



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

Non-SDA Suckler Herds

Financial Performance (£ per cow to bull)	(£ per cow to bull)			(£ per lwt kg calf output)		
	Bottom Third	Average	Top Third	Bottom Third	Average	Top Third
Number of herds in sample	31	95	31	31	95	31
Average herd size (cows to bull)	64	88	91	64	88	91
Calf output	517.80	537.98	591.06	2.01	2.06	2.13
Other income	3.91	5.02	8.81	0.02	0.02	0.03
Gross Output	521.71	542.99	599.87	2.03	2.07	2.16
Replacement costs	99.54	62.21	23.58	0.39	0.24	0.08
Output less replacement costs	422.17	480.78	576.29	1.64	1.84	2.07
Variable Costs						
Purchased feed including minerals	35.44	26.36	27.73	0.14	0.10	0.10
Home-grown feed	7.74	10.16	12.45	0.03	0.04	0.04
Purchased forage	5.15	4.54	5.17	0.02	0.02	0.02
Home-grown forage (excludes contract)	44.71	39.21	36.50	0.17	0.15	0.13
Total feed and forage	93.04	80.27	81.85	0.36	0.31	0.29
Vet and medicine	38.70	34.96	37.25	0.15	0.13	0.13
Bedding	42.81	28.45	25.13	0.17	0.11	0.09
Other livestock expenses	25.51	21.63	19.56	0.10	0.08	0.07
Total variable costs	200.07	165.31	163.79	0.78	0.63	0.59
Gross Margin	222.10	315.47	412.50	0.86	1.21	1.48
Fixed Costs						
Labour - paid	75.88	61.25	28.80	0.30	0.23	0.10
Machinery repairs and spares	32.87	23.02	24.57	0.13	0.09	0.09
Contracting	55.56	40.02	34.38	0.22	0.15	0.12
Electricity	3.60	2.15	1.83	0.01	0.01	0.01
Fuel	37.49	23.90	19.50	0.15	0.09	0.07
Property maintenance and water	28.69	20.25	15.82	0.11	0.08	0.06
Land Rent (Actual)	53.78	50.46	50.84	0.21	0.19	0.18
Overheads	25.43	19.29	18.91	0.10	0.07	0.07
Cash Only fixed costs	313.30	240.35	194.64	1.22	0.92	0.70
Cash Only Cost of Production	612.91	467.87	382.01	2.38	1.79	1.37
Cash Only Net Margin	-91.20	75.12	217.86	-0.35	0.29	0.78
Depreciation	127.07	74.30	50.27	0.49	0.28	0.18
Finance costs (Imputed)	37.07	33.62	32.24	0.14	0.13	0.12
Labour - unpaid (Imputed)	102.41	61.29	55.91	0.40	0.23	0.20
Land Rent (Imputed)	87.75	61.68	52.92	0.34	0.24	0.19
Non-Cash fixed costs	354.31	230.88	191.34	1.38	0.88	0.69
Full Investment fixed costs	667.61	471.23	385.98	2.60	1.80	1.39
Full Investment Cost of Production	967.22	698.75	573.34	3.76	2.67	2.06
Full Investment Net Margin	-445.51	-155.76	26.53	-1.73	-0.60	0.10
Physical Performance						
Cow to bull ratio	30	33	33			
Age at first calving						
Herds 2 year policy (%)	29	46	55			
Herds 2.5 year policy (%)	52	39	32			
Herds more than 2.5 year policy (%)	19	15	13			
Percentage of cows/heifers scanned in-calf (%)	93	91	93			
Calves born alive per 100 cows/heifers to bull	88	88	90			
Calves born dead per 100 cows/heifers to bull	3	3	3			
Calves died from birth to weaning per 100 cows/heifers t	4	3	3			
Calves weaned per 100 cows/heifers to bull*	87	85	86			
Calf losses from birth to weaning (% of born alive)	4	4	3			
Calving period (first to last calf - weeks)	16.0	15.2	14.6			
Cows and heifers calving in first 3 weeks (%)	32.0	35.1	39.3			
Empty cows/heifers (%)	9.0	9.7	7.3			
Cow mortality (%)	1.5	1.6	1.3			
Herd replacement rate (%)	14.6	16.7	16.4			
Average age at weaning (days)	238	234	235			
Average weight at weaning (kg per head)	296	306	322			
Daily liveweight gain to weaning (kg per day)	1.1	1.1	1.2			
Weaned calf weight produced per forage hectare (kg at 2	204	292	353			
Return per calf (£ per head)	608	636	690			
Calf price (£ per kg lwt)	2.07	2.09	2.15			
Weaned calves sold at weaning (%)	22	9	12			
Weaned calves retained at weaning (%)	78	91	88			
Total FW cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	168	135	102			
Total DM cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	119	84	80			
Average concentrate cost (£ per tonne)	175	139	155			
Total FW forage (kg per cow)	4240	3660	3627			
Total DM forage (kg per cow)	1655	1390	1251			
Creep feed fed (kg per calf weaned)	46	57	79			
Number of grazing weeks	32	32	32			
Stocking rate (LU per ha)	1.1	1.5	1.7			
Inorganic nitrogen use (kg per ha)	35	35	34			
Labour use - paid hours per cow	6.8	5.4	3.2			
Labour use - unpaid hours per cow	10.5	6.1	5.6			

*includes calves purchased to put on cows