

***EKRE PROJECT - 1999 EWE FLOCK***

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**PRODUCTION GOALS OF THE EKRE EWE FLOCK**

**Flock Size:** 125 ewes

**Stocking Rate:** 1 ewe per 5 acres

**Ewe Type:**

Highly fertile - drop 200% lamb crop.

Heavy milkers - be able to raise twins.

Moderate frame size 150 - 170 lbs.; lower feed requirements than a larger 200 - 250# ewe ; can run more ewes on given land area.

Utilize speckled face ewes.

Increase heterosis or hybrid vigor.

Increase fertility, livability in lambs and milking ability.

**Labor Inputs:**

Low inputs during grazing & maintenance periods (early spring - late fall).

Highest requirements at lambing and lactation periods.

**ECONOMIC SUMMARY FOR 1999**

**1999 FLOCK OF 76 EWES**

**Ewes lambled in Feb-March; Lamb Drop = 178%; Death Loss = 8.9% 135 lambs born; 123 lambs weaned**

### **1998 FLOCK OF 50 EWES**

**Ewes lambled in Feb-March; Lamb Drop = 178%; Death Loss = 12.4% 89 lambs born; 78 lambs weaned**

#### **Feed expenses by the ewes:**

**Nov/May 15 - Beet tailings, hay, and grain fed. 200 days TOTAL ~ \$25 /ewe**

**May 15/Oct - Grazing on Ekre Property (value versus 165 days @ 4 lbs hay/ day =\$19.80)**

#### **Lamb Marketing Income - 1999 - August**

83 lambs marketed at \$0.80/lb; averaged 135 lbs. Gross \$8964 (\$108/head)

40 ewe lambs retained at a market value of \$100/head. Gross value \$4000.

Total gross \$12,894 (\$105.40/head) or **\$170.58/ewe.**

In 1998, lambs grossed \$8553.36 (\$112.55/head) or **\$171.07/ewe.**

#### **Lamb feed costs til mid August.**

Lambs conversions were 4.4 pounds of feed per pound of gain for a total of ~ 375 pounds of feed per lamb (weaning-50 lbs to 135 lbs). The ration cost approximately 5 cents a pound. Total feed cost per lamb was \$18.75. (At a feed cost of 6 cents, the feed cost/lamb would have been \$22.50)

Total lamb feed costs - \$2,306.25 (@5 cents) or **\$30.35/ewe.**

Total lamb feed costs - \$2,767.50 (@6 cents) or **\$36.41/ewe.**