

Drought rations for sheep

Recommended **minimum** rations – for sheep in store condition, on bare ground, (or in a feedlot) in mild weather.

Class of Sheep	Energy (MJ/week)	Protein	Feeds (any of these examples)	Ration kg/sheep/week	Remarks
Adult dry sheep , or ewes in early pregnancy.	35	8	wheat or barley..... or oats..... or grass/clover hay..... or cereal hay.....	3.0 3.3 4.5 5.0	Grain – only rations are not ideal. The addition of 0.5 to 1kg a week of hay or straw, is desirable (unless there is dry paddock feed). See adjustments to rations for cold weather; larger breeds, rams, etc.
Pregnant ewes (last 4 to 6 weeks before lambing)	60	10 to 12	wheat or barley plus 10 percent hay..... or oats..... or grass/clover hay.....	4.5 +0.5 5.7 7.5	Some hay (or dry paddock feed) is highly desirable when feeding wheat or barley – and even oats.
Ewes with lambs at foot 1st month	100	12	wheat or barley plus 20 percent hay..... or oats..... or grass/clover hay.....	7.0 +1.7 9.5 12.5	
2nd month	90	12	wheat or barley plus 20 percent hay..... or oats..... or grass/clover hay.....	6.2 +1.5 8.5 11.0	
Early weaned lambs (20 kg liveweight, gaining 0.7 kg each a week)	40	15	cereal grain (3 parts) plus lupins (1 part) plus grass/clover hay..... or cereal grain (3 parts) plus lucerne hay (2 parts).....	feed to appetite (ad lb)	Feed as much as they want (the amounts required would be 3 to 5 kg a week).

Note: Add 1.5% finely ground limestone and 1% salt to all cereal grains.