

# SHEEP

## FAST FACTS

- Men and women who care for the sheep are called **SHEPHERDS**.
- Humans domesticated sheep more than **9,000 YEARS** ago.
- Sheep graze on brush and weeds in the forests, which can help **PREVENT FOREST FIRES**.
- There are **75,000** sheep and lambs raised in Wisconsin.

There are more than **1,000 BREEDS** of sheep around the world and more than **40** in the United States. Since there are so breeds, sheep are broken down in categories by what farmers use them for.

Some of the **MOST COMMON BREEDS** include, Columbia, Dorset, Suffolk and Rambouillet.

## MORE THAN WOOL AND MEAT

Sheep also provide **LANOLIN**, which is known as wool wax. In nature it protects sheep's wool and skin from the elements, but it can also **PROTECT** human's skin as well. Most cosmetics like **SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, MASCARA, LIPSTICKS** and **LOTION** are made with lanolin.

## WOOL

Wool is a natural fiber grown from sheep. Different breeds grow different kinds of wool. Sheep can grow **FINE, MEDIUM** or **COARSE** wool.

Sheep are most often sheared in the spring and their fleece is washed and cleaned in a process that creates dry wool. The wool is **SPUN INTO YARN**, which can be used to make clothing.

Two thirds of wool production goes into **CLOTHING**, but the rest is used in **INSULATION, BLANKETS** and **PADS** for cleaning up oil spills.

## MEAT

Sheep can also be raised for meat production. Lamb is a good source of **PROTEIN, VITAMIN B-12, NIACIN, ZINC** and **IRON**. One serving of lamb meat provides half the iron that most people need in one day.

Lamb is also a **LEAN MEAT** and many cuts have less than **200 CALORIES**.

