

**TABLE C8. Lowland sheep gross margins in Wales, 2015/2016.**

<b>Flock Size</b>	<b>&lt;300</b>	<b>&gt;300</b>	<b>All flocks</b>
Number of flocks	26	28	54
Average farm area - actual hectares	71	127	100
- effective hectares	66	120	94
Average size of farm business (ESU)	36	64	50
Average flock size (numbers)	154	541	355
Lambs reared per ewe	1.28	1.46	1.43
Finished lambs sold per ewe	1.20	1.40	1.36
<b>OUTPUT (£ per ewe)</b>			
Lamb sales - store	0.47	0.60	0.57
- finished	84.24	102.09	98.35
Breeding ewe and ram sales	12.04	3.09	4.97
Other sheep sales	11.78	17.15	16.02
Wool sales	2.81	2.90	2.88
Miscellaneous output	0.00	0.01	0.01
Change in valuation	-3.00	-0.65	-1.14
Less purchases	17.88	22.52	21.55
<b>Gross output</b>	<b>90.46</b>	<b>102.67</b>	<b>100.11</b>
<b>VARIABLE COSTS (£ per ewe)</b>			
Purchased concentrates	13.45	14.56	14.33
Home grown concentrates	0.46	3.03	2.49
Coarse fodder and tack	0.85	1.74	1.55
Veterinary and medicines	6.80	6.56	6.61
Other livestock costs	9.70	11.64	11.24
Allocatable contracting and hire	0.19	0.12	0.13
<b>Total variable costs</b>	<b>31.45</b>	<b>37.65</b>	<b>36.35</b>
<b>Gross margin before forage costs</b>	<b>59.01</b>	<b>65.02</b>	<b>63.76</b>
Forage variable costs per ewe	13.64	15.24	14.91
<b>Gross margin including forage costs</b>	<b>45.37</b>	<b>49.78</b>	<b>48.85</b>
<b>SHEEP FORAGE VARIABLE COSTS (£ per ewe)</b>			
Fertilisers, lime and manures	6.64	6.53	6.55
Seeds	0.60	0.96	0.89
Sprays	0.46	0.65	0.61
Forage contracting	3.61	3.14	3.24
Grass keep	1.30	2.45	2.21
Other forage costs	1.03	1.51	1.41
<b>Total forage variable costs to sheep</b>	<b>13.64</b>	<b>15.24</b>	<b>14.91</b>
% of forage variable costs to sheep	39.50	57.37	48.77