

SCRAPIE: ERADICATE IT

The sheep industry's scrapie eradication efforts.



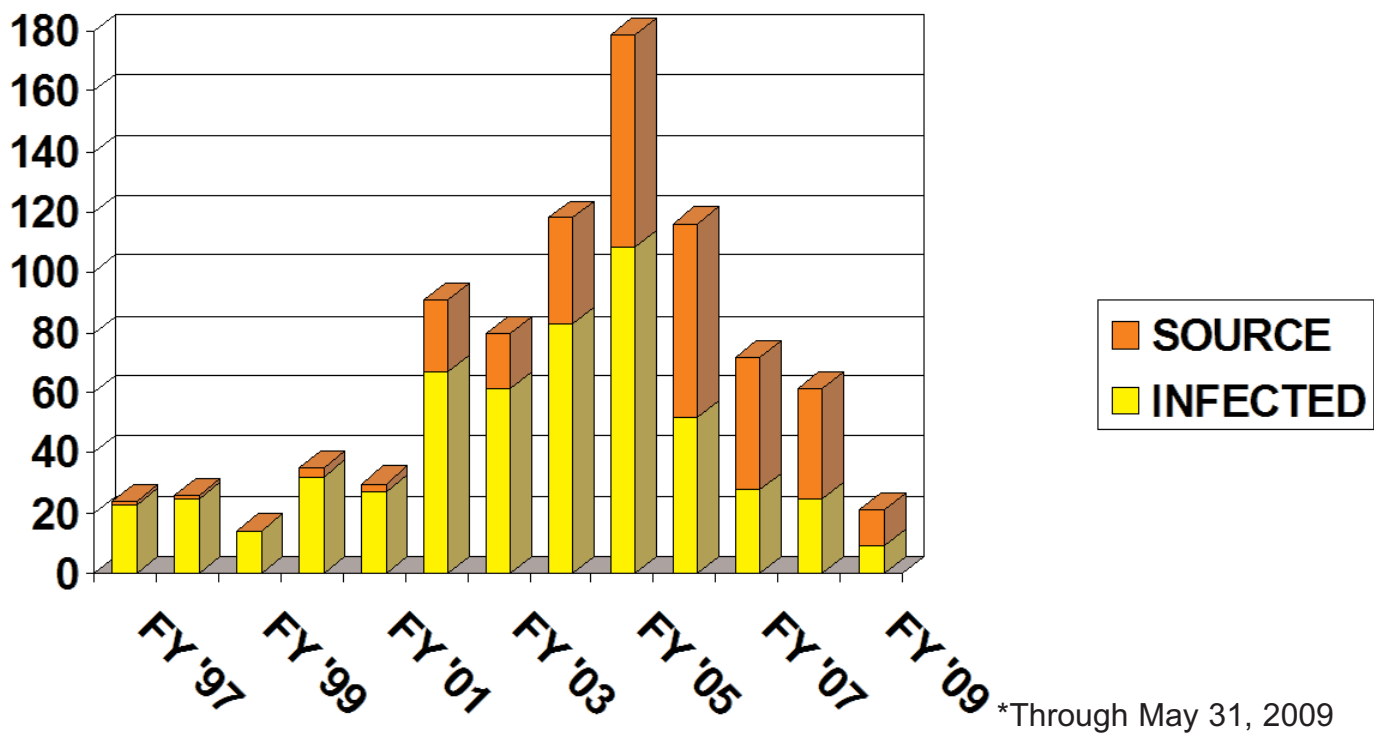
June 2009

The goal of the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) and the U.S. sheep industry is to eradicate scrapie from our borders. In addition, it is the objective to have the World Organization for Animal Health, OIE, declare the United States scrapie free by 2017. This quarterly publication is created specifically for those of you in the field who are also working to achieve this goal.

This newsletter brings together, into one spot, current information from all 50 states, as well as from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and any other organization providing scrapie news, and reports it back to the field.

If you have first-hand accounts that you believe would be relevant for others to read or have information that you would like included in this newsletter, please let us know at becky@sheepusa.org.

Infected and Source Flocks New Statuses by Year FY 1997 – 2009*



Scrapie Chapter Revised at OIE

The World Animal Health Organization, known as OIE, in its updated Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Report on scrapie has changed its recommendations on how countries should view different types of the disease.

The chapter has been revised to include the statement, "The chapter does not cover so-called 'atypical' scrapie (as called Nor98 or Nor98-like), which is clinically, pathologically, biochemically and epidemiologically unrelated to 'classical' scrapie, may not be contagious and may, in fact, be a spontaneous degenerative condition of older sheep."

"It is good news to see that the OIE is distancing classical scrapie from Nor98-like scrapie," commented Jim Logan, DVM, chair of the American Sheep Industry Association's animal health committee. "By

making this separation, a country, state or region that conducts an effective scrapie surveillance program and occasionally uncovers a case of Nor98-like scrapie need not continue to incur the regulatory burden associated with the discovery. A discovery that could previously have detrimentally affected export opportunities for that country."

The OIE is the intergovernmental organization responsible for improving animal health worldwide. Established in 1924, it is recognized as a reference organization by the World Trade Organization.

"This change is likely to ease the regulatory burden on the U.S. scrapie eradication program and on producers with flocks that may be identified with this condition as well as make scrapie eradication achievable in the United States," concluded Logan.

Other changes were also outlined in this chapter. The complete chapter is available at www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/oie/downloads/tahc_oct08/tahc-scrapie77-mar09.pdf.

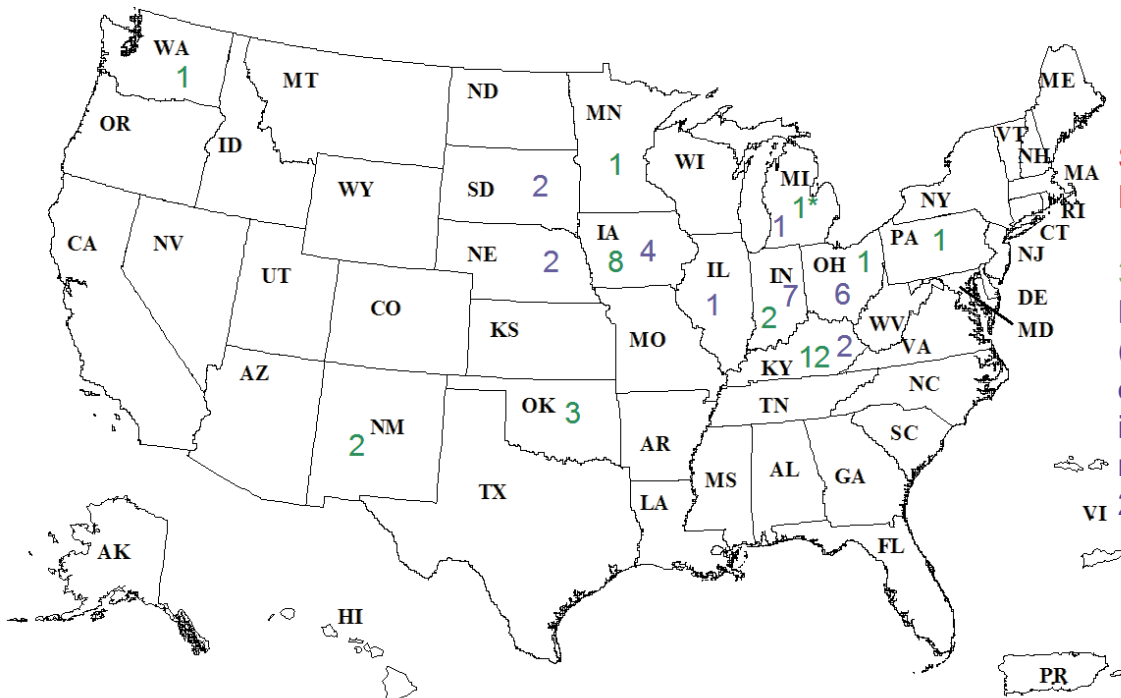
Animals Sampled for Scrapie Testing

Sheep and Goats

As of May 31, 2009

27,998 animals have been sampled for scrapie testing: 26,091 RSSS (number includes 437 rectal biopsies from Texas); 1,366 regulatory field cases; and 541 regulatory live animal biopsies.

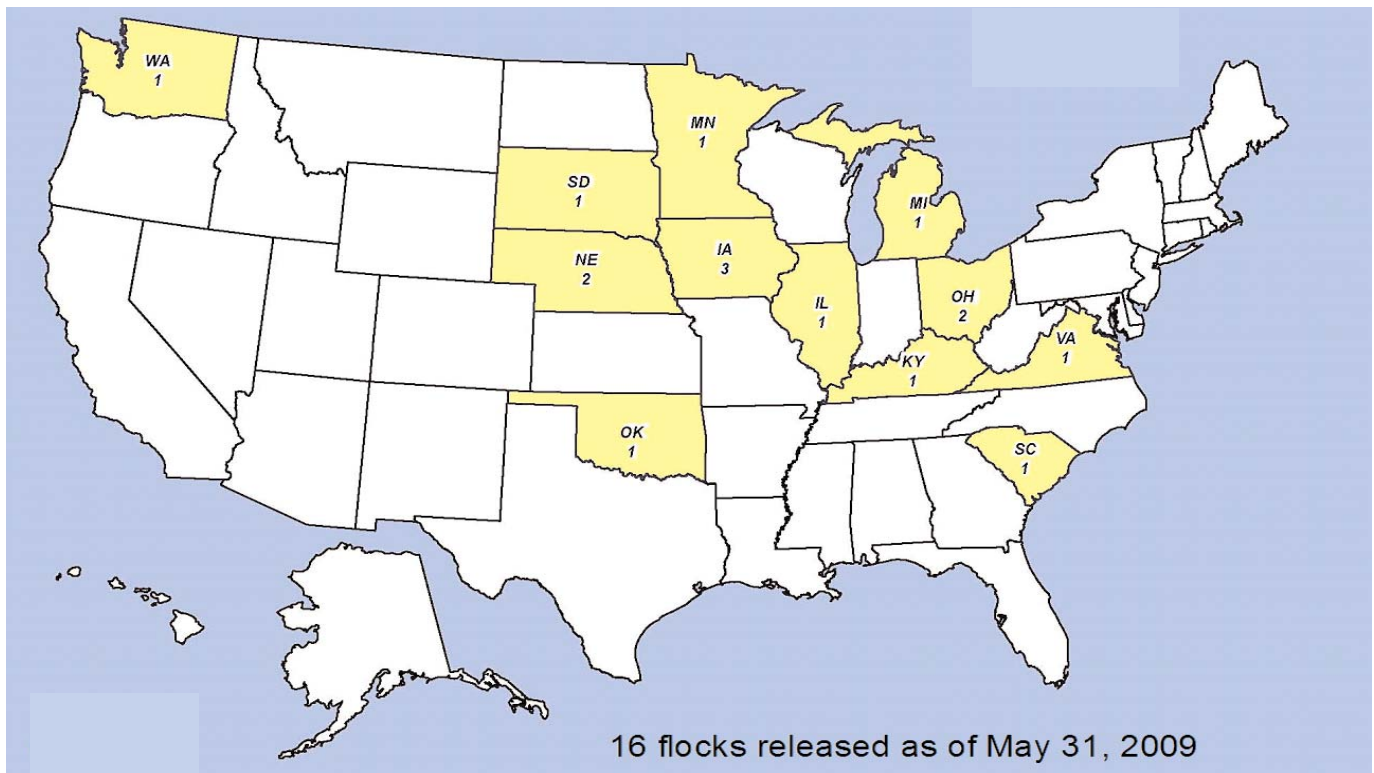
Scrapie Confirmed Cases in FY2009



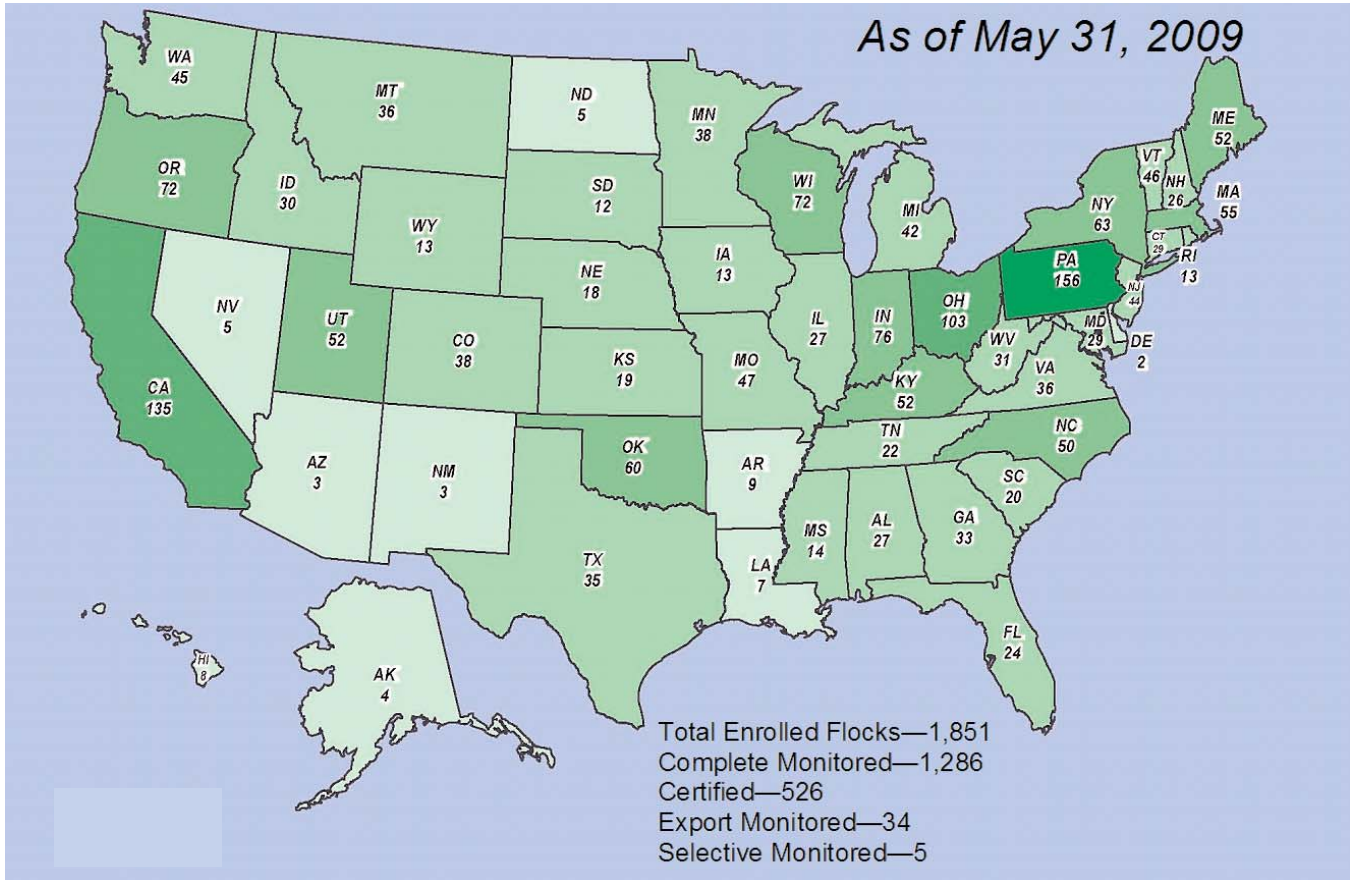
Scrapie cases as of May 31, 2009 = 57

32 field cases; 25 RSSS cases (reported by State of ID tag. Collected in FY09 and reported as of June 20, 2009).

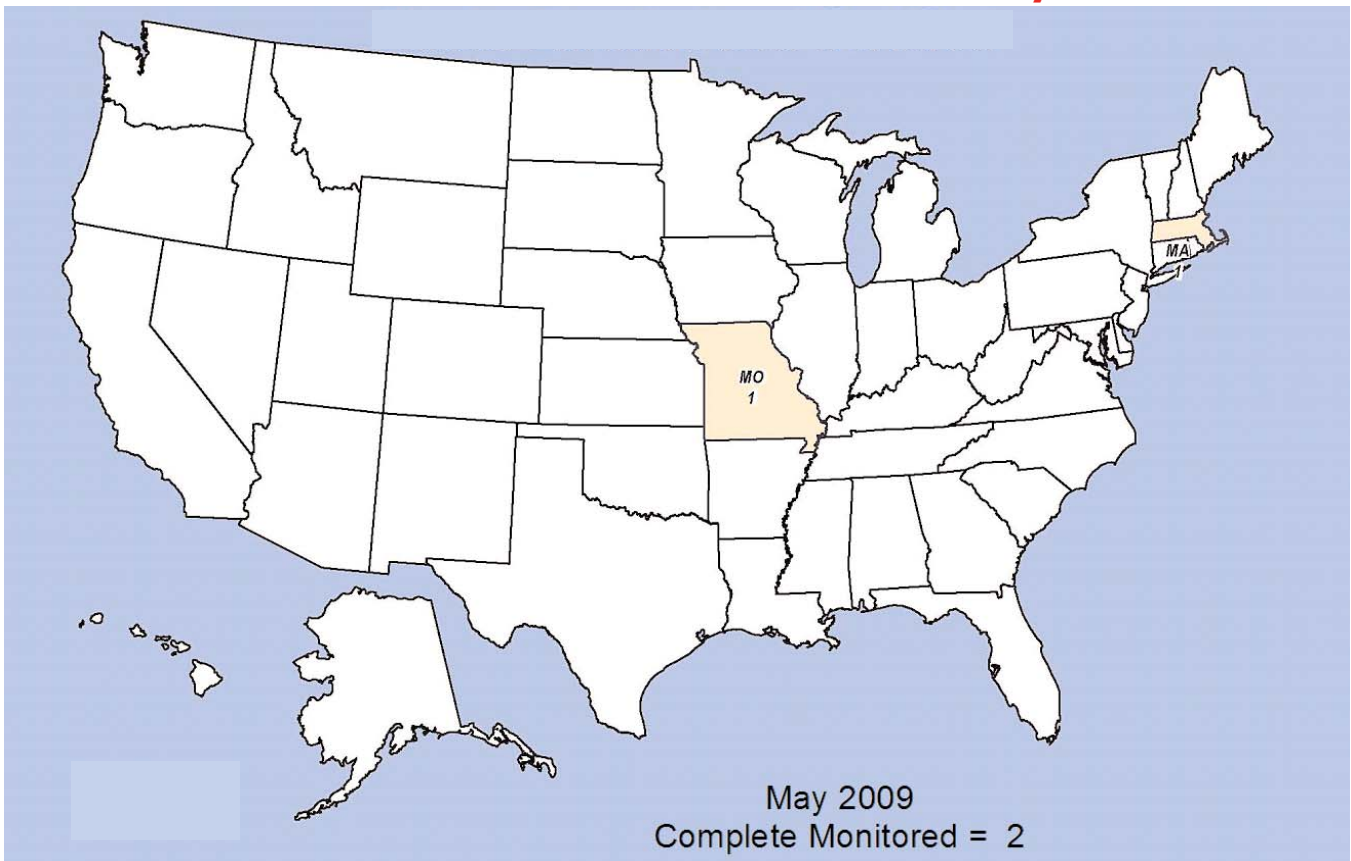
Released Scrapie Infected and Source Flocks FY2009



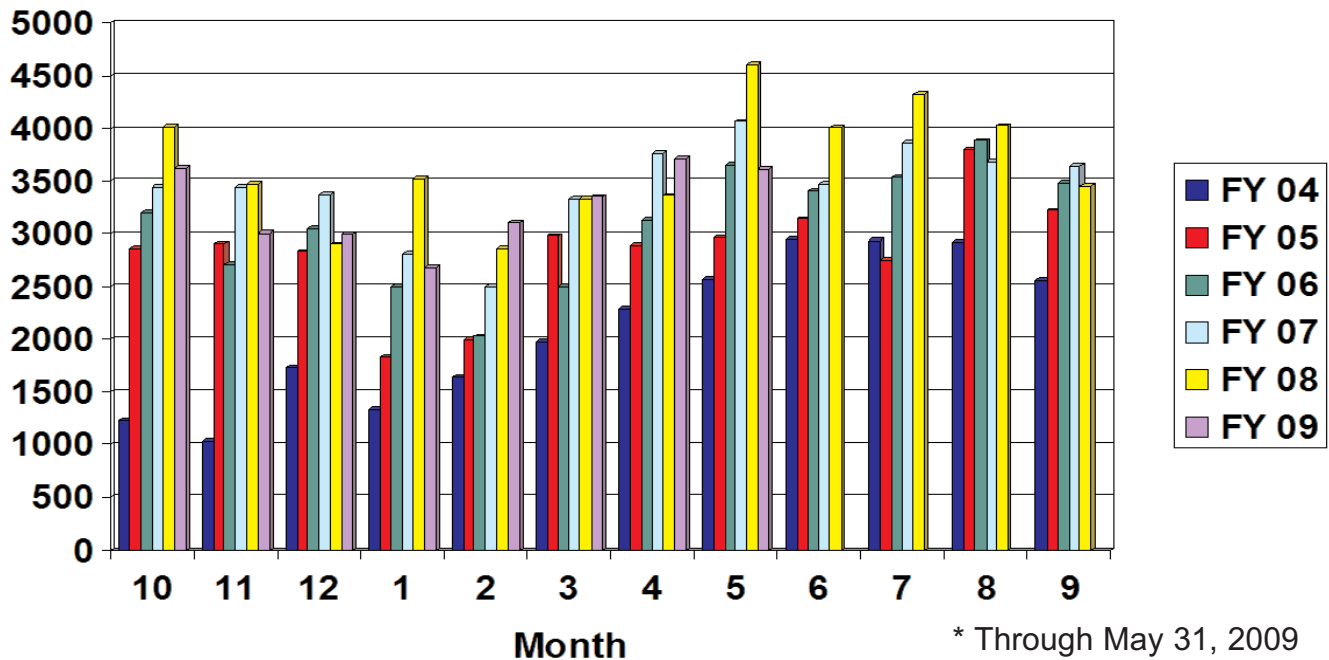
Scrapie Flock Certification Program Participating Flocks



SFCP Flocks Enrolled and Certified in May 2009



Slaughter Surveillance Samples Collected by Month, FY 2004 to FY 2009*



The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's goal is to collect 4,000 slaughter surveillance samples each month from around the United States.

Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance (RSSS) Statistics through May 31, 2009

Since May 1, 2003:	In FY2009:
215,350 samples collected 409 NVSL* confirmed positive	26,091 samples collected 25 NVSL confirmed positive

*National Veterinary Services Laboratories

Web Sites Dedicated to the Eradication of Scrapie

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/naahps/scrapie

Maryland Small Ruminant Page
www.sheepandgoat.com/scrapie.html

National Institute of Animal Agriculture
<http://www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie/Scrapie.htm>

Scrapie QuickPlace
<https://qp01.aphis.usda.gov/QuickPlace/scrapie/Main.nsf?OpenDatabase>
State and federal employees can access this password-protected site by e-mailing
Earl.T.Thorpe@APHIS.USDA.gov to receive a password.



American Sheep Industry Association
www.sheepusa.org