Sheep Facts

From Sheep Hide and Wool

Lanolin (used in lotions to help keep our skin soft and moist) Clothing Yarns Baseballs Insulation Tennis balls Carpet

From Intestines

Sausage casings Instrument strings Surgical sutures Tennis racquet strings

From Manure

Nitrogen Fertilizer Phosphorus

From Fats and Fatty Acids

Explosives Chewing Gum Paints Make-up Dog Food Margarine Medicines Dish Soap Tires Chicken Feed Antifreeze Crayons Floor Wax Candles Herbicides Shaving Cream Shampoo and Conditioner Lotion



From the Bones, Horns and Hooves

Syringes Gelatin Desserts Piano Keys Marshmallows Bandage strips Adhesive tape Combs and toothbrushes Buttons Ice Cream Record Albums Wallpaper and Wallpaper paste Cellophane wrap and tape Photographic film

American Sheep Industry www.sheepusa.org Alberta Lamb Producers <u>www.ablamb.ca</u> Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers www.wool.ca fun facts brochure is available on the Alberta Lamb Producer's website www.ablamb.ca/promotions/kids.html



Eating Lamb (from Alberta Lamb, www.albertalamb.ca)

Alberta lamb has a milder flavour than other imports as Alberta Lamb is grain finished. Lamb is any animal less than one year old. Hogget is 1-2 years old and Mutton is greater than 2 years. The older the animal is the more flavour it has. Most prefer the milder taste of lamb.

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION CHART

Based on a 100 gram serving of cooked lamb*

* These values are based on the average of 60 cuts (American Lamb) including a mix of lean and non-lean cuts & various cooking methods to reflect actual consumption.

** The values are expressed as a percentage of the average daily-recommended

Energy	266 kcal	12%
Vitamin B12	2.65 mcg	88%
Niacin (Vitamin B3)	11.48 NE	74%
Zinc	5.49 mg	55%
Protein	26.37 grams	40%
Riboflavin (Vitamin B2)	0.25 mg	23%
Iron	2.12 mg	22%
Vitamin B6	0.13 mg	13%
Magnesium	25 mg	11%
Folate (Folic Acid)	20 mcg	10%
Thiamin (Vitamin B1)	0.09 mg	10%

The majority of lamb in Alberta is raised for the meat industry. We are currently producing only half the lamb eaten in Alberta.



Wool facts from the website of The Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers

The oldest wool textile, found in Denmark, dates from 1500 BC, and the oldest wool carpet, from Siberia, from 500 BC.

What is it?

Sheep were among the first animals to be domesticated, and the first textiles were probably woven from their fleece. Today wool is still the world's leading animal natural fibre: its complex protein structure is responsible for unique characteristics and properties such as exceptional resilience and elasticity that synthetic fibres just cannot match. Wool varies from super fine Merino fibre similar to cashmere, to very coarse hairy wools. Two thirds of the wool harvest is used in the manufacture of garments, and about one third in carpets, upholstery and rugs. Industrial uses of wool - such as in insulation - accounts for about 5 percent of the total.

How is it produced?

Sheep are usually shorn once a year in the spring/summer months, although in some countries shearing may take place as many as three times a year. In some countries where wool is a major export, product systems are advanced. The wool is rigorously tested to determine properties and different grades are packed separately. Then the wool is cleaned to remove grease and dirt, then carded and combed. The semi-processed wool is then spun into yarn for use in fabrics, knitted garments or hand-knitting wool.

How much is produced?

FAO estimates annual wool production at around 2.1 million tonnes a year. Australia produces one fifth of that total, while China, New Zealand, Iran, Argentina and the UK each produced more than 50 000 tonnes in 2005. The wool produced in Alberta is not the quality needed in the garment industry.

Sheep Trivia (Courtesy of Cyberspace Farm)

- ☺ There are 150 yards (450 feet) of wool yarn in a baseball.
- © Sheep have no top front teeth but the roof of their mouth is hard. This permits sheep to eat vegetation close to the ground and prevents them from pulling up plant roots.
- ☺ The small intestines from 11 sheep are needed to make 1 tennis racket.
- ☺ All sheep leaving the farm are required to have a Sheep Identification tag since 2004
- Sheep eat woody and broadleaf plants as well as tall weeds and grasses. As a result, sheep are an ideal tool for controlling undergrowth in forests and other wooded areas. The U.S. Forest Service uses "fire fighting" sheep as a low-tech, low-cost approach to undergrowth control on national forests.