



CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets

CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets are a complete feed designed to maintain or build condition score in ewes. They are specially formulated to be fed to ewes post weaning to regain body condition for the next joining, or to complement existing green pasture and provide additional energy, protein, minerals, vitamins and trace elements to ewes, rams and lambs. They are designed to be fed in combination with pasture that is of moderate quality or better, coupled with additional roughage (cereal hay or straw) and clean, fresh water.

CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets are unique. We use a combination of ingredients to promote rumen health that aids in reducing the incidence of acidosis whilst improving digestibility and absorption of nutrients. Sheep Optimiser pellets do not contain urea or Bovatec.

Ideally, CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets are introduced in low quantities (100g/head/day) post-weaning. This introduces the ewes to the taste and texture of the pellets, whilst allowing time for a healthy transition onto greater intakes of a higher energy ration which may be required for twin bearing ewes that are typically of lower body condition score post weaning. Slowly increasing the quantity feed by 100g per head per day every 3 days (see Table 1 below), will significantly reduce the chances of acidosis and assist the ewe to be more efficient at digesting and utilising a valuable feed source. Research has shown that ewes in better condition at joining will result in improved conception rates with less dry ewes in the flock.

Table 1: Daily feed intake for ewes transitioning onto CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets.

Day 1	Day 4	Day 7	Day 10	Day 13	Day 16	Day 19
100g	200g	300g	400g	500g	600g	700g

If trail feeding, it is important to feed CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets regularly and distribute uniformly to avoid gorging behaviour. Allow 20-30cm per head, mature sheep need more feed space than younger sheep due to differences in body size

If using self-feeders, slides should have a 5mm gap for 7-14 days before opening to 10mm, however the slide gap is dependent on how much you need to feed your ewes and a 5-8mm gap may be sufficient.

Commence feeding once pasture quality begins to decline. Introduce pellets over 10 to 14 days to allow the rumen to adapt and to decrease the risk of digestive upsets. Feed rates are best determined by a feed budget that is based on the energy requirements of your ewes and a realistic assessment of available pastures.

Given the complex interaction between minerals, it is recommended that you do not add or supply other mineral sources such as limestone, causmag (magnesium oxide), dolomite, salt, blocks or loose licks whilst feeding CopRice Sheep Optimiser pellets.

Supplying quality roughage is useful to prolong paddock life and is important for rumen health as it promotes rumination, increases saliva production and improves the buffering capability of the rumen. If your paddocks have limited pasture available we recommend supplementing ewes with hay or straw that is free of mould, weeds and rodent damage when feeding Sheep Optimiser pellets.

Ingredients (selected from)	
Barley, rice bran, wheat bran, wholegrain rice, wheat, field peas, canola meal, soyabean meal, calcium carbonate (limestone), rumen buffer (Acid Buf), yeast culture, dicalcium phosphate, salt, magnesium oxide, sodium bentonite, vitamin and trace mineral premix.	
This product does not contain urea or any medications (i.e. Bovatec)	

Nutrient Specifications (Dry Matter Basis*)	
Crude Protein (Min)	12%
Metabolisable Energy (Min)	12 MJ/kg
Crude Fibre (max)	12%
Crude Fat (max)	6%
Salt (min)	0.5% (max 1%)
Calcium (min)	1.20%
Phosphorus (min)	0.30%
Magnesium (min)	0.30%
Nil urea Nil Bovatec	



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