



Intensive lamb creep

General feeding of lambs

Inadequate intake by suckling lambs is the major cause of slow weight gains. Greater efficiency and lamb weight gains occur if lambs are creep fed than if only the ewes are concentrate fed. For rapid weight gains, creep diets must be palatable, high in energy and must contain adequate protein, minerals (especially calcium, since grains are low in calcium), and vitamins.

The amount of creep feed consumed by lambs at 2 to 6 weeks of age is particularly affected by the palatability of the ration (in terms of both composition and form). Acceptability of our intensive lamb creep is increased by the inclusion of molasses.

The most important physiological factor determining successful early weaning and ability to utilize solid food rumen development. Rumen development is stimulated by intake of solid feed. Hence, creep fed lambs will do better at weaning than those that have relied on just their mothers' milk.

Feeding rates & guides

Energy levels are high at 13 MJ/kg and protein levels are 17%. Minerals are balanced to help prevent urinary calculi (stones) in intensively fed lambs. High quality ingredients are included and a high level of cereals ensures fast growth rates and maximum feed conversion efficiency.

Key components and reasons for inclusion

To achieve high performance and encourage rumen growth, lambs should receive a diet that ferments rapidly and does not lead to an accumulation of indigestible fibrous material in the rumen resulting in pot-bellied lambs. This can be avoided by feeding Intensive lamb creep as only high quality ingredients are included, such as wheatfeed, wheat, barley, EU distillers, palm kernel and rapeseed. Poorer quality ingredients are not included; this is indicated by the overall fibre level of the concentrate which is low at approximately 8%.

Salt is included to prevent poor appetite, growth retardation and inefficient feed use. Diets need to be correctly supplemented with calcium and phosphorus; deficiencies can result in abnormal bone development. Magnesium also needs to be correct to ensure bone formation and development of the nervous system. Intensive lamb creep pellets are fully mineralized to avoid growth restrictions due to mineral shortages.

Vitamin A is needed to prevent eye problems and vitamin D works with calcium to support bone formation. Vitamin E is vital for young lambs; it has an active role in fortification of the immune system.

Disclaimer

Rations should be carefully balanced in terms of nutrient content. They should contain sufficient forage to maintain rumen function and be fortified with an appropriate vitamin and mineral supplement on farms where this is needed. Animals must have constant access to clean water. Suggested feeding rates are produced as a guide only and many other factors may have an overriding effect on animal response; no performance guarantee can be given. Raw material ingredients are consistent for this product.





Ingredients

Typical Ingredients	Metabolizable Energy	Crude protein	Benefits / Reason for use
Wheatfeed	11.7	18.0	Starch, fibre and protein provide the building blocks tissue growth.
Malt residuals	11.6	24.5	A good source of fibre, whilst maintaining reasonable levels of energy and protein.
Palm kernal	12.5	17.0	A good protein source. Allows energy intakes to be maximized without increasing the risk of acidosis associated with cereal feeding.
Wheat	13.8	13.0	High in energy, particularly in the form of starch, of which 10% is not fermented in the rumen.
EU distillers	13.8	34.0	Intakes of other feeds can be stimulated. Good sources of energy and protein. Can stimulate rumen activity, encourages fibre digestion and feed efficiency. Allows energy intakes to be increased without increasing the risk of acidosis associated with high starch feeds.
Sugarbeet	12.5	11.0	Can stimulate intakes of other feeds, increasing dry matter intake and subsequent growth rate. Allows energy intakes to be increased without increasing the risk of acidosis associated with cereal feeding. Assists in maintaining an optimum rumen pH, kind to the rumen.
Molasses	11.3	20.0	High in sugar making it very palatable.
Rapeseed meal	12.1	38.5	Excellent source of ERDP. Allows the animal to maximize live weight gain. Provides the building blocks to drive lean tissue gain.
Cal Carb			A good supply of supplemental calcium, helping to support growth.
Salt			Salt is included to promote saliva production which helps buffer acid in the rumen.
Ruminant minerals			Well balanced minerals supplement to support growth and finish.
Element			Reason for inclusion
Vitamin A	Needed for the stimulation of growth, including bone malformation and essential for eye function.		
Vitamin D ₃	Essential for bone formation and hence growth, involved with calcium and phosphorous absorption.		
Vitamin E	Antioxidant working closely with Selenium to promote a healthy immune system.		
Selenium	An antioxidant plays a vital role in immunity. Benefits reproduction and growth. Protects muscles from degeneration. Helps to prevent retained placentas.		
Magnesium	Essential for growth, repair of body tissue and bone development. Needed for enzymes, muscle and nerve function.		
Phosphorous	One of the most important elements being involved with energy production, bone and teeth formation and appetite.		

