

Do I have enough forage/land?

- The amount of land you need varies with many factors – forage quantity & quality are among the most important – I can manage about 1400 lb of sheep on 3 acres. Here's what you need to know:
- Daily Ration (sheep eats 2-5% of its weight/d)
 - $DR = \frac{5 \text{ lb forage}}{100 \text{ lb sheep} \cdot \text{day}} \times \text{Weight of 1 sheep}$
- Useable Forage (half of the forage in your pasture or paddock)
 - For pasture $UF_p = \frac{1}{2} (\text{lb DM/acre}) \times \# \text{ of acres}$
 - For 1 acre $Uf_a = \frac{1}{2} (\text{lb DM/acre})$
- Carrying Capacity (# of sheep your pasture can support)
 - $CC = \frac{UF_p \times \text{days of grazing}}{DR}$
- Stocking Rate (# of sheep you can put on pasture for a month)
 - $AUM = \frac{\text{lb of 1 sheep} \times \# \text{ sheep} \times DR \times 30 \text{ days/month}}{1000 \text{ lb/AU}}$
 - AU = Animal Unit (=1 cow calf pair of 1000 lb)
 - AUE = Animal Unit Equivalent (weight of animal/1000 lb; Sheep AUEs are usually 0.1-0.2)
 - AUM = Amount of forage needed in a month
 - $SR = \text{AUM/ acres of pasture/ months of grazing}$