

Supplements to Complement Forages for Sheep

Crude Protein of Forage	TDN to CP Ratio	Feeder Lambs	Flushing	Lactating Ewes and Ewe Lambs	Dry Ewes
Less than 7%	>7	dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, soyhulls + corn gluten, 50:50 corn + SMB,	dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, soyhulls + corn gluten, 50:50 corn + SMB,	dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, soyhulls + corn gluten, 50:50 corn + SMB,	corn gluten feed, soyhulls, corn
7 to 10 %	varies	dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, soyhulls + corn gluten, 50:50 corn + SMB,	dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, 50:50 corn + SMB, soyhulls + corn gluten feed	dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, 50:50 corn + SMB, soyhulls	soyhulls
Greater than 10%	<7	soyhulls + corn gluten feed, distillers dried grains, soyhulls, corn	soyhulls + corn gluten feed, distillers dried grains, soyhulls, corn	soyhulls, corn, distillers dried grains, corn gluten feed & soyhulls	no supplement usually needed
		Note: Corn may be blended with by-products to increase energy content while limiting starch content of the diet.			
Typical Protein Contents					
<p>Less than 7% - Summer fescue hay, fescue straw, wheat straw, shorgum stover, corn stover, drought damaged corn silage. TDN:CP ratio generally >7. High starch supplements (corn, sorghum, small grains) will have a negative impact on forage utilization and performance may be lower than expected. Higher levels of protein supplementation can have a positive effect on forage utilization. Look at supplements having a TDN:CP ratio ≤7.</p>					
<p>7 to 10% - Mature cool season grass pasture, June cut grass hay, warm season grass hay, corn silage, shorgum silage, mature warm season grass pasture. TDN:CP ratio can vary - calculate the TDN:CP ratio and use a complementary supplement.</p>					
<p>Greater than 10% - Spring cool season grass pasture, vegetative summer cool season grass pasture, early vegetative warm season grass pasture, legume hay, grass legume hay, small grain pasture, winter annuals pasture. TDN:CP ratio <7. High starch supplements (corn, sorghum, small grains) are generally not a problem. Look at supplements with TDN:CP ratio ≥7.</p>					