



Lowland Sheep Farms 2013

Sheep farms that have lowland flocks of ewes. The majority of which lamb in mid-season and the lambs are finished on the farm or sold as stores.

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- The top 1/3 of farms had a higher stocking rate (an extra 1.4 ewes per ha) and a higher weaning rate (an extra 0.19 lamb) than the average.
- The combined effect of the higher stocking rate and higher weaning rate resulted in an extra 3.5 lambs reared per ha. This is was the main reason why output per ha was €386 higher.
- The gross output for the top 1/3 of farms was €1,341 per ha which was 40% higher than the average.
- The €749 per ha gross margin for the top 1/3 was €372 per ha higher than the average.
- The average lowland sheep farm made a net profit of -€22 per ha compared to €299 per ha on the top 1/3 of farms.
- Output per ewe for the top 1/3 was €24 higher than for the average farm (due to an extra 0.19 lambs weaned per ewe).
- Variable costs per ewe were €9 higher on average compared to those in the top 1/3.
- The average gross margin per ewe was €48, which was €34 lower than what was achieved on the top 1/3 (€82).
- Purchased feed at €25 per ewe was the largest single variable cost on sheep farms in 2013. This equated to €18 per lamb weaned.
- Examined on a per lamb basis, the cost of producing a lamb was €74 and €92 for the top 1/3 and average groups, respectively (not including ewe replacement costs).

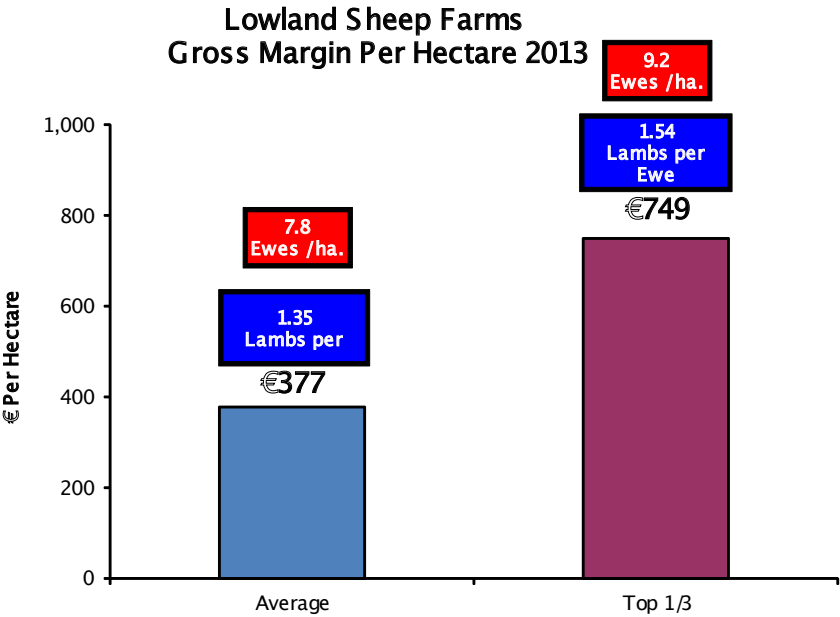
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Table 5 - Profit Monitor per hectare analysis (161 Farms)

	Average	Top 1/3	Top v Average
Physical Performance			
Flock size	146	192	+46
Stocking rate (LU/ha)	1.76	1.98	+0.22
Ewes/ha	7.8	9.2	+1.40
Lambs reared per ewe to ram	1.35	1.54	+0.19
Lambs reared per hectare	10.6	14.1	+0.35
Financial (€ / ha.)			
Gross output	€955	€1,341	+€386
Variable costs	€579	€592	+€13
Gross margin	€377	€749	+€372
Fixed costs	€399	€450	+€51
Net profit Excl. premia	-€22	€299	+€321
Total Premia *	€490	€548	+€59
Premia Retained*	95%	155%	+60%
Financial (€ / Ewe)			
Gross Output	€122	€146	+€24
Variable Costs	€74	€65	-€9
Gross Margin	€48	€82	+€34
Fixed Costs	€51	€49	-€2
Net Profit Excl. Premia	-€3	€33	+€36
Average Lamb Price € / head	€98	€100	+€2

(* Includes Single Farm Payment, REPS, AEOS, CAS, Suckler Welfare premium, BTAP & STAP payments)

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Lowland Sheep Variable Costs per Ewe 2013

