

meatup FORUM

For the latest in red meat R&D

Confinement Feeding

What's the big deal?

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House arrest

- <https://youtu.be/XotzBFTekN4>

WHY?



WHY?



WHY?



Confinement Vs drought lot



Keep it simple

- <https://youtu.be/LK3r97-qB1c>

Show me the money!

The proposition

- Weeks in confinement - 4
- Current gross margin - \$55 Per DSE
- Seasonal increase in stocking rate - 2 DSE

Ration & cost

	Grain ME	% Fed	Ration ME	Ration cost
Lupin	13.5	0.5	6.75	0.38
Straw	6	0.5	3	0.07
		Per/kg fed	9.75	0.22

Feed cost

	Daily requirement	Kg fed/day	Cost/day	7 days	Cost/week
Per ewe	8 ME	0.82	\$ 0.18	1.28	\$ 5.11
		% of ration that would have been fed if grazed on pasture(non confinement)	50%		
		Net extra cost of confinement/sheep			\$ 2.56

Net benefit/ha

- Gone from 6 DSE to 8 DSE
- Extra feed cost @ 8 DSE is 13.65(11.65 if in hard lock down)
- Extra income/ha 2DSE @ 55 = \$110
- \$10 increase in animal performance - better maintained \$44
 - *Income* \$154
 - *Costs* \$13.65
 - **Benefit** \$140

What about the crop?

- Earlier time of sowing.
- 10% increase in yield
- Wheat \$300 ton
- 3 tonnes
- \$90 increase
- Plus more

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Confinement rules of thumb

- Its more about the why than the how
- Can be small paddock or intensive feedlot
- In a feedlot system it can be a 15% decrease in feed
- Confinement creep – re-draft after a month
- Manage the tail
- Basic mineral mix
- Induction - 3/1, vitamin E and drench, draft to type
- Water
- Feed type if cereal heavy than look at acid modifiers or.. Oats

Take home messages

- Work out what your why is
- Commit to a plan that suits you
- Start with one mob
- Draft after 4 weeks
- Call a professional – sheep ain't sheep

Relevant tools and resources

- AWI Feed on Offer (FOO) library – <https://www.feedonofferlibrary.com/search/>
- MLA stocking rate calculator – <https://etools.mla.com.au/src/>
- MLA feed budget tools – <https://etools.mla.com.au/fbrp/#/>