

Sheep Sense

Official Newsletter of the Manitoba
Sheep Association

mbsheep.ca

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Eastman Shearing School



Back Row: From left to right, Eric OBrien, Andrew Amsden, Randy Eros, Frank Koelstra, Guy Bouchard, Carl Esau, Jake Thiessen (his flock), Ivan Bugera, Maurice Beauvais (CCWG); **Front Row:** Sierra Viola and Brian Greaves. Missing from the photo is Michael Hiebert. The course was three days long and covered topics including proper shearing techniques and equipment set-up as well as wool handling.

New on the Website

MSA Show and sale
(updates as available)

FAM in Japan and South
Korea

US Scrapie Report

Liver Flukes in MB

MSA newsletter

Classified Adverts

Recipes

Meet our new Northwest Director - Virginia Fox

PO Box 128, Ste Rose du Lac, Manitoba, R0L1S0. 204-638-8103

I have been in the sheep industry for 30 years, starting at the farm in Lloydminster. My husbands' family had been in the sheep business years before that and raised purebred Border Cheviots. We started out with purebred Suffolk ewes and the very first animals we purchased were from Ross Mouser in Claresholm, Alberta. As we gained a bit more experience with sheep, we diversified with four more breeds of purebred animals - namely, Columbia, North Country Cheviot, Hampshire and Dorset. We enjoyed several years of interesting experiences and hopefully learned a little bit. When we moved to Manitoba 11 years ago, we sold our purebred animals and brought a small group of commercial ewes with us. We are slowly getting back into the purebred business with a very small nucleus group of Suffolk Sheep. We hope to go forward with this breed for a challenging future in the sheep industry. V Fox

MSA Annual General Meeting, March 6, 2010

Over 50 producers attended the Manitoba Sheep Association annual general meeting on March 6, 2010 at the Herman Prior Centre in Portage la Prairie.

Brian Greaves, a local producer from Miniota, MB, gave a presentation on "Breed selection to match your management style". He offered a great deal of breed info which was helpful to new producers and also more established producers wishing to introduce new breeds into their flock.

With the rise in prevalence of liver flukes in Manitoba, there has been a need to understand more about this whole issue. Mamoon Rashid, MAFRI Sheep Specialist, gave a detailed presentation about the life cycle of liver flukes as well as methods of treatment. He also gave a short overview of provincial programs such as On Farm Food safety, in which producers can obtain support both financially and through training. All produc-



Retiring MSA Directors: Presentations were made to two retiring directors - (left) Eugene Sabot (Past chair) and (right) Richard Davis (Eastman) for their service to MSA. Eugene held many positions, most recent - past chair. Making the presentations was current chair Lucien Lesage.

ers are encouraged to talk to Mamoon about these programs.

Finally, retiring board members Eugene Sabot and Richard Davis were honoured and thanked for their contribution to the MSA.

The business of the association was conducted with one constitutional change voted on and approved - "that a quorum of the board consist of 50% plus one". Minutes of the 2008 AGM will be available on the website.



Keynote Speaker: Brian Greaves was guest speaker at the AGM. He talked about breed selection and management style. He was interviewed by Daniel Winters from the Manitoba Co-operator.



Sheep Specialist presentation: MAFRI Sheep Specialist Mamoon Rashid spoke to producers about the issue of liver flukes in Manitoba and various provincial programs available to producers.

What can we do with bits of leftover wool?? - by Gerry Oliver

Following shearing, there are often bits of leftover wool. Rather than burn the wool or taking it to the dump, why not look for eco-friendly ways to make use of this annual by-product.

The birds made good use of bits of wool, to line their nests. Pictured is a very warm, soft nest lined with wool, found early this spring in my yard.

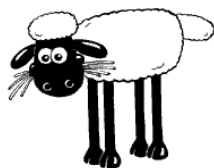


Wool makes a very good weed barrier either for the garden or around the base of trees or perennials. No weeds can push through the wool. I used it in my garden between rows. The wool prevented any weed growth and maintained moisture in the soil beneath.



Flower basket liners is another use for leftover wool. I found belly wool works really well to line the mesh wire baskets. It's easy to poke holes in it to insert plants; the colour is natural and it breaks down organically once the growing season is finished.

If you have any interesting uses for your leftover wool, drop me a line - gerry@spiritsands.ca



Classified Adverts

For Sale: Yearling ewes to sell in the middle of June. Mostly Canadian Arcott, but some are Suffolk cross. Anyone wishing info can contact Lorna: 204-657-2313 or lorna.devos@hotmail.com

For Sale: Black Dorper Semen \$500.00

10 straws of semen valued at \$50.00 each Ram: Zorro WDI 32R Registration Number: 590191 (See his pedigree on CLRC) <http://www.clrc.ca/cgi-bin/query.cgi?association=30> Good stuff: Very correct ram, legs and feet are excellent. Exhibits the desired feminine qualities to produce very pretty ewe lambs. Color: 5 Covering: 5 (Very excellent shedding Scrapie: "RR" Sired: Silver Meadows 1K (Sire of numerous Champion and Reserve Champion full brothers and sisters top Zorro)

For sale, as we no longer raise Black Dorpers. Wall 2 Wall Sheep Ranch 204-664-2027 wall2wallsheep@yahoo.ca

STUD RAM LAMBS: Limited number of High Percentage White Dorper x Katahdin Ram lambs, Born February 2010. \$250 each

Border Collie Male pup born April 8th, 2010 from champion working stock dog lines. More information and pictures available at www.wall2wallsheep.com \$500.00

For Sale: Cotswold rams - one white, one grey, 2 years old - \$250 each: one Texel ram (not registered) \$250 204-834-2261

For Sale: NC Cheviot, Horned Dorset and Oxford Down yearling rams \$350 each. Wooden truck box to fit GMC. Contact C. Flynn 204-733-2410

Wanted: 100-200 ewe lambs (60-80 lbs) from commercial sized flocks for flock expansion. Contact Wayne at (204) 529-2633 or email mcdonald_farm@yahoo.ca.

For updated info on the US Scrapie Eradication Program, go to mbsheep.ca

When you sell your wool clip
Through the Canadian Co-operative
Wool Growers Limited,
You...

SHARE the advantages of a producer-owned co-operative in operation since 1918. YOUR wool is marketed on world markets in the most effective and cost-effective manner.

RETURNS all wool sales proceeds are returned to the growers less a minimum operating cost. The company collects, grades and markets the wool for sheep producers all across Canada.

TAKE advantage of the convenient national network of wool collection and stockman supply centres. Wool sacks are readily available from the centres or from licensed operators.

SUPPLIES a complete line of stockman supplies, animal health products and ID equipment at very competitive prices are offered. Prompt servicing of shearing equipment is provided.

MAIL SERVICE dependable Canada-wide mail and courier service for stockman supplies is a feature of the operation. Catalogues available upon request.

RECEIVE the Woolgrowers magazine free of charge. Published by the CCWG, the publication provides up-to-date information on the sheep industry.

SUPPORT the company provides much support and encouragement to sheep and wool shows across Canada.

DEVELOPMENT the company is researching and developing products made from Canadian wool.

Remember - the CCWG

Year in and year out, you as a grower are assured of full market value for your product.

All the accrued service and discount benefits of a co-operative organization formed to serve your best interests. A supportive and informative centre that welcomes your membership and input.

WWW.WOOL.CA 613-257-2714

Before Shearing -
While the wool is on the sheep

Canadian fleece will be worth more when you...

- * Use proper health and nutritional practices. Consult your Ag. Rep. or sheep specialist for help and advice.
- * Use approved feeders that allow sufficient feeder space for your flock and which protect the fleece.
- * Handle all forage and bedding carefully to prevent it from entering the fleece. Immediately remove and dispose of baler and poly twines.
- * Use sufficient clean bedding. Increased care in feeding and bedding translates into a cleaner more saleable product.
- * Brand with a scourable marking substance. Paint makes your fleece worthless as a marketable commodity.

* Practice proper weed control. Burrs and thistles will lower your wool grade and market value.

* Crutch sheep before shearing, removing tags, burrs and chaff. More care in fleece preparation translates into better wool grades for you, more efficiency, a more valuable product and higher financial returns.

Shearing

If hiring a custom Shearer

Shearing will be more efficient when you...

- * Book well in advance.
- * Have sheep crutched before-hand.
- * Pen sheep close 12 hours prior to shearing with no feed or water.
- * Prepare a clean, well-lighted area with access to an electrical outlet.
- * Provide plenty of head room.
- * Have catching pen near the shearing area.
- * Have extra help for filling the catching pen and preparing the fleece for market.

If you are doing the shearing

Shearing will be more efficient when you...

- * Get qualified instruction.
- * Shear only dry sheep on a clean, dry surface.
- * Shear belly wool first and pack separately.
- * Shear coloured sheep last and pack this wool separately.
- * Do not shear black face and leg fibres.
- * Avoid second cuts on the wool wherever possible.

Breed for increased fleece weight, finer fiber and no coloured fibers. Breeding for a finer and heavier fleece gives Canadian wool a more competitive position on both domestic and world markets.

Shearers List - Manitoba		
Cliff Metheral	Nakomis, SK	306-528-2113
Dave Stott	Yorkton, SK	306-782-2137
Herb Benson	McCreary	204-835-2556
Louis Bisson	Souris	204-483-3045
Ivan Bugera	St. Pierre	204-433-3355 aussietrip05@yahoo.ca
Heinz Krauskopf	Austin	204-385-3621
John Lewis	Kirkella	204-845-2153
Maria Stiglmayr	Fraserwood	204-643-5380
Virnon Wiebe	Austin	204-637-2319
Grant Zahaiko	Newdale	204-849-2273

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR WOOL PREPARATION

To enable Canadian wool growers to achieve better wool preparation and higher financial returns the following are the recommended guidelines.

1) All sheep need to be emptied out before shearing. i.e. No feed or water to be administered to the sheep for a minimum of 12 hours prior to shearing. By carrying out this practice the sheep's stomach and bladder will be empty and therefore the wool does not become contaminated with dung and urine. The sheep will also sit better for shearing as they do not struggle the same which enables the shearing process to be easier for both the shearer and the sheep. Never shear wet wool or pack wet wool.

2) The belly wool needs to be kept completely separate from the fleece wool. The shearer should remove and throw the belly aside as the sheep is being shorn, belly wool to be packed separately.

3) All short, stained wool and tags need to be removed from the crutch area as the sheep is being shorn. This wool is kept completely separate from all other types of wool and packed separately.

4) All fleeces should be thrown onto a wool table to enable the skirting of the fleeces to be performed in a proficient manner. Chaffy or bury wool should be skirted from the fleece and packed separately.

5) The board should be swept and kept clean between sheep as well as during the shearing of the sheep.

6) All fleeces should be shaken to remove any second cuts before rolling and pressing the fleeces.

7) When pressing the wool all the different categories of wool are to be pressed separately. There should be no mixing of the different wool types during shearing but when pressing at the end of shearing the different types of wool can be put into one bag but they need to be separated by sheets of newspaper.

8) All bags are to be sewn with butchers twine. Please do not use baling twine, wire, electric fence wire, or polyprop twine to sew the wool bags.

9) All bags need to be identified as to their contents.

10) Where possible during shearing the level of straw needs to be kept to a minimum and away from the shearing area to keep the contamination level to a minimum.

11) Coloured sheep are to be separated and shorn last so as not to contaminate the white wool with coloured fibres.

12) Fleece preparation incentives of up to 5¢/lb is applicable for bright high yielding fleeces that have been properly skirted and packaged.

Rolling the fleece (all wools)

* Spread skirted fleece on skirting table or clean wool handling area, flesh side down.

* Fold fleece into thirds

- * Roll fleece from rear of animal to front.
- * Roll fleece flesh side out.

BE A SHAREHOLDER

SUPPORT THE GROWERS OWN COMPANY

Tel: (613) 257-2714
Fax: (613) 257-8896

The Canadian Co-operative Wool Grow- Email: ccwghq@wool.ca
ers Limited Web: www.wool.ca

www.wool.ca

Is directly responsible to the sheep and wool producers of Canada, serving their interests.
Is the only grower owned and operated wool marketing association in Canada.
Brings you highest possible returns for your wool through orderly marketing methods.
Provides year round service for the grower by carrying a full line of stockmen’s supplies,
including animal health products, feed, livestock identification and equipment supplies,
fencing, pet food, bird seed and clothing to name a few.
Welcomes you as a financial partner – a shareholder with a voting voice in its affairs.
Assures you a good annual dividend return on your share investment, 7% annually since
1999.

Join the 2% Club, receive a 2% shareholder discount on any purchase at our Stockmen’s
Supply and Real Wool Shop Boutique stores.
Participate in the Shareholder Wool Shipper Reward Program (SWSRP)

BECOME A PARTNER IN YOUR OWN CO-OPERATIVE

Buy shares or Increase Your Holdings to 50 Shares

APPLICATION FOR SHARES

Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited 20
142 Franktown Road, Box 130
Carleton Place, Ontario K7C 3P3
www.wool.ca

Dear Sirs:

Please enter my order for shares of the Capital Stock of the CANADIAN CO-
OPERATIVE WOOL GROWERS LIMITED, at par value, ten dollars per share. (Minimum pur-
chase of five shares, maximum fifty shares)

Bank draft or cheque is enclosed for \$.....in full payment of the above number of
shares, or this is your authority to deduct from the proceeds of the sale of my wool, pay-
ment for the above number of shares.

Name:

Occupation

Address:

Signed

Please print full name in which
shares are to be registered. Telephone: Fax:

PLEASE SEND NON TRANSFERABLE MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR 2% SHAREHOLDER DISCOUNT CLUB (AVAILABLE
TO CCWG SHAREHOLDERS ONLY)

OFFICE USE ONLY
2% CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SHAREHOLDER NAME:

ADDRESS:

SHARE CERTIFICATE NUMBER:

PLEASE FORWARD TO CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE WOOL GROWERS, P.O. BOX 130, CARLETON PLACE, ONTARIO K7C 3P3 FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CCWG 2% SHAREHOLDER DISCOUNT MEMBERSHIP CARD. DISCOUNT APPLIES TO PURCHASES MADE AT ALL CCWG RETAIL LOCATIONS.

Shareholder Wool Shipper Reward Program
(SWSRP)

The Board of Directors have approved a loyalty reward program proposed by management for CCWG shareholders that are also wool shippers. The purpose of this loyalty reward program is to recognize shareholder / wool shippers with a rebate on their wool clip.

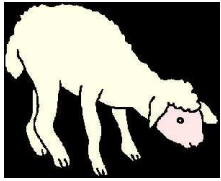
Following each year-end and depending on the overall profit from all company business, the Board of Directors will allocate a percentage of the years profit to a reserve account for (**SWSRP**). The rebate will then be paid to shareholder / wool shippers in the form of a CCWG profit sharing coupon which can be redeemed for purchasing products at any CCWG branch location. The profit sharing coupon will have no expiry date, will not have a cash surrender value and will not be transferable. This will be an added bonus for shareholder / wool shippers in addition to the standard shareholder benefits such as the dividend, discount plan etc. The calculation for the rebate will be based on the net weight of the current fiscal years wool clip at a pre-determined rate in cents per pound.

Shareholder Certificate Number Wool Shipper Account Number Name

Lot Numbers Net Weight (lbs) Lot Numbers Net Weight (lbs)

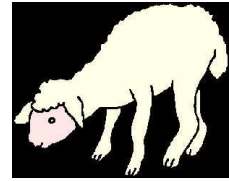
Total Weight SWSRP @ ¢ / lb =

Manitoba Wool Depots (please call first)		
Howard Alexander	Stonewall	204-467-9399
Herb Benson	McCreary	204-835-2556
Norm Goulet	St. Claude	204-379-2328
Brian Greaves	Miniota	204-567-3509
Roy Leitch Livestock Co. Ltd.	Brandon	204-727-5021
Jake Theissen	Pansy	204-434-6792
Linda Westman	Interlake area	204-643-5551



Colostrum

By Debbie Chikousky



The first step to insure a healthy crop of lambs/calves and kids once they are born, is to make sure they get colostrum as soon after birth as possible.

Colostrum is the first milk a mammal produces. It is produced by the ewe/cow for the first twenty-four hours after giving birth and is gradually replaced by milk. Colostrum contains three types of immunoglobulins, IgG, IgM, and IgA. Each of these plays a specific role within the immune system.

The primary role of IgG is to identify and help destroy invading pathogens. It can move out of the bloodstream and into other areas of the body where it helps identify pathogens. IgM helps identify and destroy bacteria that have entered the blood. IgA attaches to the membranes that line many organs, such as the intestine, preventing pathogens from attaching and causing disease.

Colostrum provides more nutrition per ounce than milk and is higher in fat. This helps prevent chilling and gives the baby a boost. It also contains growth factors, which help promote gut growth and differentiation, especially during the first 24-48 hours after birth.

It is important to remember that the young animal's ability to absorb immunoglobulins in colostrum decreases after the first hour of life. Research has shown that if colostrum is not received in adequate amounts within the first twelve hours, it is unlikely that enough antibodies will be absorbed to give adequate immunity. This protection is vital for the protection of the young until its immune system is mature enough to be able to be vaccinated or fight infections for itself.

There are many formulas to calculate the quantity of colostrum calves, lambs and kids require, but we feed the youngster as much as it wants, till it drops off the nipple. If we need to resort to tube feeding, then the rule of thumb for calves is 10% of their body weight within the first hour of life. A second feeding of 2-3 litres is given within the next eight hours for a hundred pound calf. The basic rule for goats/lambs is 15% of their body weight every four hours.

Having healthy dams with up-to-date vaccinations will help produce strong, vigorous lambs. A quick way to check if they have eaten is to verify the wax plugs have been removed from the dam's teats. This can be tricky with a beef cow, so if we don't observe a calf sucking on its own within a short time of birth, we will encourage it to do so. Sometimes they fool us by sucking their tongues next to the teat, so it looks only appears they are sucking. Then there are the times that a cow has twins or a sheep/goat has triplets. We like to feed these ones as much colostrum as they like along with what their dam produces, just to be sure they get enough.

On our farm, we save colostrum from our own stock for these emergencies. We were told to save it from mature females because they will have the highest amounts of antibodies per ounce. We have also been counseled not to use cow colostrum on our lambs. There is a rare condition called hemolytic anemia that can be caused by using cow colostrum. The other consideration is that because cow colostrum has 20 to 40% less nutrients than ewe colostrum we would have to feed approximately one-third more volume. Since we milk both cows and goats, it is easy for us to use the goat colostrum for our lambs/kids and cow's for our calves.

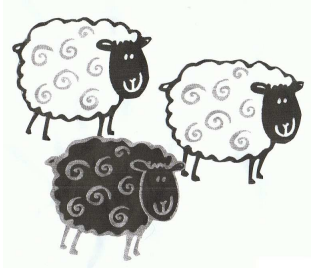
Saving your own colostrum is easy. First, choose your quietest dams. We are lucky because we milk for the house, so whenever a Jersey or goat freshens we let the young eat their fill then we collect the extra. I strain it through a cloth to remove all the foreign matter and then store cow colostrum in 2 litre bottles. We store goat/sheep colostrum in smaller water bottles or I make ice cubes out of it and then store them in freezer bags. Our neighbor told us to freeze the bottles on their sides so the cream settles along the full side of the bottle. The smaller bottles and ice cubes are easier to use for lambs/goats and they thaw fast.

Colostrum can be stored in the deep freeze for a year without degrading. It should be defrosted and warmed in warm water, not hot and shouldn't be defrosted in the microwave. Microwaving can kill the antibodies and decrease the benefits.

Knowing how vitally important it is to the survival of the young born on our farm, we made the choice to save our own. There are many commercial colostrum replacers on the market but we have no personal experience with them. We believe it is worth a little extra effort to save our own colostrum, full of antibodies to the pathogens that we have on our farm.

Previously published in Grainnews

**The Manitoba Sheep Association
And the
The Prairie Shepherds 4H Club
Would like to Invite EWE and Your HERD
To our**

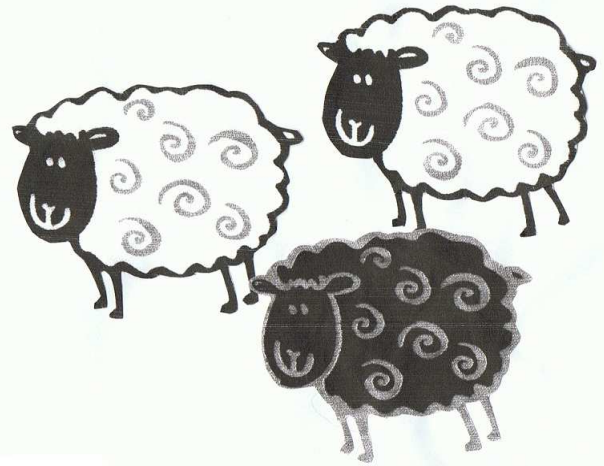


**“Gathering of the Flock”
2010 Sheep Show and Sale**

August 13, 14, 15
Neepawa Agricultural Grounds

What's Happening:

- Stock dog trials (beginner & intermediate)
- Sheep shearing contest (beginner & intermediate)
- Open junior show
- 4H Show & Sale
- Jackpot Market Lamb Classes & Sale
- Purebred Show & Sale
- Commercial Show & Sale
- Wool Competition
- Flock dispersal sale
- Equipment sale
- Booths
- Lamb Dinner
- Pancake Breakfast
- Work Shops/Demonstrations –Stock Dog, Felting, Judging clinics & more...



Details, Details, Details

Look for our classes, registrations, maps, accommodations coming soon...

Lambing Checklist

In the lambing box:

these items are easily accessed when going from pen to pen if they are put in an open utility tool tote that fits over a gate.

Injectable Vitamin A & D, E-Sel - if needed in your area	Elastrator rings & pliers for tail docking & castrating - to be done in the first week of life.
Needles & syringes of varying sizes	Ear tags & pliers for your on farm ID
Notebook & pencil to keep track of mother & lamb ID numbers & other important info	Spray or crayon marker for quick ID of animals that need (closely) watching.
Alcohol mixed with a little food colouring kept in small squeeze bottle. Use on injection sites, ear tagging or lamb navels. The colour shows you where the alcohol site is.	Iodine - kept in a small squeeze bottle for lamb navels.

Lambing supplies to have on hand

Lamb Kick Start - energy boost for slow, chilled lambs	Hair dryer & box (for warming chilled lambs) or heat lamp
Colostrum feeding tube and large syringe	Nipples and bottles
Scour solution	Towels, olds ones for drying off lambs
Powdered Colostrum	Gloves, sleeve length and short OB gloves
Powdered milk replacer	Lamb Pullers
Lamb Woolovers	Lubricant
Lamb sling, if you've ever carried a cold wet newborn lamb to its pen, you probably will want to use one of these forever after.	Injectable antibiotics - some work better for different infections - ask your vet
Prolapse retainers & harness & a big bag of white sugar - the sugar will take the swelling out of the prolapse	Ear tags and Pliers - you must have the new CCIA tags for when you ship animals, you may also want a different tag for on farm ID.

Lambing supplies to consider having on hand,
they might come in handy.

Lambing Checklist
In the lambing box:

these items are easily accessed when going from pen to pen
if they are put in an open utility tool tote that fits over a gate.

Injectable Vitamin A & D, E-Sel - if needed in your area	Elastrator rings & pliers for tail docking & castrating - to be done in the first week of life.
Needles & syringes of varying sizes	Ear tags & pliers for your on farm ID
Notebook & pencil to keep track of mother & lamb ID numbers & other important info	Spray or crayon marker for quick ID of animals that need (closely) watching.
Alcohol mixed with a little food colouring kept in small squeeze bottle. Use on injection sites, ear tagging or lamb navels. The colour shows you where the alcohol site is.	Iodine - kept in a small squeeze bottle for lamb navels.

GOAL: To increase the number of lambs marketed by reducing newborn lamb deaths.

1. **BE PREPARED.** Know the lambing due date. Record all contacts between rams and ewes – accidental and planned! Use gestation table to calculate probable lambing date called Gesta Calc, available at the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers 1-866-488-2714, E-mail: stockmans@wool.ca.
2. Have all of your lambing supplies on hand at least a week before the first lambs are supposed to arrive. Have an “obstetrical/delivery” bucket ready.
3. Have enough feed to supply all of your ewes through the last six weeks of pregnancy and through lactation. Have feed on hand for lamb creepers. Decide on growing and finishing rations. Changing feeds can cause production losses and health problems particularly during critical production periods (lactation, weaning, lamb grower / finisher). For information on sheep nutrition, contact the AgInfo Centre in your area.
4. Have enough claiming pens / maternity pens / small group hardening pens ready for the number of ewes you have to lamb. Set up pens and panels ahead of time.
5. **WATCH YOUR EWES.** Weather conditions usually determine how closely a mature ewe flock must be monitored. Ewe lambs give you less warning. It doesn't take bitterly cold weather for wet, newborn lambs to die of hypothermia.
6. Have frozen ewe/cow colostrum on hand. Warm to body temperature in warm water – not in the microwave! Use a stomach tube on a 60cc syringe, or a “Lamb Reviver” to feed weak lambs. Have a bottle and baby lamb nipples ready for supplementing strong lambs that suck well (i.e. triplets).

7. Have barn sheets ready to record all births. If you don't have a lambing record system, or ewe production cards from the CCWG at 1-866-488-2714, E-mail: stockmans@wool.ca.
8. Tag all lambs for permanent identification. You will need Canadian Sheep Identification Program tags to ship lambs to market or move ewes from the farm. Contact the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited for information and tags. For easy management use flock tags that are easily readable and/or temporary paint brands to identify ewes and lambs belonging to each other, to colour code different groups, or to identify the corral the ewe and lambs belong in.
9. Dock all lambs at 24 to 48 hours of age. Allow lambs to nurse unhindered for the first 24 hours so as to get as much colostrum as possible. Docking procedures should be as stress-free as possible.
10. Consider castrating all ram lambs not being considered for breeding purposes, particularly those born in spring and summer.
11. Watch ewes and lambs closely – cull for mismothering. Select daughters from trouble-free moms.
12. Be sure to write down all animal treatments with withdrawal period and all problem sheep! Decide who is doing the work – you or your ewes.

Spicy Lamb Stew

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 to 2 pounds boneless lamb shoulder or stewing lamb
- salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 medium onion, coarsely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- dash coarsely ground black pepper
- 1 medium carrot, diced
- 1 can (14.5 ounces) diced tomatoes with juice
- 1 cup chicken broth
juice of 1/2 lemon



Preparation:

Trim fat from lamb; cut into bite-size pieces. Sprinkle with salt and pepper then toss with the flour.

In a Dutch oven or large saucepan, heat 1 tablespoon olive oil. Add the floured lamb pieces and the chopped onion; cook until lamb sides, stirring frequently. Add remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer for about 1 hour, until lamb hot cooked rice, grits or polenta, or cous cous, or serve with hot buttered noodles or potatoes..

Serves 4.

4-H Stockfest 2009



Mature Ewe class

I Pledge...

My head
to clearer thinking,
My heart
to greater loyalty,
My hands
to larger service,
My health
to better living.
For my club, my
community,
my country and my
world.



Ewe lamb class

2009/09/29



Junior Showmanship

Photos from the 4-H Stockfest '09 sheep show

Photos: Angela Adamson - Viola

Stockfest was held in September, 2009, the showcase for Manitoba's 4-H participants.



Market lamb class 101-120 lbs

Foot and Mouth Outbreak in Japan and South Korea

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has urged heightened international surveillance against foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), following 3 recent incursions in Japan and South Korea with fears of possible spread to South Africa, United Kingdom, and Europe. [The 2 introductions into S Korea related to 2 different FMDV serotypes, 1st incursion was serotype A; the later, current incursion is serotype O. The Japanese outbreak has been caused by FMDV serotype O. Both serotypes are circulating in China. Genotyping not yet performed or known. - Mod.AS]. Citing FAO's statement, Namibia Press Agency (Nampa) reported that in the past 9 years, incursions into officially FMD-free countries (Japan and the Republic of Korea) have been extremely rare and such events in 4 months is a serious cause for concern. The FAO's chief veterinary officer Juan Lubroth was quoted as saying that the rigorous bio-security measures in place in the 2 countries were overwhelmed and pointed to a recent, large-scale weight of infection in source areas, very probably in the Far East [see moderator's remark above. - Mod.AS] The 2001 FMD outbreak caused losses in billions of dollars to agriculture, livestock trade, and tourism in the United Kingdom alone. So far, Japan has had to slaughter 385 animals -- buffalo, cattle and pigs -- in its initial response to the outbreak, and the Republic of South Korea has destroyed more than 3500 animals, mostly pigs, in responding to its outbreaks. According to the FAO, the routes taken by the virus have not been identified, but experts say it is possible the infection occurred through food waste, with pigs eating infected meat scraps.

Breed profile: *SUFFOLK*

The Suffolk was developed in the early 1800's in the southeastern area of England by crossing the Southdown and the Norfolk Horned sheep. The breed came to Canada in 1888 and interest in the breed grew rapidly after 1920. More than eighty years later it is still one of the dominant breeds in the Canadian industry. Because Suffolk lambs exceed all other breeds in rate

of gain, and respond well to confinement, they offer excellent economic returns and continue to dominate the heavy lamb market in Canada. The rams are widely used as terminal sires in commercial ewe flocks due to their ability to produce lambs with excellent growth and carcass traits. The Suffolk is, however, a heavy feeder and maintaining a moderate size sheep under more controlled management systems has been advantageous in exploiting their meat traits in an economically efficient manner.

Number registered -14,205 Rams 115-150kg ; Ewes 100-115kg ; Lamb/Ewe Percentage 180% ; Fleece - Dense ; Weight 2.2-2.7kg; Micron Count - 28-33; Staple Length - 8-10cm



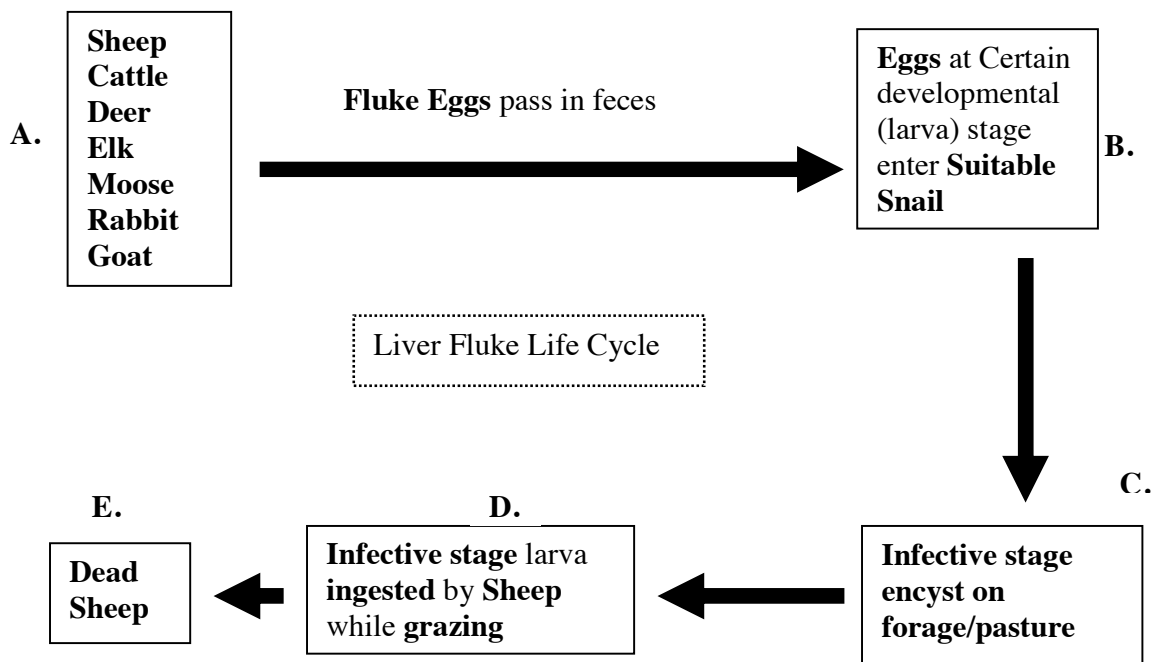
Info taken from CSBA Breed standards

Liver Fluke Infestation; What You Need to Know

Mamoon Rashid, Sheep and Goat Specialist

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Liver fluke is an internal parasite (worm) that affects sheep and other livestock. Liver flukes are found in different parts of North America including Alberta, Saskatchewan and now we are seeing more and more cases in Manitoba as well. It is critical to understand the life cycle of the worm before prevention, and treatment can be planned. Favorable conditions for fluke to complete its life cycle are warm weather (summer/spring), marshy or wet areas, shady areas and a certain type of snail.



Time line of Liver Fluke Infection in Sheep;

Point A to B: At favorable temperatures (10°C) in summer it takes 21 days and in fall or spring it may take up to 90 days

Point B: 2-3 months inside the snail

Point B to C: At temperatures below 20°C the infective stage can survive several weeks

Point C: Encysts can survive several weeks depending on weather and sunlight.

Point D to E: After ingestion the infective stage fluke larva target for liver inside the body. Immature flukes travel through the body leaving black marks behind. Adult flukes damage the liver extensively before they clog bile ducts. It can take up to 6-7 weeks before the adults can reach bile duct. Adult flukes start producing eggs 8-10 weeks after ingestion to re-infect the pastures and the cycle starts again.

A sheep producer can estimate the stage of liver fluke infection in their animals applying the time line explained above. In chronic fluke infection the adults can produce 20,000-50,000 eggs in a day that can continue contaminating the pastures.

Liver Fluke Infection (*fasciolosis*) can be divided into three forms:

Acute *fasciolosis* occurs in an outbreak form where the pastures are contaminated massively with larval stage of flukes. Acute form lacks symptoms and more sudden deaths are seen. Animals may become anemic before death. Sheep dies mainly due to hemorrhages in the liver by immature flukes.

Subacute *fasciolosis* leads the animal into severe internal blood loss causing anemia due to extensive liver damage.

Chronic *fasciolosis* is the most common form and the animals show clear signs of jaundice (pale mucus membranes), death occurs after deteriorating the over all condition. Edema develops under mandibular jaw (bottle jaw). In chronic *fasciolosis* the flukes reach adult stage and engorge the bile duct. Adult fluke can suck upto 2cc of blood each day and produce thousands of eggs.

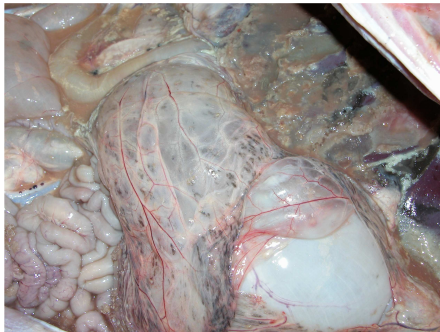
Diagnosis of Liver Fluke Infection

Anemic non weight gaining animals and suitable environment for flukes should ring a bell for liver fluke infection. Fluke eggs can be found in fecal samples of chronically infected animals. A serological test (ELISA) can be performed to screen a flock or herd but may not be sensitive enough to detect the disease in individual animals.

In dead sheep the liver and other internal organs (rumen, outside of intestines) may look like the ones in following pictures. Slaughter house condemnation report should also be looked at carefully as affected livers and other organs are condemnable.



1. Rumen with fluke digesta (black)



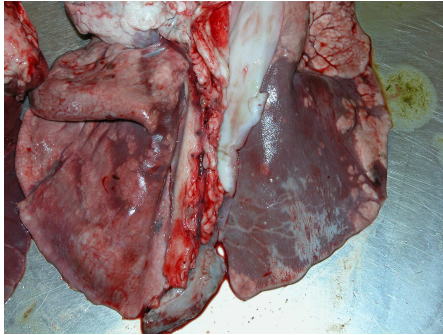
2. Fluke travel paths on intestines (Black)



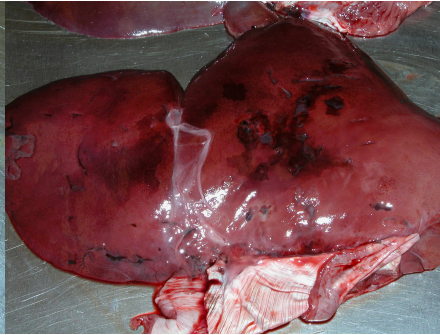
3. Fluke damaged livers



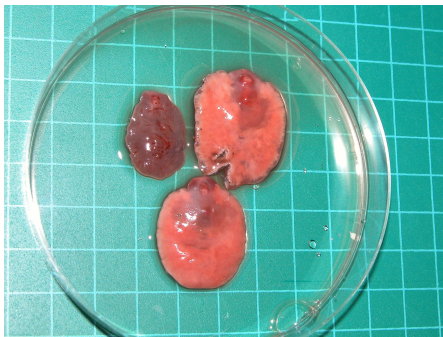
4. Fluke burrowed a hole in liver leaving digested tissues in black



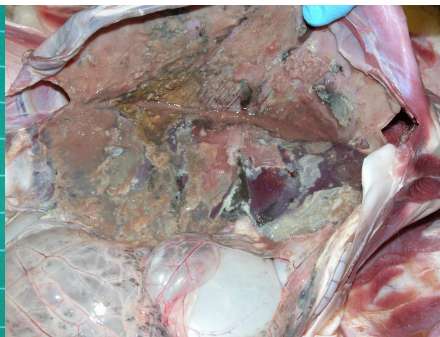
5. Fluke damaged Lungs



6. Liver damaged by flukes



7. Different size flukes in a petri dish



8. Severe fluke damage in the abdomen

(Pictures: courtesy of Provincial Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory., Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives. Rights of reproduction are reserved)

Liver Flukes and *Black Disease*

Faciolosis is the precursor of *Black Disease*. *Black Disease* is a bacterial disease caused by *Clostridium novyi*, a normal habitant in the body. The dead tissues damaged by liver fluke provide suitable environment for the *C. novyi* to grow and becomes an acute problem leading to death of sheep.

Treatment

Treatment should be performed after confirming the diagnosis by consulting a veterinarian. Correct timing for treatment is very crucial for the efficacy of the drug. There is no broad spectrum medicine available in Canada that can treat all stages of liver flukes in sheep. *Valbazen* and *Ivomec Plus* are good only for adult flukes (12 weeks old liver flukes) and should kill flukes in chronic cases if administered accordingly. The efficacy of these drugs depends on other control and preventive measures.

There are few other broad spectrum dewormers (*Fasinex*, *Flukver*, *Flukare*) not registered in Canada or US but are available in other countries that can kill all stages (under and over 12 weeks old flukes) of liver flukes. These medicines may vary in indications and dosage but can be adjusted to fit individual needs. To bring any of the medicine from outside Canada that is not registered a veterinarian client relationship must

be established. Veterinarians can submit an EDR (emergency drug release) to *Health Canada* once it is approved then the drugs can be brought in for treatment.

Prevention and Control Measures

- Keep animals from grazing in wet areas.
- Control Snail population by fencing off the marshy and wet areas.
- Control deer, elk, moose and other wild animals from sharing sheep pastures and water reserves.
- Rotational grazing is always good to control the parasitism.
- Minimize pasture contamination using a strategic control program. Early spring preventative drenching with *Ivomec Plus* may be effective in reducing the pasture contamination by fluke eggs. To kill immature flukes in summer or early fall a *triclabendazole (Fasinex)* drench may be used.
- Make sure the new entries in the flock are free from the infection. Always quarantine the new comers atleast for two weeks in separate pens and medicate and vaccinate accordingly.
- To avoid resistance build up more frequent use of same dewormers should be discouraged.
- A mixture of effective medicines can be used for synergistic effects.
- It is necessary to vaccinate against *Clostridium novyi* (Covexin 8) to prevent the deaths from *Black Disease*.

Food Safety Issue

Liver flukes (except *F. hepatica*) do not have food safety implications. Affected livers and other organs are condemned at slaughter houses.

Economic Importance

Production losses are bigger than the death loss. Reduced weight gains, drop in lambing percentages, increased replacement costs, condemned carcasses at slaughter house and increased vet bill are more than enough to destroy a sheep operation.

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