

Technology & Tools

Improve flock performance for a strong business today and in the future

Alberta lamb industry stakeholders have just completed the LTP-Precision Flock Management project. The project focused on getting leading edge information and new business tools into the hands of Alberta producers. Profitable, viable businesses are the foundation of a sustainable industry. Five new fact sheets provide ideas and information for producers building better lamb businesses.

- "Introduction to PFM" – What exactly is precision flock management and why does it matter?
- "Cost of Production" – Where are you spending money on your sheep business? What can you improve so you have a more viable, profitable, business today and in the future?
- "Flock Snapshot" – Do you know what it costs you to produce every lamb you market? The FSS is an analysis tool that helps analyze flock performance. Financial and production data is entered and the FSS does the math providing a "snapshot in time" of flock performance. It also generates flock benchmarks to help identify strengths (profit builders) as well as the areas of waste (profit leaks) to help flock managers set targets to improve flock performance.
- "Ewe Productivity" – There is no perfect ewe, alas. Flock profitability depends on knowing which ewes make you money and which ones don't pay for their feed or your labour. Identify your 'top performers' so you keep from the best and cull the ones that reduce flock profitability.
- "SheepBytes Ration Balancer" – Feed costs are the big cost in every market lamb. This software program is a tool flock managers need to build the rations that help good animals produce while helping manage feed cost and reduce waste. New SheepBytes subscribers are commenting on the savings they've been able to make in this world of \$6 barley.

Market prices are out of your control but what you do as a flock manager really matters in today's business world.

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