



**AHDB Beef and Lamb
Stocktake
Costs of Production 2015/16**

SDA Suckler Herds

Financial Performance (£ per cow to bull)	(£ per cow to bull)			(£ per lwt kg calf output)		
	Bottom	Top		Bottom	Top	
	Third	Average	Third	Third	Average	Third
Number of herds in sample	8	26	8	8	26	8
Average herd size (cows to bull)	65	80	80	65	80	80
Calf output	510.23	641.02	703.95	2.09	2.35	2.45
Other income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross Output	510.23	641.02	703.95	2.09	2.35	2.45
Replacement costs	39.48	38.28	20.00	0.16	0.14	0.07
Output less replacement costs	470.75	602.74	683.95	1.93	2.21	2.38
Variable Costs						
Purchased feed including minerals	17.95	31.11	15.39	0.07	0.11	0.05
Home-grown feed	8.32	5.41	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.00
Purchased forage	20.59	9.42	6.15	0.08	0.03	0.02
Home-grown forage (excludes contract)	34.82	42.32	38.07	0.14	0.16	0.13
Total feed and forage	81.68	88.27	59.61	0.33	0.32	0.21
Vet and medicine	35.16	34.20	20.84	0.14	0.13	0.07
Bedding	10.76	28.51	32.70	0.04	0.10	0.11
Other livestock expenses	10.49	14.28	17.18	0.04	0.05	0.06
Total variable costs	138.10	165.26	130.33	0.57	0.61	0.45
Gross Margin	332.66	437.48	553.62	1.36	1.60	1.93
Fixed Costs						
Labour - paid	13.09	44.09	43.13	0.05	0.16	0.15
Machinery repairs and spares	32.20	25.78	24.27	0.13	0.09	0.08
Contracting	28.64	31.79	26.86	0.12	0.12	0.09
Electricity	1.75	2.25	2.71	0.01	0.01	0.01
Fuel	27.34	24.29	21.68	0.11	0.09	0.08
Property maintenance and water	10.27	13.71	9.55	0.04	0.05	0.03
Land Rent (Actual)	84.51	61.86	42.68	0.35	0.23	0.15
Overheads	19.53	22.62	21.61	0.08	0.08	0.08
Cash Only fixed costs	217.31	226.38	192.48	0.89	0.83	0.67
Cash Only Cost of Production	394.89	429.92	342.81	1.62	1.58	1.20
Cash Only Net Margin	115.34	211.09	361.14	0.47	0.77	1.26
Depreciation	99.63	72.21	68.79	0.41	0.26	0.24
Finance costs (Imputed)	36.30	33.62	32.91	0.15	0.12	0.11
Labour - unpaid (Imputed)	103.85	66.12	66.14	0.43	0.24	0.23
Land Rent (Imputed)	43.53	36.33	58.94	0.18	0.13	0.21
Non-Cash fixed costs	283.31	208.27	226.78	1.16	0.76	0.79
Full Investment fixed costs	500.63	434.66	419.26	2.05	1.59	1.46
Full Investment Cost of Production	678.20	638.19	569.59	2.78	2.34	1.99
Full Investment Net Margin	-167.97	2.82	134.36	-0.69	0.01	0.47
Physical Performance						
Cow to bull ratio	36	32	27			
Age at first calving						
Herds 2 year policy (%)	25	35	50			
Herds 2.5 year policy (%)	25	42	38			
Herds more than 2.5 year policy (%)	50	23	13			
Percentage of cows/heifers scanned in-calf (%)	n.a.	94	95			
Calves born alive per 100 cows/heifers to bull	86	90	94			
Calves born dead per 100 cows/heifers to bull	5	3	3			
Calves died from birth to weaning per 100 cows/heifers	2	2	2			
Calves weaned per 100 cows/heifers to bull*	85	91	92			
Calf losses from birth to weaning (% of born alive)	2	2	2			
Calving period (first to last calf - weeks)	12.4	14.1	17.0			
Cows and heifers calving in first 3 weeks (%)	30.9	32.1	29.9			
Empty cows/heifers (%)	10.6	7.8	5.5			
Cow mortality (%)	2.9	2.3	0.8			
Herd replacement rate (%)	12.3	14.2	13.7			
Average age at weaning (days)	236	239	249			
Average weight at weaning (kg per head)	286	301	310			
Daily liveweight gain to weaning (kg per day)	1.1	1.1	1.1			
Weaned calf weight produced per forage hectare (kg at	203	235	217			
Return per calf (£ per head)	602	715	767			
Calf price (£ per kg lwt)	2.08	2.36	2.47			
Weaned calves sold at weaning (%)	14	18	15			
Weaned calves retained at weaning (%)	86	82	85			
Total FW cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	85	77	49			
Total DM cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	73	57	42			
Average concentrate cost (£ per tonne)	202	181	229			
Total FW forage (kg per cow)	4100	5508	5254			
Total DM forage (kg per cow)	1270	1648	1554			
Creep feed fed (kg per calf weaned)	6	81	4			
Number of grazing weeks	34	32	33			
Stocking rate (LU per ha)	1.0	1.1	1.0			
Inorganic nitrogen use (kg per ha)	33	37	22			
Labour use - paid hours per cow	1.5	4.4	4.7			
Labour use - unpaid hours per cow	10.3	6.7	6.8			

*Includes calves purchased to put on cows