

TABLE C8. Lowland sheep gross margins in Wales, 2017/18.

Flock Size	<300	>300	All flocks
Number of flocks	20	18	38
Average farm area - actual hectares	81	135	107
- effective hectares	74	130	101
Average size of farm business (SO)	113,892	160,749	136,087
Average flock size (numbers)	150	566	347
Lambs reared per ewe	1.28	1.48	1.43
Finished lambs sold per ewe	1.02	1.33	1.26
OUTPUT (£ per ewe)			
Lamb sales - store	4.67	0.46	1.42
- finished	82.63	112.50	105.70
Breeding ewe and ram sales	3.85	1.29	1.87
Other sheep sales	10.73	14.62	13.74
Wool sales	2.13	1.62	1.73
Miscellaneous output	0.00	0.02	0.02
Change in valuation	1.25	0.74	0.86
Less purchases	8.60	21.91	18.88
Gross output	96.66	109.34	106.46
VARIABLE COSTS (£ per ewe)			
Purchased concentrates	12.35	14.00	13.63
Home grown concentrates	0.92	4.15	3.42
Coarse fodder and tack	0.12	1.35	1.07
Veterinary and medicines	6.16	6.32	6.28
Other livestock costs	9.37	11.34	10.89
Allocatable contracting and hire	0.07	0.16	0.14
Total variable costs	28.99	37.32	35.43
Gross margin before forage costs	67.67	72.02	71.03
Forage variable costs per ewe	13.97	12.43	12.78
Gross margin including forage costs	53.70	59.59	58.25
SHEEP FORAGE VARIABLE COSTS (£ per ewe)			
Fertilisers, lime and manures	5.19	5.20	5.20
Seeds	0.81	1.01	0.96
Sprays	1.31	0.85	0.95
Forage contracting	4.10	2.46	2.84
Grass keep	1.70	2.05	1.97
Other forage costs	0.86	0.86	0.86
Total forage variable costs to sheep	13.97	12.43	12.78
% of forage variable costs to sheep	28.28	52.22	39.62