

# Price Predictability Tool Available for Sheep Prices

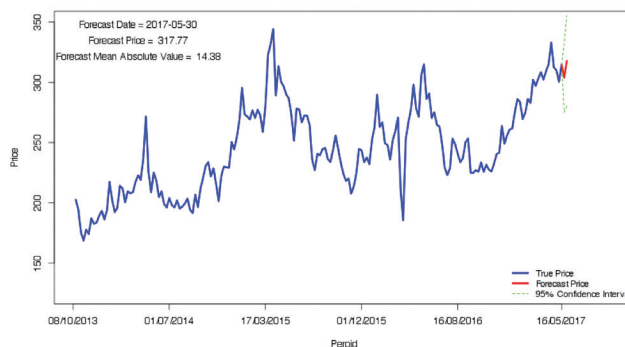
If you asked a farmer, who is growing or raising a non-supply managed commodity, if they would like to be able to predict today what they are going to receive for their commodity in two months, six months or even a year from now when they market it, the vast majority would likely want to have that information and ability. It would help with many different aspects of their farm business - planning, budgeting, cash flow are all areas that come to mind.

Some commodities, like beef cattle and hogs, have futures markets to help with decision making and price forecasting. However, there are no futures markets for sheep, which makes it a challenge to predict where the market price will be in the coming months. Instead, the price of sheep is based solely on cash markets – determined by the supply and demand on any given day at the auction barn.

To help address this challenge, sheep farmers now have access to a tool that can help guide decisions and provide information about what prices to expect at auction sales. The price predictability tool uses a number of sophisticated statistical models – those typically used in asset pricing and exchange rate modelling – as well as historical pricing data from 2008 and onwards to forecast the price of sheep in the two weight categories.

## Forecasts for Sheep Prices

[Sheep 65 - 79 lbs. Prices](#)
[Sheep 95 - 109 lbs. Prices](#)
[Cattle Prices](#)
[Hog Prices](#)  
[View Graph](#)
[View Price Series](#)
[View Table](#)



Pricing predictions for lambs in the 65 to 79 pound and 95 to 109 pound categories are currently available with price predictions for one to four weeks out provided.

The tool was developed in partnership with the University of Guelph and OMAFRA, and is available through the Institute for the Advanced Study of Food and Agricultural Policy, within the Department of Food, Agriculture Economics, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph. The tool is available online at <http://fare.uoguelph.ca/forecast/>.

If you have used the tool, or have suggestions for how it could be improved, contact the OSMA office at [admin@ontariosheep.org](mailto:admin@ontariosheep.org) or (519) 836-0043. **OSN**

## SheepBytes.ca Ration Balancer

Managing nutrition saves money **every time** you feed.

SheepBytes ration balancer is web-based software designed for effectively managing nutrition for all types of sheep. Breeding flock owners, feedlot managers and nutritional consultants, across Canada, and internationally, are using SheepBytes to take the guesswork out of balancing cost-effective rations.

### What are SheepBytes users saying?

*By using SheepBytes, we saved \$12-18 per finished lamb without sacrificing performance.*

*Since using SheepBytes, we've noticed an improvement in the overall health of our flock, with fewer disease outbreaks and deaths from unknown causes.*

Learn more about what SheepBytes can do for your flock by visiting

**SheepBytes.ca**

Easy to Use — Cost Effective — Developed and Used by Ruminant Nutritionists



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- ▶ Improve your skills in using basic and advanced features
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- ▶ Always available at no cost - anywhere, anytime