

Ways to Raise More Sheep With the Same Resources

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Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program

www.pipestonesheep.com



Key Resources

- Feed
- Labor
- Facilities



Feed

- 25-50% of Ewe Feed Cost is due to:
 - Wasted Feed
 - Overfeeding



Wasted Feed

- Self-Feeding Hay
- Poorly Designed Feeders
- Feeding on the Ground
- Poor Pasture Management



Overfeeding

- Feeding more than is needed for each Stage of Production:
 - Maintenance
 - Late Gestation
 - Flushing
 - Lactation
- Continuous Grazing



Feed Solutions

- Feed to meet requirements (don't exceed)
- Use Feeders that Reduce Waste
- Rotational / Timed Grazing of Pastures and Crop Residue
- ❖ **RESULT:** ability to run at least 25% more ewes on same feed



Labor

- 70-75% of annual sheep operation labor input is spent on:
 - Feeding (including Pasture Management)
 - Lambing
 - Handling (Sorting, Worming, Vaccinating)



Labor Solutions

- Run more ewes with same labor:
 - Low Labor Feeding Systems
 - Planned Lambing
 - Good Sheep Working Chute



Labor Solutions

■ Low Labor Feeding Systems

- Fenceline
- Kitchen Feeding
- Self-feeding Lambs
- Auto Waterers























Labor Solutions

- Run more ewes with same labor:
 - Low Labor Feeding Systems
 - Planned Lambing



Planned Lambing

- Control Number of Ewes Lambing
- Set Time for Lambing Periods
- Planning
 - saves lambs
 - saves producers
 - expands numbers
- Scheduled groups / Blitz



Facilities

- Need to be Designed to Work With, Not Against, You
- Double & Triple Use When Possible:
 - Feeding
 - Housing / Lots
 - Lambing Area
 - Working Chute



Facility Design

- Warm
 - 32 -40 degrees
- Ventilation
 - 33 CFM/1,000 lbs ABW
 - 133 CFM/1,000 lbs ABW



Facility Layout

- Barn Layout
 - Drop pens
 - Lambing pens
 - Grouping pens
 - Milk replacer pens
- Walk-through Gates
- Short Distance Principle









Lambing Barn Layout to Make Lambing Easier

- Walk-through gates

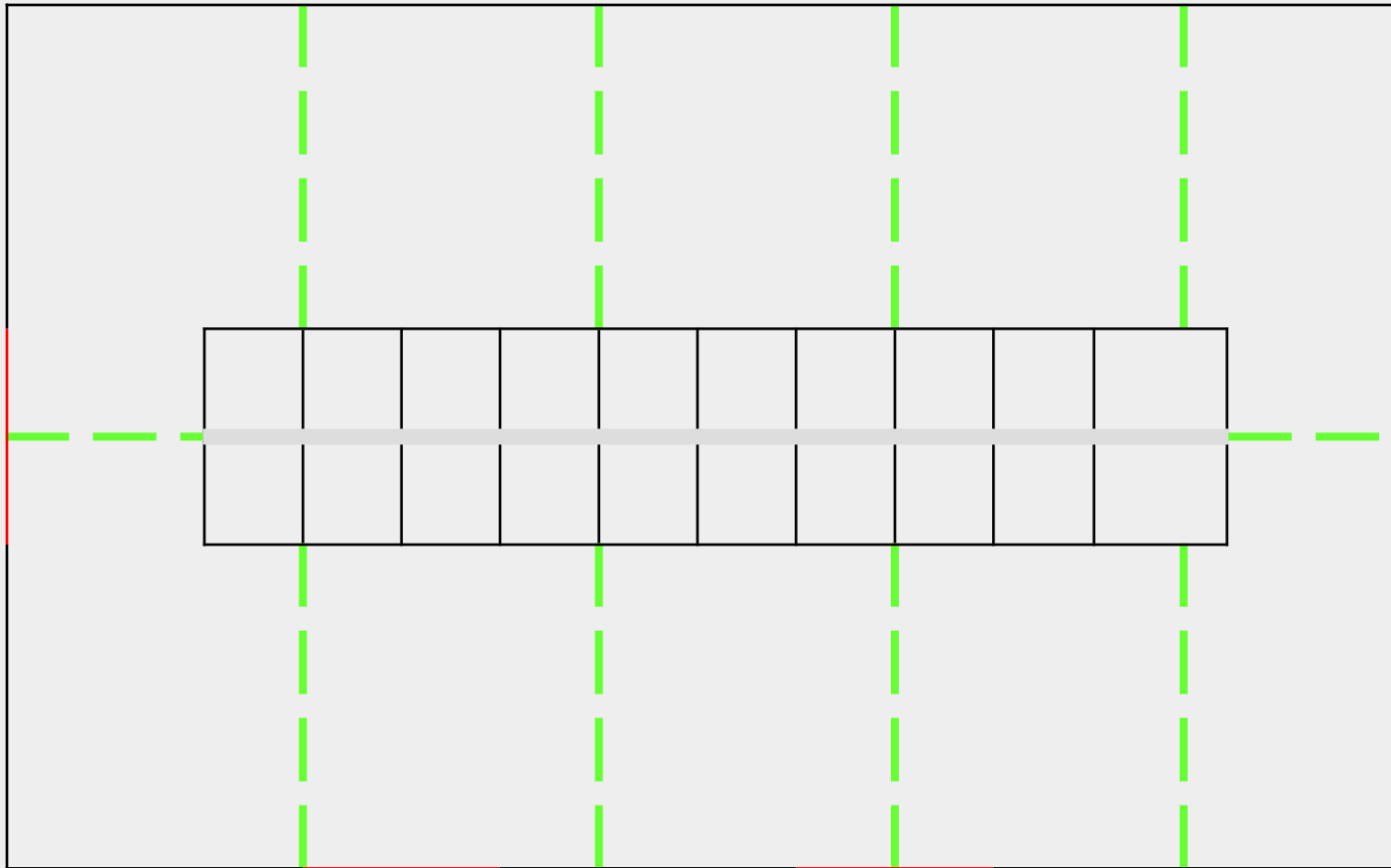


Lambing Barn Layout to Make Lambing Easier

- Easy feeding / bedding systems



Barn Layout Example



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