EWE NUTRITION AND BODY CONDITION SCORING TIMELINE

**Golden 20 days** Move ewes to fresh pasture regularly, ideally daily, for 10 days before and after tups go out to raise scanning %

- Last date ewes can be expected to gain 1 condition score before tupping
- Tapping date
- Most ewes tupped by day 25
- Embryo implantation complete by day 55
- Scanning

**Golden 35 days** Essential to feed to maintain BCS. Under feeding in last 35 days will cap lactation and reduce lamb vigour

- Lambing
- Peak lactation
- Weaning

**Meaning to tupping** Get ewes fit for production.
- Aim to get all ewes to target BCS 3 - 3.5.
- Offer lean ewes the best grass.

**3rd 50 Days** Take care of the eggs & developing embryo.
- Look to maintain BCS for embryo survival.
- Minimise stress on the ewe with no sudden changes in diet.

**2nd 50 Days** Let the placenta grow and develop.
- A well grown placenta + good lamb development and birthweight. Ewes that were above target BCS at tupping can lose half a BCS.
- Use opportunity to condition score and pull out ewes below target BCS 3 for preferential feeding.

**Golden 35 days** Essential to feed to maintain BCS. Under feeding in last 35 days will cap lactation and reduce lamb vigour

- Lambing
- Peak lactation
- Weaning

**Early Lactation** Maximise milk production.
- Total milk production is driven by high quality pasture and body condition.

**Late Lactation** Maximise lamb growth.
- Lamb growth driven by pasture quality as ewe milk production declines.
- Wean at 90-110 days and offer lambs the best grass.

**TARGET**

- Maintain or raise ewe BCS to 3-3.5
- Important to maintain BCS
- BCS 3 to 3.5
- Maintain BCS, or can drop by 0.5
- BCS 3 to 3.5
- Essential to maintain BCS
- BCS 3
- BCS has should be kept to minimum to allow body reserves
- BCS 2.5
- Ewes likely to gain condition
- BCS 3

**PASTURE ALLOCATION FOR ROTATIONAL GRASSING**

- For 70kg ewe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Maintenance</th>
<th>LIJR (kg/ha) required</th>
<th>kgDM/day assuming 10 KJME grass*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early pregnancy</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid pregnancy</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late pregnancy</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These figures assume 20% grass wastage

For further information, visit www.qmscotland.co.uk