

# Survey of sheep and goat populations in November/December 1998, production forecasts for 1999

Albert Jerabek

## Sheep production continues to rise following sharp increase in the United Kingdom

After marked year-on-year increases in the sheep population in the European Union (EU-15) for late 1995/96 and 1996/97 (1.5% and 2.9% respectively), the 1997/98 year-on-year comparison showed a slight fall of 635 000 head (635K), or -0.6%, to 98.2 million head. Sheep breeding is concentrated in five of the Member States, UK, E, I, F and EL, which together account for 86.2 % of the population, the two leading countries being the UK and E, with 31.7% and 24.3% respectively. With the exception of the UK (+3.5%) and P (+1%), comparisons of the 1997 and 1998 figures in countries with a sheep population of over 500K show declines ranging from -4.3% (E) to -0.8% (NL). Had it not been for the increase of 1.05 million head in the UK, there would have been a marked decrease in the EU-15 sheep population. The UK and E also show opposing trends in terms of breakdown of categories. Whilst "Ewes and ewe lambs put to the ram" in the UK increased by +301K (1.5%), this category fell in E by -366K, or 2%. In the UK, "Other sheep" rose by +752K, or +7.5%, whilst in E it fell by -710K or -10.3%.

The driving force of the UK is also discernible in the 1998 figures for gross indigenous production (GIP) and in the figures forecast for 1999. In 1998, GIP for EU-15 grew by 2.6%, or 1.8 million head. This increase comprised strong growth in the UK (+2.3 million head, or +12.7%) and IRL (+300K, or +8.1%), slight growth in E and A and marked falls in DK (-10%), FIN (-8.3%), P (-7.7%), F (-3.9%), D (-3.8%), I (-2.8%) and EL (-2.1%). A further increase in GIP of +810K (+1.1%) for EU-15 is forecast for 1999, with the UK again providing the driving force with 1.5 million head (+7.4%). IRL will hardly see production expand any further, whilst all the other Member States can expect sharp falls of -9.4% (A), -8% (FIN), -7.9% (NL) or more modest/slight falls of -2.8% (DK) to -0.5% (P). What thus appears at first glance to be a positive picture of an expanding EU-15 market is thus seen in a truer light. The sustained growth in production in the UK may continue to dampen competition in the other Member States.

## Goat population on the decline again, production continues to fall

Following a 250K-head increase in the EU-15 goat population between the end of 1996 and 1997, numbers fell by 216K between the end of 1997 and 1998, reducing the population to 12.8 million animals. This trend is primarily attributable to E, where the 1997/98 year-on-year figures charted a fall in population to 2.5 million head (-260K, -9.3%). F recorded a fall of -1.9%, whilst I and P saw growth of 1.3% and 1% respectively. EL, which accounts for almost half the EU-15 goat population at 5.9 million head, saw virtually no change.

GIP fell by -1.4% (-120K) between 1997 and 1998, and this looks set to continue for 98/99 at -1.9% (-64K). In the five producer countries, EL, E, F, I and P, which together account for 98.4% of EU-15 GIP, trends in 1998 differed. EL recorded a fall of -1.9%, whilst E and F saw increases of +2% and +3.3% respectively. I and P saw sharp declines of -4.9% and -11.3% respectively. In 1999, GIP in EL will stay at the 1998 level. Italy can expect to see an increase (of +2.9%), whilst the figures for E, F and P (-7.8%, -2.7% and -1.5% respectively) are basically the reason for the total decrease.

*Abbreviations of the Member States: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Germany, EL = Greece, E = Spain, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, A = Austria, P = Portugal, FIN = Finland, S = Sweden, UK = United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

## Statistics in focus

### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

THEME 5 – 8/1999

#### AGRICULTURE

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Manuscript completed on: 29.04.1999  
Catalogue number: CA-NN-99-008-EN-C

1000 STÜCK

1000 HEAD

1000 TETES

EU-15	EUR-11	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
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SCHAFBESTAND IM DEZEMBER

SHEEP LIVESTOCK IN DECEMBER

EFFECTIFS OVINS EN DECEMBRE

1	INSGESAMT																TOTAL	TOTAL	1
1995	94 631	55 504	118	93	2 395	9 606	21 301	10 075	5 583	10 668	7	1 450	365	3 428	115	461	28 967	1995	
1996	96 058	58 088	113	92	2 324	9 244	23 937	10 125	5 391	10 920	6	1 400	381	3 380	111	469	28 165	1996	
1997	98 826	58 738	118	103	2 302	9 516	24 827	9 824	5 634	10 890	7	1 236	384	3 414	103	442	30 027	1997	
1998	98 191 e	57 239 e	116 p	108 p	2 260 p	9 325 p	23 751 p	9 582 p	5 624 p	10 770 p	6 p	1 225 p	361 p	3 448 p	96 p	440 e	31 079 p	1998	
%98/97	-0.6 e	-2.6 e	-1.5 p	4.9 p	-1.8 p	-2.4 p	-4.3 p	-2.5 p	-0.2 p	-1.1 p	8.7 p	-0.8 p	-6.0 p	1.0 p	-6.7 p	-0.5 e	3.5 p	%98/97	

1.1	MUTTERSCHAFE UND GEDECKTE LÄMMER																EWES AND LAMBS PUT TO THE RAM	BREBIS ET AGNELLES SAILLIES	1.1
1995	70 601	70 601	83	77	1 686	8 359	15 741	7 880	4 372	8 518	5	1 080	214	2 301	80	266	19 939	1995	
1996	70 146 e	44 181 e	82 e	77	1 695	6 120	18 172	7 651	4 312	8 650	5	1 050	223	2 265	77	266	19 502	1996	
1997	69 821 e	43 169 e	83 e	75	1 644	6 302	17 917	7 580	4 372	8 088	5	927	198	2 288	67	247	20 028	1997	
1998	69 403 e	42 600 e	82 e	73 p	1 630 p	6 155 p	17 551 p	7 533 p	4 340 p	8 020 p	4 p	919 p	194 p	2 266 p	61 p	246 e	20 329 p	1998	
%98/97	-0.6 e	-1.3 e	-1.2 e	-2.7 p	-0.9 p	-2.3 p	-2.0 p	-0.6 p	-0.7 p	-0.8 p	-9.0 p	-0.9 p	-2.0 p	-1.0 p	-8.9 p	-0.4 e	1.5 p	%98/97	

1.2	ANDERE SCHAFE																OTHER SHEEP	AUTRES OVINS	1.2
1995	24 011	13 524	33	16	709	1 247	5 560	2 177	1 211	2 150	2	370	151	1 127	35	195	9 029	1995	
1996	26 036 e	13 907 e	31 e	15	629	3 248	5 765	2 474	1 079	2 270	2	350	158	1 115	34	203	8 663	1996	
1997	29 246 e	15 568 e	35 e	28	658	3 457	6 910	2 243	1 262	2 802	2	309	186	1 126	36	195	9 998	1997	
1998	28 788 e	14 639 e	34 e	35 p	630 p	3 170 p	6 200 p	2 049 p	1 284 p	2 750 p	2 p	306 p	167 p	1 182 p	35 p	194 e	10 750 p	1998	
%98/97	-1.6 e	-6.0 e	-2.9 e	25.0 p	-4.2 p	-8.3 p	-10.3 p	-8.6 p	1.8 p	-1.9 p	22.2 p	-1.0 p	-10.2 p	5.0 p	-2.5 p	-0.5 e	7.5 p	%98/97	

ZIEGENBESTAND IM DEZEMBER

GOATS LIVESTOCK IN DECEMBER

EFFECTIFS CAPRINS EN DECEMBRE

1	INSGESAMT																TOTAL	TOTAL	1
1995	12 467	12 467	8	0	90	5 847	2 964	1 083	0	1 448	1	73	54	799	6	5	90	1995	
1996	12 047 e	12 047 e	11	0	93	5 668	2 734	1 114	0	1 390	1	110	54	781	6	5 e	81	1996	
1997	12 297 e	12 297 e	11	0	93	5 878	2 795	1 111	0	1 347	1	130	58	785	7	5 e	77	1997	
1998	12 081 e	6 108 e	11 p	0	123 p	5 888 p	2 534	1 090 p	0	1 365 p	1 p	130 e	54 p	793 p	7 p	5 e	80 p	1998	
%98/97	-1.8 e	-50.3 e	-1.1 p	0.0	32.3 p	0.2 p	-9.3	-1.9 p	0.0	1.3 p	-11.4 p	0.0 e	-7.0 p	1.0 p	1.5 p	0.0 e	5.0 p	%98/97	

1.1	ZIEGEN DIE GEZICKELT HABEN UND GEDECKTE ZIEGEN																GOATS WHICH HAVE KIDDED AND GOATS MATED	CHEVRES AYANT MIS BAS ET CHEVRES SAILLIES	1.1
1995	:	:	:	:	:	4 000	2 170	943	:	1 071	:	:	:	581	4	:	46	1995	
1996	:	:	:	:	:	3 988	2 042	940	:	1 150	:	:	:	569	5	:	43	1996	
1997	:	:	:	:	:	3 987	2 034	961	:	1 144	:	:	39	572	5	:	41	1997	
1998	:	:	:	:	:	4 078 p	1 855	941 p	:	1 155 p	:	:	37 p	561 p	5 p	:	42 p	1998	
%98/97	:	:	:	:	:	2.3 p	-8.8	-2.1 p	:	1.0 p	:	:	-4.2 p	-1.9 p	0.0 p	:	4.7 p	%98/97	

p VORLÄUFIGE ODER GESCHÄTZTE ANGABE  
: NICHT VERFÜGBAR  
e EUROSTAT SCHÄTZUNG

p DATA PROVISIONAL OR ESTIMATED  
: UNAVAILABLE  
e ESTIMATED BY EUROSTAT

p DONNEE PROVISoire OU ESTIMEE  
: DONNEE NON DISPONIBLE  
e ESTIMATION EUROSTAT

**BRUTTOEIGENERZEUGUNG**
**GROSS INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION**
**PRODUCTION INDIGENE BRUTE**

1000 STÜCK

1000 HEAD

1000 TETES

EU-15	EUR-11	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
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**1 SCHAFEN**
**SHEEP**
**OVINS**
**1**

1-06	33 765 p	21 231 p	107 p	25 p	1 110 p	4 946 p	9 822 p	4 328 p	1 503 p	2 656 p	0 p	380 p	174 p	1 128 p	23 p	38 p	7 525 p	1-06
7-12	35 183 p	21 854 p	80 p	55 p	1 124 p	2 490 p	10 164 p	3 588 p	1 945 p	3 167 p	0 p	520 p	154 p	1 062 p	50 p	185 p	10 600 p	7-12
1997	68 948 p	43 085 p	187 p	80 p	2 234 p	7 436 p	19 986 p	7 916 p	3 448 p	5 823 p	0 p	900 p	328 p	2 190 p	72 p	223 p	18 125 p	1997
1-06	34 681 e	21 013 e	107 e	24 p	1 050 p	4 827 f	9 844 p	4 154 p	1 649 p	2 539 p	0 e	390 p	179 p	1 078 p	23 p	38 e	8 779 p	1-06
7-12	36 077 e	21 748 e	80 e	48 p	1 100 p	2 455 f	10 282 p	3 450 p	2 077 p	3 119 p	0 e	500 p	153 p	944 p	43 p	185 e	11 642 p	7-12
1998	70 759 e	42 761 e	187 e	72 p	2 150 p	7 282 f	20 126 p	7 604 p	3 726 p	5 658 p	0 e	890 p	331 p	2 022 p	66 p	223 e	20 421 p	1998
1-06	34 754 e	20 627 e	107 e	23 f	1 035 f	4 827 e	9 639 f	4 075 f	1 670 f	2 500 f	0 e	340 f	162 f	1 077 f	22 f	38 e	9 239 f	1-06
7-12	36 815 e	21 429 e	80 e	47 f	1 090 f	2 455 e	10 134 f	3 368 f	2 065 f	3 100 f	0 e	480 f	138 f	935 f	39 f	185 e	12 699 f	7-12
1999	71 569 e	42 056 e	187 e	70 f	2 125 f	7 282 e	19 773 f	7 443 f	3 735 f	5 600 f	0 e	820 f	300 f	2 012 f	61 f	223 e	21 938 f	1999
% 1-06	2.7 e	-1.0 f	0.0 e	-4.0 p	-5.4 p	-2.4 f	0.2 p	-4.0 p	9.7 p	-4.4 p	0.0 e	2.6 p	2.4 p	-4.4 p	4.0 p	0.0 e	16.7 p	% 1-06
% 7-12	2.5 e	-0.5 f	0.0 e	-12.7 p	-2.1 p	-1.4 f	1.2 p	-3.8 p	6.8 p	-1.5 p	0.0 e	-3.8 p	-0.8 p	-11.1 p	-13.9 p	0.0 e	9.8 p	% 7-12
%98/97	2.6 e	-0.8 f	0.0 e	-10.0 p	-3.8 p	-2.1 f	0.7 p	-3.9 p	8.1 p	-2.8 p	0.0 e	-1.1 p	0.9 p	-7.7 p	-8.3 p	0.0 e	12.7 p	%98/97
% 1-06	0.2 e	-1.8 f	0.0 e	-4.2 f	-1.4 f	0.0 e	-2.1 f	-1.9 f	1.3 f	-1.5 f	0.0 f	-12.8 f	-9.3 f	-0.1 f	-7.7 f	0.0 e	5.2 f	% 1-06
% 7-12	2.0 e	-1.5 f	0.0 e	-2.1 f	-0.9 f	0.0 e	-1.4 f	-2.4 f	-0.6 f	-0.6 f	0.0 f	-4.0 f	-9.7 f	-1.0 f	-8.2 f	0.0 e	9.1 f	% 7-12
%99/98	1.1 e	-1.6 f	0.0 e	-2.8 f	-1.2 f	0.0 e	-1.8 f	-2.1 f	0.2 f	-1.0 f	0.0 f	-7.9 f	-9.4 f	-0.5 f	-8.0 f	0.0 e	7.4 f	%99/98

**2 ZIEGEN**
**GOATS**
**CAPRINS**
**2**

1-06	5 491 p	2 220 p	0 p	0 p	9 p	3 262 p	806 p	901 p	0 p	222 p	0 p	41 p	32 p	209 p	0 p	0 p	9 p	1-06
7-12	3 225 p	1 761 p	0 p	0 p	6 p	1 452 p	942 p	304 p	0 p	207 p	0 p	31 p	27 p	244 p	0 p	0 p	12 p	7-12
1997	8 716 p	3 981 p	0 p	0 p	15 p	4 714 p	1 748 p	1 205 p	0 p	429 p	0 p	72 p	59 p	453 p	0 p	0 p	21 p	1997
1-06	5 431 f	2 180 p	0 p	0 p	8 p	3 245 p	760 p	940 p	0 p	215 p	0 p	27 p	34 p	197 p	0 p	0 p	5 p	1-06
7-12	3 165 f	1 781 p	0 p	0 p	6 p	1 380 p	1 023 p	305 p	0 p	193 p	0 p	21 p	28 p	205 p	0 p	0 p	4 p	7-12
1998	8 596 f	3 962 p	0 p	0 p	14 p	4 625 p	1 783 p	1 245 p	0 p	408 p	0 p	48 p	61 p	402 p	0 p	0 p	10 p	1998
1-06	5 297 f	2 047 f	0 f	0 f	8 f	3 245 f	650 f	913 f	0 f	220 f	0 f	30 f	31 f	195 f	0 f	0 f	5 f	1-06
7-12	3 135 f	1 751 f	0 f	0 f	6 f	1 380 f	994 f	299 f	0 f	200 f	0 f	25 f	26 f	201 f	0 f	0 f	4 f	7-12
1999	8 432 f	3 798 f	0 f	0 f	14 f	4 625 f	1 644 f	1 212 f	0 f	420 f	0 f	55 f	57 f	396 f	0 f	0 f	9 f	1999
% 1-06	-1.1 p	-1.8 p	0.0 p	0.0 p	-13.3 p	-0.5 p	-5.7 p	4.3 p	0.0 p	-3.2 p	0.0 p	-34.1 p	4.7 p	-5.7 p	0.0 p	0.0 p	-40.0 p	% 1-06
% 7-12	-1.8 p	1.1 p	0.0 p	0.0 p	3.3 p	-4.9 p	8.6 p	0.3 p	0.0 p	-6.8 p	0.0 p	-32.3 p	4.1 p	-16.0 p	0.0 p	0.0 p	-64.2 p	% 7-12
%98/97	-1.4 p	-0.5 p	0.0 p	0.0 p	-6.7 p	-1.9 p	2.0 p	3.3 p	0.0 p	-4.9 p	0.0 p	-33.3 p	4.4 p	-11.3 p	0.0 p	0.0 p	-53.8 p	%98/97
% 1-06	-2.5 f	-6.1 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	-14.5 f	-2.9 f	0.0 f	2.3 f	0.0 f	11.1 f	-7.7 f	-1.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	-7.4 f	% 1-06
% 7-12	-1.0 f	-1.7 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	-2.8 f	-2.0 f	0.0 f	3.6 f	0.0 f	19.0 f	-6.6 f	-2.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	-7.0 f	% 7-12
%99/98	-1.9 f	-4.1 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	-7.8 f	-2.7 f	0.0 f	2.9 f	0.0 f	14.6 f	-7.2 f	-1.5 f	0.0 f	0.0 f	-7.2 f	%99/98

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