

An on-farm trial found that, a mob of ewes which were supplemented with Advantage Feeders, produced significantly more lambs than a mob that were trail-fed their supplement.



# 15% increase in weaned lambs from reduced mis-mothering

## Results:

**Ewes supplement fed from Advantage Feeders weaned 15% more lambs.**

Other benefits included:

**The elimination of waste** – particularly important because trail feeding on a paddock going into crop causes contamination issues.

**Major time and labour savings.** Advantage Feeders only need to be filled up every two weeks.

## Trial outline

**Duration:** 90 days

**Quantity:** Approx. 2000 on each farm

**Stock type:** Mixed-age Merino ewes

**Feed:** 250g/day of lupins for the last 30 days of pregnancy

400g/day of 50:50 lupin/  
barley mix for next 60 days

## Comments from the trial operator

There was a lot less mis-mothering with the feeders, as ewes don't chase the ute thinking they are going to be fed, there was also more twins surviving and thriving Tony said.

Tony said the grain feeders had eliminated wastage and were big time and labour savers.

The stock have constant access to fresh grain and only need to be filled up every

couple of weeks.

"Having access to the feeders puts us in control, especially when weather conditions are against us.

"They really come into their own when we get a late break in the season and there is a lot of stress on the stock.

"The feeders have certainly been a good investment for us," Tony said.

## Supplement trial



Advantage Feeders make the mis-mothering, labour and feed wastage associated with trail-feeding a thing of the past.

### Increased weaning rate

No. of ewes	2000
Increased weaning %	15%
Weaner value	\$70.00
Total extra income	\$21,000.00
Depreciation*	\$2,400.00
<b>PROFIT/EWE</b>	<b>\$9.30</b>
<b>TOTAL PROFIT</b>	<b>\$18,600.00</b>

\* This is calculated by multiplying a depreciation rate of 15% by an investment of 8 feeders (\$16,000). This also assumes that the feeder is only used for this sole purpose throughout the year.

### About the trial operator

Tony Sudlow operates the well-known 'Kapari' Angus Stud in Northampton, WA, that supports 250 stud cattle and up to 7000 sheep with summer and winter cropping programs.

### Opportunity for higher profits:

Lambs that have been born while their mothers have been supplemented from Advantage Feeders are taught how to supplement feed by their mothers.

This provides the perfect platform to introduce creep feeding.

Creep feeding is a very cost effective method of increasing weight gain because it develops the lambs' rumen earlier to convert pasture into meat.

It also means that lambs reach saleable weight earlier to take advantage of seasonal peak prices.