



Comparison – 2012 - 2013 (Sheep Farms)

Where a farm completed an eProfit Monitor on their sheep enterprise for both 2012 and 2013 they are included in this analysis. It only includes lowland sheep farms.

Comparison – 2012 - 2013 (Sheep Farms)

- Output per ha increased by €20 (+2%). Stocking rate (+2%), lambs reared per ewe joined (+4%) and replacements retained (+4%) increased from 2012 to 2013. These are the key factors influencing profitability.
- Variable costs per ha increased by €135 (25%) in 2013.
- The dramatic increase in variable costs during 2013 can be attributed to the adverse weather during spring / early summer.
- Increases in feed, fertiliser and contractor were responsible for 87% of the rise in variable costs.
- Purchased concentrate feed represents the single largest variable cost on sheep farms.
- Gross margin excluding premia on lowland sheep flocks was reduced from €531 to €415 (a reduction of 22% per ha).
- Fixed costs per ha decreased slightly by €14 (-3%).
- Net margin per ha decreased by €101 from €40 to -€61.
- Depreciation, land rental and repairs / maintenance continue to be the three largest fixed costs on sheep farms.

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Table 7 Profit Monitor per hectare analysis (72 Farms)

	2012	2013	% Change
Physical			
Stocking rate LU/ha	1.86	1.90	+2%
Ewes to ram	148	142	-4%
Lambs reared per ewe joined to ram	1.35	1.41	+4%
Lambs reared per hectare	11.5	12.2	+6%
Ewe lambs retained	25	26	+4%
Financial (€ / ha.)			
Average lamb price	€98	€99	+1%
Gross Output	€1,078	€1,098	+2%
Variable Costs	€548	€683	+25%
Gross Margin	€531	€415	-22%
Fixed Costs	€490	€476	-3%
Net Profit Excl. Premia	€40	-€61	
Total Premia*	€516	€522	+1%
Premia Retained*	108%	88%	-20%

(* Includes Single Farm Payment, REPS, AEOS, CAS, Suckler Welfare premium, BTAP & STAP payments)

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Variable Costs per Ewe - Lowland Farms 2012 vs 2013

