



One of your market project goals should be to have a market ready animal. Knowing what your animal weighs now and the estimated weight will help you be successful in achieving your market ready goal.

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION: (fill out one sheet per animal)

Youth Name: _____ Animal Breed: _____

Vaccinations/wormers given (list amount): _____

Date(s) Administered: _____

Weigh-in Date: _____ Official 4-H/FFA Tag #: _____

Official 4-H/FFA Weight (lbs): _____

Estimated Final Weight (lbs): _____ Utilize Sheep Frame Score Chart (from Growth Chart)

Estimated Average Daily Gain (ADG) for your sheep:

Estimated finished weight (lbs) _____

(a)

Beginning weight (lbs) _____

(b)

Total required gain (lbs) _____

(a)-(b) = (c)

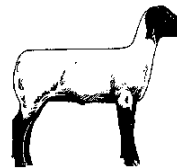
Days in feeding period _____

(d)

Estimated Average Daily Gain (Required daily gain) _____

(c)/(d)

Think about this:
• What does a market ready sheep mean?
• Is your estimated final weight an ideal market weight for the sheep industry?
• The national average for ADG is 0.5 lbs/day. Is your required daily gain achievable?
• Typical influences in ADG can be feed, water, weather, & illness. How will you manage these?



Feeding your market sheep:

Lambs will consume about 3-3.5 % of their body weight per day. Make every effort to keep feed waste to a minimum. Grain waste can be 5-10% of the amount fed, and hay waste 10-20 %, depending on facilities and care in feeding.

List your concentrates (types of grain): _____

List your roughages: _____

List any other: _____

Describe your feeding method (free choice; hand fed; number of times you feed per day; fed in a bunk or feed pan, on or off the ground; etc):

How much do you feed at the beginning of your project?

A finishing ration is 2 – 2.5% in grain and 1% in hay. Start your lamb on ¼ - ½ pound of grain per day, slowly increasing to the finishing ration.

Grain: (formula: $\text{lamb weight} * 2.5\% = \text{pounds of grain per day} / 2 \text{ feedings per day} = \text{lbs of grain per feeding}$)

Lamb weight _____ x 2.5% = _____ lbs of grain per day / 2 feedings = _____ lbs per feeding.

Hay: (formula: $\text{lamb weight} * 1\% = \text{pounds of roughage per day} / 2 \text{ feedings per day} = \text{lbs of roughage per feeding}$)

Lamb weight _____ x 1% = _____ lbs of roughage per day / 2 feedings = _____ lbs per feeding.

Answer the following questions:

1. How much does one scoop/bucket weigh? _____
2. Is one scoop/bucket of grain enough pounds of grain per feeding (circle one)? YES NO
3. How many scoops/buckets should you feed? _____

Calculate how much grain and hay per feeding you will need to feed by Fair time (end of project) in the weight and feed estimate record chart below:

Weight & Feed Estimate Record

Tracking animal weight can tell you where your animal is compared to your goal. Complete the chart below.

1. Enter date you weighed (or estimated weight) of your lamb.
2. Calculate days since the last weight was taken (you will enter zero for the first column).
3. Weigh and record your animals' weight.
4. Calculate your Average Daily Gain (ADG).
5. Determine the estimate of feed you should be feeding. The feed amounts are just minimum estimates. You should be feeding more due to waste factor. If your animal is eating all of the grain, increase it (slowly). It is better to push your lamb in the beginning, to get him market ready, then to run out of time in the feeding period.
6. Record how much you are actually feeding.
7. Record if you should be feeding more (+), less (-), or if you feeding the right amount (OK)?

NOTE: The first two columns are examples. Complete the blank columns with your estimates or actual numbers. You must have a column filled out for each month of the feed test period (June – August).

Weigh Date	June 1	July 1						
Days since weigh day	xxxx	31						
Current Weight	70	93						
A.D.G. (lbs/day)	xxxx	$70-93/31 = 0.76$						
Grain required per day	$70*2.5\% = 1.75 \text{ lbs}$	$93*2.5\% = 2.3 \text{ lbs}$						
How much grain are you feeding per day? Need to feed more (+), less (-), or just right (ok).	1.5 lbs +	3.0 lbs -						
Roughage required per day	$70 * 1\% = 0.7 \text{ lbs}$	$93 * 1\% = 0.93 \text{ lbs}$						
How much roughage are you feeding per day? Need to feed more (+), less (-), or just right (ok).	1 -	0.5 +						

Answer the following questions:

1. Typical influences in ADG can be feed, water, weather, and illness. How do you manage these factors?
2. Is the ADG more or less than predicted?
3. What caused your ADG to be more or less?
4. What happens if your animal does not have the ADG you predicted?
5. If your animal is not market ready by Fair time, what happens?
6. How is carcass quality affected by your feeding?

Energy & Protein: Energy is needed for increased growth rate. Many different grains are high in energy. Protein is an important nutrient in a lamb finishing ration. Protein is needed to build bone and muscle. Young, fast growing lambs need rations that contain 16 – 18% protein to allow them to grow and develop their muscle potential.

Minerals: Salt (sodium & chlorine), calcium, and phosphorus is important for lamb rations. Have loose salt (not a block) available free choice. Calcium and phosphorus should be fed in a ratio of 2.5 parts calcium to 1 part phosphorus.

Read your feed label and fill in the information below (feed at beginning of project):

Name of feed: _____

Protein content: _____ Calcium content: _____ Phosphorus content: _____

List of ingredients: _____

What is the main protein source (ingredient) in your feed? _____

Is your feed providing the 2.5 to 1 ratio for Calcium to Phosphorus ratio? YES NO

Water: Water is the most important nutrient. Explain how your lamb receives fresh, clean water each day: _____
