

# Scrapie Eradication Progress

The **National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP)** is a national program to eradicate Scrapie in the U.S. The NSEP or the Scrapie Program, as we know it, began November 2001 after the Sheep Industry proposed the eradication of Scrapie to the USDA.

## The primary components of the Scrapie program are:

1. Mandatory Scrapie ID (identification) of sexually intact sheep and goats so animals can be traced to their flock of birth and any other flocks they have entered where lambing/kidding may have occurred.
2. Scrapie testing of adult sheep and goats at slaughter through a program called Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance (RSSS).
3. When animals that are infected with Scrapie are detected, their Scrapie ID can be used by regulatory officials to trace them back to their birth flock and other flocks they have spent time in. The regulatory officials will then work with the producer(s) to develop a plan to “clean-up” or eradicate Scrapie from the flock.

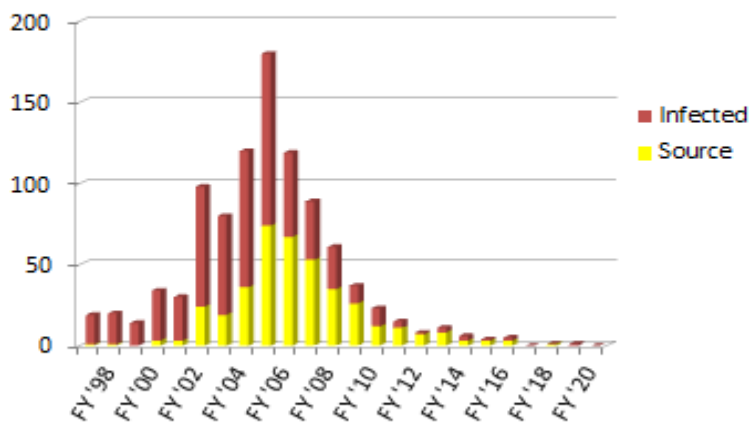
**US progress:** As can be seen in the graph below, the United States has made significant progress in eradicating Scrapie from the U.S. sheep and goat flocks. There were no confirmed classical Scrapie cases identified in the nation from May 2016 through August 2018. Since then only two new flocks/herds were found to be infected with classical Scrapie. In August 2018, a goat from a Pennsylvania sheep/goat flock was found to be infected with Scrapie at RSSS and in June 2019, a goat from a small goat herd from Indiana was found to be infected with Scrapie, also at RSSS. Both herds have been through a flock clean-up plan.



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## Infected and Source Flocks New Statuses by Year – Fiscal Years 1997 to 2021\*



(Chart 3)

\* As of November 30, 2020

**Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance:** As can be seen in the chart below the number of Scrapie positive sheep found at slaughter has been steadily decreasing. Historically, Scrapie has been found most commonly in Black-face sheep. For FY2003, the prevalence of classical Scrapie at slaughter in Black-face sheep was 0.88%. For FY2020, the prevalence was 0.0%. For all sheep breeds, the prevalence at slaughter was 0.148% in FY2003 compared to 0.0% in FY2020.

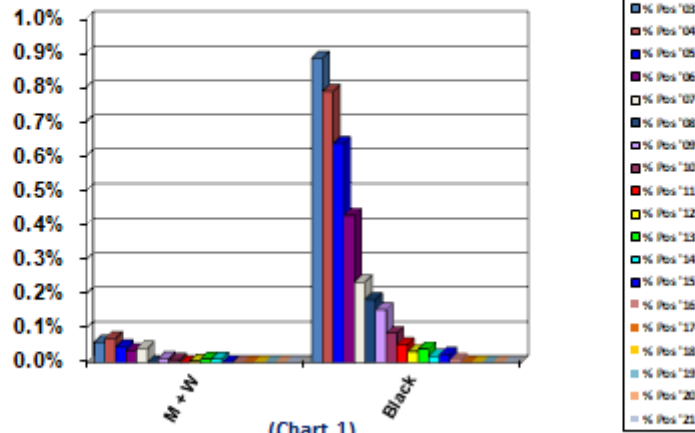


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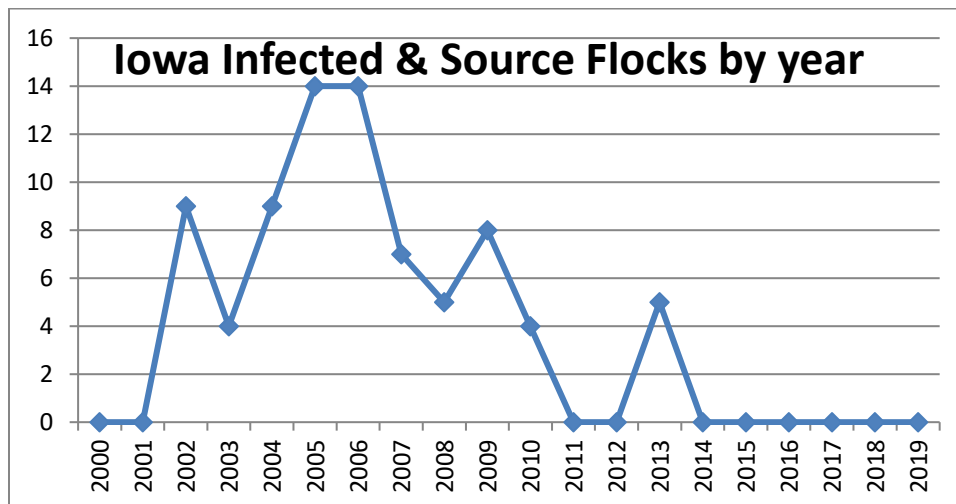
**Percent of RSSS Sheep Samples that Tested Positive for Classical Scrapie - By Face Color**

*FY 2003 – FY 2021\**



\* As of November 30, 2020. Adjusted to exclude multiple positive animals from same flock. Mottled- and white-faced combined. Does not include Nor98-like scrapie cases found through RSSS.

**Iowa Progress:** Since 1993, the state of Iowa has had 86 herds that have been infected with Scrapie and has made steady progress in eradicating Scrapie. The chart below shows the number of Scrapie Infected Flocks detected in Iowa since the calendar year 2002. The last case of Scrapie in an Iowa producer's herd was in a goat herd in January 2014. This producer also had sheep that had been diagnosed with Scrapie in 2013.



**Going Forward:** As the U.S. enters the last years of Scrapie eradication, we will be depending more and more on sheep and goat producers and private practicing veterinarians to find and report the last remaining cases of Scrapie.

To report a sheep or goat that has signs resembling Scrapie, talk to your veterinarian or call Dr. Greg Schmitt at 515-669-5633 or Dr. Bailey Goos at 515-350-6922.