



2015 SUMMER FEEDING STRATEGIES
PRESENTER EDWARD RIGGALL

Summer feeding 2015-

What's the big deal? Aren't all summer feeding strategies the same?

Outline for this morning's webinar


- How does the growing season impact on summer strategies
 - What does sheep require- Energy, Protein & Minerals
 - What are they getting out of the pasture- good Season – bad season
- Feeding Strategies
- The Numbers – Valuing the energy in feed- Oats v Barely v Pellets v Lupins




How does the growing season impact on feeding strategies?

- The Longer the season the less digestible dry matter is
- Large amounts of Dry matter
- Easy to get a false sense of security
- But what about grain & Clover Burr
- However Sometimes you can be dead wrong.

The reverse happens after a poor season.

- Highly digestible
 - “the sheep look great”
 - It tasted so good we ate it all!
 - Big Feed Deficit
 - How will The farm be looking come ANZC Day?
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The Sheep

- The sheep is a selective grazer
 - A 50 kg adult dry ewe requires
 - 7-8 ME
 - 6-8% Protein
 - Several vitamins and minerals – Calcium, Vit E, Selenium
 - They can eat 3% of their body weight.
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Feed

	Energy ME	Protein (% content)
Grain		
Oats	8 – 11.5	5.5 – 13
Lupins	13 – 14	27 – 35
Barley	11.5 – 12	7 – 13
Wheat	12 - 13	7 - 13

Grains per .1m² Quadrante (pasture square, or crop square) equivalent to 100 kg of grain per HA

Grains	Number of Grains per 0.1m² Quadrante
Wheat & Oats	28
Barley	25
Lupins	8

Bringing it all together for season 2015

Lets look at the good season- High Levels of dry matter- low energy – low protein

Recent Feed Test Data	Energy	Protein
Barley straw and dry pasture	4-6.5 ME	1.5-3.5 %

- Impact of low protein on intake
 - $50\text{kg} * 3\% = 1.5 \text{ kg}$
 - $50\text{kg} * 1.5\% = .75$
- Solution – Feed lupins 30% Protein 13 ME- Feed a reasonable ration of lupins through the summer and unlock the dry matters energy.

Weaners

- High Protein -15%
- Worms
- Vitamin E every 6 weeks post green pick
- Selenium
- <25kgs going into summer -they are growing or dying

Other feeding Tips

- Feed Cereals every 2-3 days at a min
- Remove the tail of the mob -
- Low rates for longer
- Start 2 weeks early Finish 2 weeks later
- CS, CS, CS.

What's grain worth to your sheep

	PRICE \$/t DM	COST c / kgDM	COST c / MJME	EWE 50Kg 7.5ME
Oats 8 ME/kgDM	\$310	31c / kgDM	31c / 8MJME = 3.9 c ME	7.5ME * 3.9 = 29.25c
Oats 11ME/kgDM	\$310	31c	31/11 =2.81c	7.5ME * .2.81c = 21c
Lupins 13.5 ME/kgDM	\$350	35c	=35/13.5 =2.59c	7.5ME * 2.59c = 19.42c
Barley 12.5 ME/kgDM	\$270	27c	=27/12.5 = 2.16c	7.55ME * .2.16c = 16.2c

Summary

- Long Season- Low digestible dry matter- feed higher protein diet to utilise bulk
- Poor season- High digestible , Energy & roughage are more important
- Weaners need higher protein 14% protein diet
- Cost your ME rather than bulk



Recommended Reading

- [Feeding & Managing Sheep in Dry Times](#)
- [The Good Food Guide For Sheep](#)
- [TSB Website](#)