



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

**Combined Breeding Herd/Beef Finishing**

Financial Performance (£ per cow to bull)	(£ per cow to bull)			(£ per dwt kg output)		
	Bottom third	Average	Top third	Bottom Third	Average	Top Third
Number of herds in sample	9	29	9	9	29	9
Average herd size (cows to bull)	51	90	91	51	90	91
Calf output	1031.16	1076.45	1131.21	3.48	3.68	3.99
Other income	8.34	17.96	18.62	0.03	0.06	0.07
<b>Gross Output</b>	<b>1039.50</b>	<b>1094.41</b>	<b>1149.84</b>	<b>3.51</b>	<b>3.74</b>	<b>4.06</b>
Replacement costs	69.91	49.35	34.84	0.24	0.17	0.12
<b>Output less replacement costs</b>	<b>969.58</b>	<b>1045.06</b>	<b>1115.00</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>3.57</b>	<b>3.94</b>
<b>Variable Costs</b>						
Purchased feed including minerals	126.67	117.00	61.99	0.43	0.40	0.22
Home-grown feed	79.81	76.98	84.49	0.27	0.26	0.30
Purchased forage	7.43	12.10	14.96	0.03	0.04	0.05
Home-grown forage (excludes contract)	54.99	65.15	65.66	0.19	0.22	0.23
<b>Total feed and forage</b>	<b>268.91</b>	<b>271.24</b>	<b>227.09</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.80</b>
Vet and medicine	42.31	51.92	58.31	0.14	0.18	0.21
Bedding	86.49	65.32	62.56	0.29	0.22	0.22
Other livestock expenses	44.90	40.12	34.69	0.15	0.14	0.12
<b>Total variable costs</b>	<b>442.60</b>	<b>428.60</b>	<b>382.65</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>1.35</b>
<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>526.98</b>	<b>616.46</b>	<b>732.35</b>	<b>1.78</b>	<b>2.11</b>	<b>2.59</b>
<b>Fixed Costs</b>						
Labour - paid	177.26	123.62	31.36	0.60	0.42	0.11
Machinery repairs and spares	39.48	35.70	43.02	0.13	0.12	0.15
Contracting	68.15	67.77	74.87	0.23	0.23	0.26
Electricity	6.19	4.21	2.71	0.02	0.01	0.01
Fuel	67.84	40.04	28.32	0.23	0.14	0.10
Property maintenance and water	62.52	43.64	37.01	0.21	0.15	0.13
Land Rent (Actual)	60.13	85.12	115.74	0.20	0.29	0.41
Overheads	75.37	51.50	41.38	0.25	0.18	0.15
<b>Cash Only fixed costs</b>	<b>556.93</b>	<b>451.59</b>	<b>374.41</b>	<b>1.88</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>1.32</b>
<b>Cash Only Cost of Production</b>	<b>1069.44</b>	<b>929.54</b>	<b>791.90</b>	<b>3.61</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>2.80</b>
<b>Cash Only Net Margin</b>	<b>-29.95</b>	<b>164.87</b>	<b>357.93</b>	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>1.26</b>
Depreciation	238.98	133.00	101.51	0.81	0.45	0.36
Finance costs (Imputed)	78.81	64.56	62.64	0.27	0.22	0.22
Labour - unpaid (Imputed)	140.11	94.91	146.65	0.47	0.32	0.52
Land Rent (Imputed)	140.30	75.48	62.32	0.47	0.26	0.22
<b>Non-Cash fixed costs</b>	<b>598.20</b>	<b>367.94</b>	<b>373.12</b>	<b>2.02</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>1.32</b>
<b>Full Investment fixed costs</b>	<b>1155.13</b>	<b>819.53</b>	<b>747.53</b>	<b>3.90</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>2.64</b>
<b>Full Investment Cost of Production</b>	<b>1667.64</b>	<b>1297.48</b>	<b>1165.02</b>	<b>5.63</b>	<b>4.43</b>	<b>4.11</b>
<b>Full Investment Net Margin</b>	<b>-628.15</b>	<b>-203.07</b>	<b>-15.19</b>	<b>-2.12</b>	<b>-0.69</b>	<b>-0.05</b>
<b>Physical Performance</b>						
Cow to bull ratio	28	31	31			
<b>Age at first calving</b>						
Herds 2 year policy (%)	33	44	11			
Herds 2.5 year policy (%)	56	40	78			
Herds more than 2.5 year policy (%)	11	17	11			
Percentage of cows/heifers scanned in-calf (%)	96	92	95			
Calves born alive per 100 cows/heifers to bull	91	90	90			
Calves born dead per 100 cows/heifers to bull	2	3	4			
Calves died after birth per 100 cows/heifers to bull	2	3	2			
Calves weaned per 100 cows/heifers to bull*	89	88	89			
Calf losses from birth to sale (% of born alive)	2	3	2			
Calving period (first to last calf - weeks)	22.9	15.6	12.6			
Cows and heifers calving in first 3 weeks (%)	28.2	33.3	29.2			
Empty cows/heifers (%)	8.1	8.5	7.6			
Cow mortality (%)	1.3	1.7	1.6			
Herd replacement rate (%)	14.5	15.0	12.3			
Average age at weaning (days)	243	234	225			
Average age at sale (days)	622	576	634			
Average weight at weaning (kg per head)	293	315	292			
Average liveweight at sale (kg per head)	610	595	571			
Average carcass weight (kg)	332	334	320			
Daily liveweight gain birth to sale (kg per day)	1.0	1.0	0.9			
Calf return per head finished (£)	1149	1255	1332			
Calf return per head store (£)	1400	970	899			
Liveweight sale price all animals (£ per kg lwt)	1.90	2.07	2.24			
Liveweight sale price: finished cattle (£ per kg lwt)	1.86	2.06	2.27			
Deadweight sale price: finished cattle (£ per kg dwt)	3.46	3.79	4.19			
Calves sold finished (%)	96	90	88			
Calves sold store (%)	4	10	12			
Total FW cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	224	152	171			
Average concentrate cost (£ per tonne)	119	153	146			
Total FW forage (kg per cow)	4097	3001	3285			
Total DM forage (kg per cow)	1373	1223	1310			
Total FW calf concentrate use (kg per calf)	1829	1107	702			
Total FW forage (kg per calf)	4433	4222	4595			
Total DM forage (kg per calf)	1351	1334	1435			
Inorganic nitrogen use (kg per ha)	50	58	29			