

# meatup FORUM

**For the latest in red meat R&D**

# Recovering from drought and lifting ewe numbers via confinement feeding

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# Things I'll cover today

- What we did
- What we learnt
- How we recovered
- What we'd do differently



# What we did

1. Decided to feed
2. Why?



# What we did

- Decision to feed stock
  - Preservation of ground cover
  - An investment in genetics
  - A belief that the drought wouldn't last

# How we did it

- Measured and controlled nutrition
  - What animal?
  - What do they need?
  - How do we give it to them?



# Measure, weigh, control!



# What we learnt


- Insights
- Timing
- Precision
- HR cost



# Recovery

- Breeding
- Trading



A large flock of sheep is gathered in a metal pen. The background features a dramatic sunset sky with vibrant orange and pink clouds. A line of trees is visible in the distance behind the pen.

*“You tell me how long the next drought  
will go for and I’ll tell you how I’ll  
handle it”*

# The future

- What we would do differently?
- Feeding AND selling are both legitimate options
- Data-driven decision making
- Investment now for the future in Infrastructure.

# Take home messages

- Make a plan for managing dry times – even if you don't stick to it! Don't be afraid to adapt and change the plan as you work through it.
- Use real and timely data to help inform your decision making
- Don't fall into the trap of trying to save money when it cost you money to implement.
- Have your finger on the pulse – keep an eye on the influences to your business
- Ask for advice when you need it. Consultants, veterinarians and animal nutritionists are all valuable resources.

# Tools and resources

- [Lifetime Ewe Management](#)
- [Lifting Lamb Survival](#)

Links to all programs above can be found in Forum proceedings



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