Wool: Commercial Stocks, Domestic and Foreign,
by Grade, United States, January 1, 1993 1/

Product	Total Equivalent Scoured Weight	Shorn Greasy Wool		Scoured Wool Weight
		Greasy Weight	Estimated Scoured Weight	
1,000 pounds				
Carpet Wool (Incl. rugs, etc.):	2,002	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Apparel Wool (Incl. blankets, felt, etc.)				
Domestic				
60's and Finer	17,078	28,007	14,648	2,430
Coarser than 60	9,491	11,642	6,521	2,970
Total Domestic	26,569	39,649	21,169	5,400
Foreign				
60's and Finer	14,659	10,531	6,927	7,732
Coarser than 60	5,028	3,179	2,172	2,856
Total Foreign	19,687	13,710	9,099	10,588
Total Apparel	46,256	53,359	30,268	15,988

1/ Including washed wool, stocks held on consignment, stocks in Custom bonded warehouses and stocks in the process of manufacture up to the carding operation. Data does not include pulled wool and stocks held for the account of domestic growers except that held on consignment for growers.

Data not included for companies with stocks of less than 10,000 pounds.

2/ Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Mohair: Stocks by Product, United States, January 1, 1993 1/

Product	Total Equivalent Scoured Weight
	1,000 pounds
Adult Hair (34.0 and coarser Microns)	2,474
Young Goat Hair (29.1 - 33.9 Microns)	859
Kid Hair (29.0 and finer Microns)	1,401
Total	4,734

1/ Includes stocks held on consignment and stocks in process of manufacture up to the carding operation.

Wool and Mohair: Stocks of Tops and Noils,
United States, January 1, 1993

Product	Tops	Noils
		1,000 pounds
Wool	10,102	4,549
Mohair	<u>1/</u>	266

1/ Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Reliability of Wool and Mohair Production and Stocks Estimates

Survey Procedures: A random sample of U. S. producers was surveyed to provide data for the number of sheep shorn and production estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all sheep and goat producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. Data were collected from about 70,000 operators during the first half of January by mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interviews.

For the stocks of raw wool and mohair estimates, approximately 900 wool pools, warehouses, buyers, ranchers and processors were contacted. About 200 responded that they had raw positive wool stocks as of January 1, 1993 and are included in the estimate.

Estimation Procedures: These sheep shorn, wool and mohair production estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by each State office. National and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from past years. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service's (ASCS) record of pounds of wool and mohair from producers filing for incentive payments was used as check data.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve the current estimate. Previous year estimates are subject to revision when current estimates are made. Inventory estimates will also be reviewed after data from the Department of Commerce's five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Since all operations raising sheep and goats are not included in the sample for the inventory and production estimates, survey data are subject to sampling variability. Survey results for inventory, production and stocks estimates are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the table below. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between the first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for sheep shorn estimates over the past 7 years is 0.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 10.6 million head by more than 0.6 percent, or about 63,600 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.1 percent, or about 116,600 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

Also shown in the table is a 7-year record showing the range between the first estimate and the latest estimate. Using estimates for Sheep and Lambs Shorn as an example, changes between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate during the past 7 years have averaged 13,600 head, ranging from 6,600 to 106,400 head. The inventory estimate of Sheep and Lambs Shorn has been below the latest estimate 5 times and above 2 times in the last 7 years.

Reliability of U.S. Sheep and Lambs Shorn and Wool Production Estimates

Item	: Root : Mean : Square : Error	: 90% : Confidence : Level	: Difference Between			: Number of		
			: First : and Latest : Estimates	: Average	: Smallest	: Largest	: Above : Latest	: First : Below : Latest
	: Percent		----- 1,000 Head -----			Number		
Sheep Shorn	: 0.6	: 1.1	: 116.6	: 13.6	: -6.6	: -106.4	: 2	: 5
			----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Wool Prod.	: 0.7	: 1.3	: 1,084.3	: 52.3	: 16.0	: 1,307.0	: 2	: 5

1/ Based on data from 1985 through 1991.

Terms and Definitions

Agricultural Statistics Board: A panel of agricultural Statisticians assembled to review agricultural survey indications and to set national and state estimates for inventory, production and prices for a commodity. The "Board" meets in Washington, D. C. and data are held under tight security until the report is released.

Apparel wool: Wool suitable for manufacture into apparel fabrics. The wool is suitable for apparel fabrics, but may also be used for blankets, felt, etc.

Blending: Mixing together of various grades and/or lengths of wool in either the raw or semi-processed state to obtain a specific kind of yarn.

Bulk grade: The majority grade in a lot of original bag wool.

Carding: A process in which scoured wool is untangled and partially straightened.

Carpet wool: Coarse wool, often from unimproved sheep, used in the manufacture of carpets, rugs, etc.

Census of Agriculture: A count, every 5 years, by the Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce, of agricultural inventories, production and related economic data. Data are published for States and counties.

Check Data: Information derived from marketings, inspections, or certified assessments and other sources that has some direct relation to a commodity and can be used, with varying degrees of confidence, to supplement survey data in the preparation or revision of estimates.

Clean basis: A term used in market reports quoting price based on the clean fiber content of a given lot of wool.

Clean content: The yield of scoured wool from a given quantity of fleece after allowance for any vegetable, or other foreign matter which may be present after scouring.

Clean wool fiber present: The weight of wool base present in the raw wool, adjusted to a moisture content of 12 percent moisture, an alcohol-extractives content of 1.5 percent and a mineral matter (ash) content of 0.5 percent.

Combing: A process in which long fibers are laid relatively parallel and short fibers (or noils) are removed.

Domestic wool: Wool grown in the United States, as contrasted to wool from other countries.

Estimate: An approximate measure of the actual quantity of an item, usually derived by calculation from sample data.

Fleece: The wool of one sheep obtained by shearing.

Fleece Weight: Pounds of wool shorn from a single sheep or lamb, usually 7-12 pounds for sheep and 3-6 pounds for lambs.

Grade: A term used to describe the fiber diameter and relative fineness of wool. Grades of wool grown and marketed in the United States are normally described by the American blood system, the spinning count, or by microns (micrometers).

Grading: Separating whole fleeces according to fineness and length of staple.

Grease wool: Wool as it is removed from live sheep, prior to scouring.

Micron: A term meaning micrometer (10 to the minus 3 millimeters or 1/25,400 inch) used to describe the fineness of wool fibers.

Mohair: The hair from the Angora goat.

Noil: Short fibers separated from long fibers in the combing process.

Payment, Incentive: A form of compensatory payment in which the support price is set at a level high enough to encourage the increase in production of a particular commodity to a desired level.

Raw Wool: Wool in the grease, pulled or scoured condition.

Revision: A change made by the Agricultural Statistics Board to an earlier published USDA estimate. Revisions are made as a result of more current information or additional information learned about the commodity since the original estimate was published.

Scoured wool: Clean wool; wool that has been washed to remove grease, soil and suint.

Shearing: The operation of using shears to clip wool or mohair from sheep or goats.

Sheep and Lambs on Feed: Sheep and lambs being fed grain or other concentrates, or being pastured on succulent grasses (alfalfa pastures, etc.) or crop residue (corn stalks, beet tops, etc.) and expected to produce a slaughter carcass that will grade good or better.

Sheep, Stock: Sheep in the breeding flock, including ewes and rams used for breeding, wethers one year old and older, ewe lambs and ram lambs.

Shrink: The nonwool portion of grease wool, including grease, vegetable matter, dirt, suint, paints, insects, etc.

Stocks: Includes all stocks held in bonded warehouses and all stocks in the process of manufacture up to the carding operation. Does not reflect purchase or sale commitments on the future market or wool contracted before shearing.

Suint: The water-soluble component (largely potassium and organic salts) of grease wool produced by the sweat glands in the skin of sheep.

Tag: Mohair(goats) and wool(sheep) clipped from face and crotch area.

Top: A continuous untwisted strand of fibers from which the short fibers (noil) have been removed by combing.

Vegetable Matter: Pieces of plants or plant products. Examples are seeds, burrs, chaff and straw.

Value: Production multiplied by market year average price.

Variance: A statistical term indicating the variation within a population.

Wool: Fiber from the fleece of sheep. Wool is spun into yarn or thread for use in apparel and the manufacture of household and industrial products.

Wool Breeds: White-faced sheep breeds selected for their adaptability to environmental and forage conditions, reproductive efficiency, wool production, milking ability, and longevity. Replacement ewe lambs are generally selected from these breed types or crosses among these breeds.

Wool Pool: A grouping of the wool of many producers into a single total amount so it can be sold on the market as a single unit. Such commodity pools are very helpful in securing a more satisfactory market than the individual producer could command for his small quantity.

Wool Sorting: The process of separating fleeces into groups according to fineness and length of the staple.

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