# Supplement Use Guidelines for Sheep by Stage of Production

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI Extension

| Supplement - *Supplies* | Growing Lambs & Replacements | Finishing | Breeding Sheep |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Corn - *energy*; ground, cracked or whole; TDN:CP = 8.9** | .25 - .5% body weight; 1 - 1.5% body weight; ***see #1 below*** | A primary feedstuff - not considered a supplement | .25 - .5% body weight; 1 - 1.5% body weight; ***see #1 below*** |
| **Grain Shorgum - *energy*; ground; TDN:CP = 8.3 - 11.03** | .25 - .5% body weight; 1 - 1.5% body weight; ***see #1 below*** | A primary feedstuff - not considered a supplement | .25 - .5% body weight; 1 - 1.5% body weight; ***see #1 below*** |
| **Whole soybeans - *protein, energy, fat; TDN:CP = 2.3*** | 5 - 10% of ration dry matter recommended - do not use with urea | Max. 24% of ration dry matter - do not use with urea | Max. 24% of ration dry matter - do not use with urea |
| **Corn gluten feed - *protein, energy; see #2 below; TDN:CP = 3.2*** | Up to 1% body weight or 60% ration dry matter | Replace Up to 70% of grain | Up to 40% ration dry matter |
| **Soyhulls - *energy, limited protein; TDN:CP = 5.3*** | Up to 1% body weight or 40% ration dry matter | 25 - 50% ration dry matter - can reduce diet energy level | Up to 40% ration dry matter - do not exceed 1.5 lbs./d |
| **Distillers dried grains - *protein, rumen by-pass protein, energy; see #3 below; TDN:CP = 3.5*** | Up to 1% body weight or 40% ration dry matter | Protein supplement - 6 - 15% diet dry matter; energy replacment - Up to 40% corn or milo | Up to 40% ration dry matter - do not exceed 1.5 lbs./d |
| **Soybean Meal - *protein*; TDN:CP 1.6** | Up to .6% bodyweight | Up to .6% bodyweight | Up to .6% bodyweight |

**#1 -** Low quality forages (<7% CP) will require protein supplentation along with the corn and grain sorghum. At the higher levels of use, it is viewed as substitution, not supplementation. Avoid using starch based feeds (corn, grain sorghum, wheat) at the rates of .6 to 1% of body weight - forage digestion and rumen fuction suffer - animal performance can be less than expected.

**#2 -** If the sulpher level of the drinking water is high, do not use corn gluten feed at levels over 40% of the diet drymatter. Feeding diets with a high percentage of CGF becomes feed/forage substitution. As a protein supplement, best performance should occur if 50% of the protien in the diet comes from the forage.

**#3 -** Feeding diets with high levels of DDGS becomes feed/forage substitution. As a protein supplement, best performance should occur if 50% of the protien in the diet comes from the forage.

**Note -** Supplementation decesions should be based on price per unit for the nutrient needed. Ifadditonal protien is needed, compare supplements on a cost per unit of protein. If energy is needed, compare on a cost per unit of NEm, NEg, or TDN.

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