

1. Shear, trim feet and evaluate rams for reproductive soundness. Purchase new rams if necessary. Purchase or have teaser (vasectomized) rams made.
2. Worm ewes and hold in drylot for 2 days. Sort ewes into two groups, fat and medium condition ewes in one group, thin ewes in separate group. Start flushing thin ewes.
3. Flush ewes by rotating to lush pasture or feeding grain. Use teaser rams to stimulate ovulation.
4. Replace teaser rams with fertile rams. Vaccinate any previously unvaccinated ewes with first shot of Vibrio and/or Enzootic abortion vaccine.
5. Put ewes on maintenance ration.
6. Remove rams from flock and worm rams.
7. Vaccinate all ewes with booster Vibriosis and/or Enzootic shot, vaccinate any new ewes and rams for enterotoxemia type C & D.
8. Consult SID Handbook for proper ration, boost level of selenium and Vit. E.
9. Shearing keeps facilities cleaner and drier and ewes healthier. Shelter must be provided in cold climate.
10. Vaccinate all ewes with enterotoxemia type C & D.
11. Clip and iodine navel on lamb, strip out ewes teats, make sure lambs nurse. Dock and castrate lambs, inject selenium, vitamin E and long acting penicillin at 2 to 5 days of age. Ear tag or paint brand lambs. Worm ewes. Observe ewes for mastitis.
12. Start lambs on 20% protein creep ration. Ration should contain 120,000 IU Vit. E per ton and a coccidiostat. Observe lambs for starvation, pneumonia and scours. Monitor ventilation.

13. Vaccinate lambs for enterotoxemia type D.
14. Reduce creep ration to 16% protein and 80,000 IU Vitamin E per ton at 40 to 45 days of age. Start reducing ewes feed two weeks prior to weaning. Reduce protein and feed poorer quality hay. This is so ewes will dry up to help eliminate udder problems at weaning.
15. Vaccinate lambs second time with enterotoxemia type D.
16. Wean lambs by removing ewes and leaving lambs in familiar surroundings. Weigh lambs to assist in identifying poor producing ewes. Continue feeding ewes a maintenance diet containing lower quality roughage.
17. Reduce protein in lamb feed to 13% at 80-85 days of age. Reduce Vit. E. to 40,000 I.U. per ton.
18. Check udders and cull problem and poor producing ewes.
19. Check weight and finish of lambs and market when ready. Select replacement ewe lambs at 80 lbs., and put on a higher roughage growing ration so they do not get too fat.
20. Shear all lambs under 90 lbs. and replacement ewe lambs. They will grow better in hot weather with the wool off.

Year around: provide free choice trace mineral salt that is selenium enriched and has no added copper. Provide a supply of clean fresh water at all times.

Sheep Management Wheel written and developed by Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, P.O. Box 250, Pipestone, MN 56164 [507] 825-6806 Copyright © www.pipestonesheep.com

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