

WINTER GRAZING WITH SHEEP

BENEFITS FOR BOTH SHEEP AND DAIRY FARMERS



Improve
the quality
and yield of
grassland

After a beautiful summer, the days are getting shorter, colder and wetter. Autumn sets in and gradually many animals go back into their stables. The weather becomes worse and nature prepares to settle down for the winter. The moist ground makes it no longer possible to let heavier animals like cows graze the land or use farm machinery.

Cows out, sheep in

For many dairy farmers, this is the time to start winter grazing with sheep. This way, the nutrients from the last remnants of grass are also utilised. After all, it is a waste

to feed sheep with valuable summer grass when they can get it themselves from the land. It is also better for the animals themselves to graze naturally and be outside as much as possible.

But perhaps more importantly, this way of grazing allows the pasture to go into winter optimally. Because the leftover grass is eaten, the chance of dying off of grass due to frost is much lower. Dead grass does not grow back as well. In addition, grazing and fine hoofs contribute to a firmer top layer and a closed grass cover. The pasture is thus ready to settle down properly in winter and is in optimal condition to start growing again in spring. Ultimately, this produces more and better grass in spring.

OPTIMAL WINTER GRAZING

In principle, grazing with sheep can continue throughout the entire winter. However, it is important to take some things into account to minimise yield losses in spring.

In all cases, when winter grazing on a dairy farmer's field, it is important to make clear agreements in advance. This will prevent different expectations regarding the moment to remove the sheep from the pasture.

1

Keep a low livestock density. When grazing for a short period, say one month, do not allow more than 10 animals per hectare. When grazing the same plot for a longer period, reduce the density.

2

Do not graze for too long in early spring. You do not want the grass that grows back to be grazed off immediately.

3

Maintain a grass length of at least five centimetres when removing the sheep from the pasture.

4

Consider sowing a field turnips for optimal nutrition.



“With winter grazing, you get the most out of the grassland and create a win-win situation for both human and animal.”

Frederik Dijkstra,
Gallagher product manager & sheep farmer.

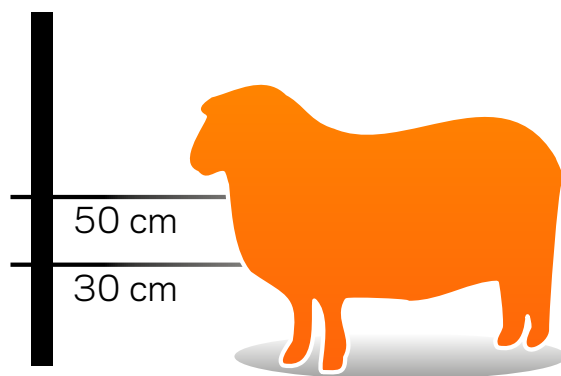
WORRY-FREE FENCING

Winter grazing with sheep is very low-intensive. The sheep graze one large field for a long period of time, usually with only the borders having to be fenced off. Because there is plenty of grass and the plots are large, the need to break out is less than in summer.

As a result, a mobile fence of just three wires is often sufficient. The last thing you want is to have to look after this fence a lot. Because the winter pasture is often located in a different place, there is less direct supervision.

It is therefore very important to use robust and reliable fencing material. And perhaps even more important: to check the fencing regularly. This will prevent unsafe situations for the sheep and therefore worry and inconvenience for the sheep farmer.

For winter pasture fencing, you need a reliable electric fence energizer. As a 230V supply is usually not available, you will need a mobile battery or solar energizer.



GALLAGHERS' ADVICE

SMALL WINTER FIELD

B100 For a smaller plot, the B100 device has been the favourite with many sheep farmers for years. This very robust device comes in a waterproof and shockproof box that holds a 12V battery or two 9V Gallagher Alkaline batteries. If you do not want to have to worry about it for a long time, it is best to use two 9V batteries.

With the rotary knobs on the front, you can easily select different modes to get the most out of the usage time. With a charging energy of 0.8 joules, the device is suitable for winter meadows of up to 4 hectares or fence lengths of up to 10 kilometres. For larger pastures, a stronger B200 or B300 device is available.



ACTION: Buy now a B100 with free duopack Alkaline battery 2x 9V/175Ah (worth £82.49).



* art. no. 392004-22



* Promotion valid until 31-12-2022 and while stocks last.

GALLAGHERS' ADVICE

LARGE WINTER FIELD

MBS400 This device from the intelligent 3-in-1 multipower series is suitable for use with a 12v battery, solar panel or 230V connection. In practice, the 12v battery connection will usually be used for a winter meadow. With a charging energy of 4 joules, the device is particularly suitable for the larger winter meadow of up to 16 hectares or fence length of up to 30 kilometres.



ACTION: Buy an MBS400 device now with free digital voltmeter (worth £85.99) * art. no. 390307-22



The digital voltmeter is an essential monitoring tool that allows you to measure the voltage on the fence. The voltmeter is also suitable for checking the operation of the earthing and energiser.

Do the Gallagher Check for a complete check of your fence.

View the Gallagher Check at www.gallagher.eu/check.

* Promotion valid until 31-12-2023 and while stocks last.



VIDOFLEX 9

The Vidoflex 9 has been the best-selling mobile fence among sheep and dairy farmers for many years.

GALLAGHER'S
ADVICE

The core of Vidoflex 9 consists of 6 stainless steel wires and 3 tinned copper wires. This makes the wire 50% stronger than a standard fence wire. In addition, 9 mixed wires conduct the pulse from the energiser as much as 40 times better than standard wire. Finally, the structure of the wire prevents it from twisting or kinking when winding on reels.



ACTION: Save 20%
when purchasing
a Vidoflex 9
duopack.



-20%



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Gallagher has more than 6,000 dealers in Europe and as market leader in electric fencing it always has 100% customised advice. It goes without saying that you can place your order directly on our website www.gallagher.eu. Our Account Managers will be pleased to assist with customised advice, including when you are looking for a partner to put up your fencing. Please contact us by

e-mail at info.uk@gallaghereurope.com
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We will be pleased to give you customised advice!



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