

they may be timed and analysed. Sheep handling activities such as drenching, sorting for sale and foot trimming, as well as daily feeding, are recorded.

Studying partial and overall working times, the different techniques and equipment used are compared in relation to herd size and farming conditions. For example, not including forage cultivation time, a worker can manage 300 ewes in zero grazing conditions in 50 p. 100 of his work time, 54 p. 100 of which is for daily activities and 46 p. 100 for seasonal or occasional activities.

An enlarged E.E.C. : the sheep outlook

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The United Kingdom produces 50 p. 100 of sheep-meat in the E.E.C., and France 25 p. 100. Italy has a large flock, but produces little sheep-meat, which is oriented towards third-world countries. Other member states represent less than 10 p. 100 of the E.E.C. market.

As sheep-meat is not under any common regulation, each member state applies its own policy. Protected by a very efficient threshold-price system, French market prices are about 100 p. 100 higher than British, but what would be the equilibrium price in a freetrade system within the E.E.C.?

The author shows what the market equilibrium would be in 1980. Britain's self-sufficiency would increase from 55 p. 100 in 1975 to 80 p. 100 in 1980, both by decreased consumption and increased production. The E.E.C. would import a total of 250 000 tons (300 000 in 1975), so the world market would not be very depressed. The average equilibrium market price would be about 110 p/kg (Britain: + 35 %; France:— 35 %).

The entrance of Britain into the E.E.C. means both increasing self-sufficiency for the whole E.E.C. and greater regional specialization within it. As Italy would become the main wine producer, Britain would become the main sheep-meat producer.

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