

handling liniments; and, in case an accident should happen, it would be profitable to remember the action of milk in this case, and to use presence of mind and obtain relief from one of the many simple means which are to be had in most homes. Immediate action is necessary in such a severe case as the one cited, and people cannot be too careful when working with medicinal preparations, as many bad and often fatal accidents happen through carelessness and lack of thought.

LIVE STOCK.

English Wools and British Sheep.

By S. B. Hollings, editor of The Wool Record, Bradford, England.

TECHNICAL SHEEP AND WOOL TERMS.

I am glad to hear that at last interest is being taken by Canadian agriculturists in the question of sheep-breeding and wool-growing, for I have long said that farmers in our Western Dominion were not living up to their privileges, and were not supplying the world with its full share of raw material. As one surveys the map, and observes the various natural conditions of the country, there is only one conclusion that can be arrived at, namely, that Canada owns millions of acres upon which sheep can be run, and kept to profit. Although these last few years our supply of raw material from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa has sensibly increased, still no surpluses of wool are being grown anywhere; in fact, the wants of the world have these last ten years increased so quickly that supplies have not been able to keep pace with the demands of manufacturers. This is evidenced to-day by the good prices which are being paid wool-growers in every quarter of the globe, with the exception of the United States, and I am certain that there is room in Canada for carrying at least 55 million sheep; and if flocks are founded on good mutton and wool foundation, they will pay the owners. However, that side of the question can be left to the live-stock authorities of the Government. Suffice to say that the manufacturers of Great Britain are quite prepared to give a fair market price for any wool grown in Canada, providing it is sent to market in a proper, business-like way.

It has been my privilege to see consignments of Canadian wool sold during the past two years at the London sales, but there is yet much to do before the Canadian staple is presented to buyers in the attractive manner which good business methods demand. The wool is right enough, but when fleeces are tied with string about the thickness of a cart rope, it shows distinctly that growers have little knowledge of the requirements of the trade. String, binder twine, and band of every description wants keeping as far away from wool as possible, and, in the tying up of fleeces a "neck-band" can be made out of the fleece itself sufficiently long to twist round the rolled fleece, that being all the trade requires. However, this will come with the spread of knowledge, it being our object to-day to say a few things on the various names which are given to different classes of sheep, as well as wool. These vary in different countries, but, briefly stated, they are as follows:

AUSTRALIAN DESCRIPTION OF NAMES APPLIED TO SHEEP.

Pure-bred.—This name is given to any acknowledged breed or type of sheep free from any admixture of any outside strain. There are pure-bred animals of a large number of breeds, such as the Lincoln, Leicester, Southdown, Shropshire, Hampshire, Kent or Romney Marsh, Cheviot, Blackfaced, etc.

Half-bred.—This is the progeny resulting from a cross of two pure breeds. A very common thing in the North of England and the South of Scotland is for the pure Scotch black-faced ewe to be crossed with a Wensleydale or a Leicester tup, the lambs being called half-breds.

Cross-breds. This really is a term applied to sheep bred in New Zealand and South America, and is the sheep produced for the frozen-meat trade. A cross-bred simply means a sheep that has been obtained through crossing two or three times with mutton breeds. These are very useful, and produce a good carcass, as well as a useful style of fleece.

Ram.—A male sheep of any breed, and kept for stud purposes.

Ram Lamb.—A young, unweaned male sheep. A ram lamb is seldom used for stock-breeding purposes, the custom being to wait until the sheep is two years old. Using young ram lambs for service is not advisable.

Stag.—This applies to a matured, castrated lamb, known in Australia as a wether or wether, but few sheep of this class are kept.

Rigg.—A young male sheep that has not been properly or only half castrated. This term is fast dying, and is of little consequence.

Wether.—A castrated male sheep, and is applicable to all breeds.

Wether Hogget.—Castrated male sheep, and is so named so long as the animal shows two center broad teeth.

Sheared Hogget.—A young sheep that shows two center broad teeth, and which was shorn as a lamb. This term relates either to a male or a female.

Ewe.—A female sheep. This term is a very common one, and relates to the ordinary, everyday female sheep kept by all farmers.

Stud Ewe.—A pure-bred female sheep, kept exclusively for breeding stud stock.

Flock Ewe.—A female sheep of the ordinary or common class, running all together, without any special attention being given to them.

Wet Ewe.—This name signifies a female sheep suckling its lamb.

Girt Ewe.—This signifies a pregnant ewe.

Dry Ewe.—A ewe missed by the ram, and not in lamb.

Maiden Ewe.—A young ewe not put to a ram, usually under eighteen months old.

Ewe Lamb.—A baby female sheep, so termed up to the time of being weaned.

Poddy.—A lamb having lost its mother, and oftentimes stunted in growth.

Comeback.—This really applies to a cross-bred ewe which is mated with a pure-bred ram, and so bred back to its original state of purity. It means "coming back" to the pure breed.

ENGLISH AND SCOTCH NAMES.

Ram or Tup.—A male sheep.

Hog. Hogget, Hoggrel.—These names are given sheep in different localities, and mean the time of weaning to the first shearing.

Shearling.—Dinnont tup, or one-shear tup, covering the period of the first shearing to the second.

Two-shear Rams.—From the second to the third shearing.

Three-shear Rams.—From the third to the fourth shearing.

Four-shear Rams.—From the fourth to the fifth shearing. It is not often that rams are used after the fifth year.

Wether Hog or Hog Wether.—This means a sheep after the first shearing to the second shearing.

Wether Teg.—Used mostly in connection with Down breeds, and is a castrated male sheep up to the first shearing. The word "teg" is used in connection with no breed that I know of, excepting in connection with Downs.

Ewe.—A female sheep.

Ewe Teg.—A female sheep up to first shearing.

Gimmer.—A Scotch name given to a female sheep after the first shearing. This is a very familiar term in the north of England and throughout Scotland.

Barren Gimmer.—A ewe sheep not capable of bearing a lamb.

Eild Gimmer.—A female sheep not put to a ram.

Yeld Ewe.—This is a name given to a ewe that has been put to the ram, but not in lamb.

Draft Ewe.—An ordinary flock ewe of any age, but one which has reached an age when it should move off and be fattened for the butcher.

Cross-bred.—The progeny is the result of crossing different breeds of sheep. See previous note.

Half-bred.—See previous note.

Anyone digesting the above terms will gain an intelligent grasp of the real meaning of sheep terms, these being used almost daily with sheep farmers throughout Great Britain and the Colonies.

TECHNICAL TERMS USED IN THE WOOL TRADE.

This really deserves a chapter to itself, but a brief summary may be attempted. At the same time, they are not of serious importance to sheep farmers, though I have always believed in the wool-grower being as familiar with the technical terms of the wool trade as spinners and manufacturers. Still, the first thing for Canadian growers to do is to produce an acceptable fleece, and then to prepare that for market in a common-sense and business-like way. There is ample room for a chapter on the preparation of wools for market. Suffice to say that every shorn fleece should have the heavy britch removed, to which is usually attached tags, or what are sometimes called clags or muck lumps. All heavy, objectionable matter of this kind needs removing before the fleece is rolled, and if the bellies are also full of dirt and filth, it is as well to remove these, bale them by themselves, and sell separately. This means that if the fleeces have been well skirted, buyers purchase them with confidence, for the reader can easily see that, when there is a heavy britch attached to the lightest part of the fleece, they always depreciate the latter considerably.

We do not find the technical terms so frequently used outside the wool warehouses as was the case twenty-five years ago, but, for all that, they still exist, and they are as follows:

Super.—This is the very finest part of the fleece, and usually the pick of the shoulder. It can be taken for granted that if the shoulder wool is deficient, all the remainder of the fleece is wanting also.

Fine.—The best part of the fleece next to the

shoulder. In an extra-fine demi-lustre fleece the quality will run up to 56's.

Blue.—The shoulder of an average lustre fleece, say, Lincoln or Leicester, which will range from 36's to 44's quality.

Neat.—The sides of an average lustre fleece of 32's to 36's quality, according to the style and breed of the wool.

Brown.—Mostly from the flank, going between the neat and the britch, say 28's to 30's quality, according to the style of the wool.

Breech or Britch.—This is wool off the thigh. In a good fleece, the britch or the lowest part will range about 28's quality.

Cow Tail.—This really is a term implying a very coarse wool. It is rough, strong, and often wiry, and ranges from 20's to 24's quality.

The above terms really relate to lustre and demi-lustre wools, and comprise such breeds as the Lincoln, Leicester, Kent or Romney Marsh, Irish and Yorkshire.

The following are the terms perhaps most in use among sorters, and convey to the reader a more intelligent idea of the technical terms used in the English wool trade.

Picklock.—As the name implies, it is the choicest part of the fleece.

Prime.—This is very similar to the previous description, though a little stronger in quality.

Super.—Wool coming from the shoulders.

Seconds.—The best bits from the breast.

Downrights.—The strong wool coming from the sides of the sheep.

Breech.—The wool coming from the haunches of the sheep.

The technical terms of the Australian wool trade, which comprise mostly Merinos, are as follows:

Combing.—The longest and best part of the fleece.

Clothing.—Good wool, but usually shorter in staple than the combing.

Broken.—This is wool from fleeces that usually get broken in shearing, owing to the fleece not being so well grown.

Necks.—Wool taken from the neck of the sheep, classed as such, and sold in the same way.

Pieces.—These are the skirted portions of the fleeces, and are usually worth 2 to 6 cents per pound less than the combing. On large stations, usually three classes are made, namely, 1st, 2nd, and stained pieces, the latter oftentimes being urine stained.

Bellies.—The wool from the under part of the sheep, which is heavy and dirty.

Locks.—This is the heaviest portion of the fleece, comprising oftentimes the small bits that drop from under the classing or sorting board.

My own view is that Canadian sheep farmers need not trouble about the technical terms of the wool trade, although it is as well to know them.

What users want are good, useful fleeces, and anything I can do by way of furnishing information will be readily done. There is no doubt that English breeds of sheep are the best suited for Canada, and nobody need be afraid of producing a surfeit of raw material. Climate and pasturage will largely determine the class of sheep to be kept, and I am certain that Canadian farmers can breed and keep sheep to a profit.

Feed the Pigs while Grazing.

The summer season is generally recognized as being the season when the largest profit can be made from hogs, provided the fall markets are right, because during the warm weather the shoats can be allowed free range on the fields after the grain harvest, or can be pastured on alfalfa or clover. Where pigs are far enough advanced for the early fall market, when prices are usually high, they will likely yield larger profits if they are pushed all the time, being fed all the grain they will take, along with a little green food and only a moderate amount of exercise. But where the feeder for any reason finds it impossible to get his pigs ready for market in the early fall, he makes it a general practice to turn the pigs weighing from 40 pounds up out on clover pasture, and also gives them the run of the stubble fields after the crop has been harvested. It takes more grain to finish pigs when they are allowed free run of large areas, because so much energy is used in moving from place to place in the field, but to keep the pigs growing and healthy and to prevent the waste of shelled grain, etc., the pigs can be fed to good advantage on the stubble fields. There is always a large amount of grain and other feed to be obtained in these fields, but it is not advisable to make the pig depend altogether on this for his nourishment. Even if it is not desired to rush him in order to get him on the market, it is never profitable to allow his growth to be impaired or interfered with in any way; consequently, while the pig is grazing, whether on clover or on stubble fields, the feeder should always supply enough grain or grain and milk or whey to keep him growing and thrifty, and not allow him to become thin and lanky by running about in search of feed. A pig that has ceased to grow is about the slowest animal to again get into a thrifty condition; and where pigs