

StockMins-EweLamLac-HE Trial

An independent lambing supplement trial was conducted where the performance of single bearing ewes and their lambs, offered a traditional supplement of Causmag®, Lime and Salt (CLS) from late-pregnancy to early-lactation, was compared to single bearing ewes and their lambs offered StockMins-EweLamLac HE (ELL-HE) over the same period. The control flock (228 ewes) and the trial flock (197 ewes) were offered CLS and ELL-HE respectively in free-access tubs for 10 weeks during the lambing period (4 weeks pre-lambing to 6 weeks post-lambing). The average live weights of all lambs and ewes were compared at scanning (ewes only), lamb marking and weaning. Lamb mortality data was collected on a daily basis. These measurements were used as key indicators (KPI's) of flock performance throughout the 182 day trial period from scanning to weaning. The trial was conducted by Anthony Shepherd from Sheepmatters in Cootamundra, NSW.

Results

1. Improved weaning percentage

The flock offered CLS recorded a total of 18 lamb mortalities (7.89%), with a weaning percentage of 92.1%. In the flock offered ELL-HE, a total of 9 lamb mortalities (4.57%) were recorded resulting in a weaning percentage of 95.4%.

2. Significantly higher lamb marking weights

At marking, lambs from the flock offered CLS averaged 17.7kg/hd, while the flock offered ELL-HE produced lambs that averaged 22.1kg/hd, an increase of 4.4kg or 24.9%.

3. Significantly higher lamb weaning weights

Lambs were weaned 35 days after weaning. At weaning, lambs from the flock offered CLS averaged 24.1kg/hd. The lambs from the flock offered ELL-HE averaged 30.2kg/ha at weaning, a recorded increase of 6.1kg/hd or 25.3%.

4. Greater weight retention in ewes

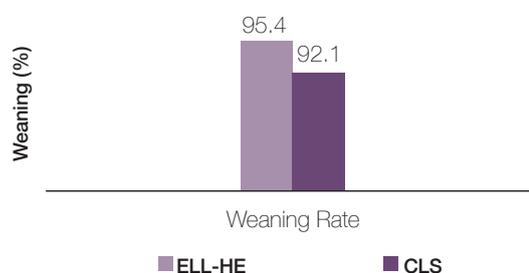
During the lambing period, ewes supplemented with ELLHE had an average of 702kg DM/ha available for grazing, while CLS ewes had 750kg DM/ha. Despite lower feed accessibility, ewes supplemented with CLS lost an average of 11.2kg (20%) body weight from scanning to weaning, while ewes supplemented with ELL-HE lost an average of 7.1kg (12.5%) body weight over the same period.

What do these results mean?

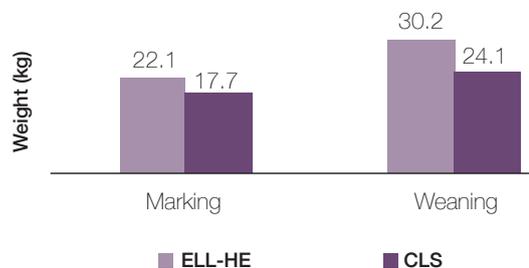
Giving single bearing ewes access to StockMins-EweLamLac HE significantly improves lambing performance against all key performance indicators (KPI's):

- ✓ Improved weaning percentage
- ✓ Higher weaning weights
- ✓ Greater weight retention in ewes

Weaning performance of single bearing ewes



Average body weight of lambs at marking and weaning



Change in ewe body weight from scanning to weaning

