

Table (IX - 3)

Number of sheep and goats, by district (1980)

	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Goats</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	230,617	154,629	385,246
Jenin	24,495	14,375	38,870
Tulkarm	16,449	10,513	26,962
Nablus	48,670	24,790	73,460
Ramallah	25,432	25,995	51,427
Jerusalem	5,600	800	6,400
Jericho	7,500	11,400	18,900
Bethlehem	25,419	14,737	40,156
Hebron	77,052	52,019	129,071

Source: Files of the Department of Agriculture.

The data in Table (IX-3) show that sheep and goats are found in all regions. This is to be expected in view of the abundance of marginal land resources in all districts, which provides livestock owners with natural grazing pastures. However, the above data indicates a marked concentration of both animals in Hebron district, which raises about one third of all the sheep and goat population.

Income from sheep and goats varies considerably from one year to another (see Table IX-2) depending on intensity of rainfall and conditions of pastures. Counting on four years average (1976-79), their combined share of livestock income is estimated at about 60 percent (sheep 38%, goats 22%), and of total agricultural income at 19 percent (derived from Table IX-2). As such they rank next in importance only to olives, being more

significant than every other individual tree or crop. Their relative importance in major production regions (parts of Hebron, Nablus, and Bethlehem) is so high that they constitute the major source of income for large communities, especially of bedouins.

A commodity breakdown of income derived from sheep and goats (see Table IX-4) reveals that 60 percent of it is derived from meat and 40 percent from milk.* This corresponds roughly to the relative importance of both products in the present economic setting.

Table (IX - 4)

Composition of income from sheep and goats, 1979

	<u>Value (IL mill)</u>	<u>Percent of total</u>
Meat, total	758.2	59.8
Sheep	494.2	39.0
Goats	264.6	20.8
Milk, total	510.2	40.2
Sheep	310.7	24.5
Goats	199.5	15.7
Total	1,268.4	100.0

Source: Administered Territories Statistics Quarterly 1980, op cit, p 89.

Consumption and nutritional significance

Sheep and goats constitute the major source of red meat and milk on the West Bank. Table (IX-5) shows that their combined output of meat and milk is more than twice the quantities produced by cows.

* This excludes other secondary returns from wool, hair and manure.