

**TABLE C6. Hill sheep gross margins in Wales, 2005/06.**

<b>Flock Size</b>	<b>&lt;400</b>	<b>400 - 800</b>	<b>&gt;800</b>	<b>All flocks</b>
Number of flocks	52	104	107	263
Average farm area - actual hectares	84.49	128.86	306.37	192.31
- effective hectares	69.96	101.40	216.37	141.96
Average size of farm business (ESU)	26.86	33.35	71.62	47.64
Flock size (numbers)	255	580	1392	846
Lambs reared per ewe	1.20	1.19	1.10	1.13
Finished lambs sold per ewe	0.87	0.84	0.84	0.84
<b>OUTPUT (£ per ewe)</b>				
Lamb sales - store	3.69	2.90	1.99	2.34
- finished	33.87	32.51	31.34	31.81
Ewe and ram sales	4.19	5.24	4.97	5.00
Other sheep sales	3.50	3.36	3.33	3.35
Wool sales	1.26	1.20	1.13	1.15
Sheep compensation - Chernobyl	0.07	0.10	0.20	0.16
Closing valuation	48.14	47.18	44.34	45.33
Less - purchases	4.41	3.62	5.04	4.62
- opening valuation	48.70	47.50	45.40	46.17
<b>Gross output</b>	<b>41.61</b>	<b>41.37</b>	<b>36.86</b>	<b>38.35</b>
<b>VARIABLE COSTS (£ per ewe)</b>				
Purchased concentrates	7.34	8.11	7.42	7.60
Home grown concentrates	0.00	0.01	0.11	0.08
Coarse fodder and tack	1.03	2.03	3.30	2.82
Veterinary and medicines	2.79	3.26	2.90	2.99
Sheep other livestock costs	3.79	3.11	3.16	3.18
Allocatable contracting	0.67	0.72	0.65	0.67
<b>Total variable costs</b>	<b>15.62</b>	<b>17.24</b>	<b>17.54</b>	<b>17.34</b>
<b>Gross margin before forage costs</b>	<b>25.99</b>	<b>24.13</b>	<b>19.32</b>	<b>21.01</b>
Forage variable costs per ewe	6.59	6.87	7.71	7.43
<b>Gross margin including forage costs</b>	<b>19.40</b>	<b>17.26</b>	<b>11.61</b>	<b>13.58</b>
<b>SHEEP FORAGE VARIABLE COSTS (£ per ewe)</b>				
Fertilisers, seeds and sprays	3.46	4.18	3.88	3.94
Forage contracting	1.24	1.10	1.30	1.25
Grass keep	1.45	1.14	2.27	1.92
Other forage costs	0.44	0.45	0.26	0.32
<b>Total forage variable costs to sheep</b>	<b>6.59</b>	<b>6.87</b>	<b>7.71</b>	<b>7.43</b>
% of forage costs to sheep	41.29	62.36	66.23	59.77