

Naturally, the size of flocks kept varied greatly. The average number of sheep kept, however, appears to be about one hundred head.

Various types of buildings are used for winter housing. One breeder uses an open shed. Several use a single boarded shed with either a metal or a shingle roof. A number are using single boarded sheds with a straw roof. Some are using straw sheds. These sheds are made by threshing straw on to a pole frame. One breeder says he is using a log stable, but states that it is not satisfactory. While a number of other types of buildings are used, the reader will notice that present breeders are getting along nicely with very cheap winter shelter.

All breeders heard from, except three, use woven wire fence. Of these three, two have no fencing, and the other man has a six strand barb wire fence. The remainder of the reports tell of different classes of woven wire fence. Some have eleven wires and some have five. Nearly all have a barb wire on top, and practically all say that their fence is satisfactory. If, then, a six strand fence is proving as satisfactory as a nine strand, there is some room for economy in fencing. The breeder who uses the barbed wire says that it will keep them in, but he is not at all enthusiastic about it. One breeder speaks highly of a five strand smooth wire woven fence with a barb on top.

Of the reports received, about one-third report slight loss from wolves, only one breeder reporting serious loss. One-fifth of the reports received mention loss occasioned by dogs—none of the losses were extensive. About 45% of the breeders have not had any loss from either source.

As to feeds used, the following summer pasture crops were mentioned: Prairie Grass, Rape, Brome Grass, Clover and mixed grains. Rape and Brome are used most extensively. Most farmers allow the sheep to run on the summerfallow, and a few of them sow some grain or rape on the summerfallow in order to increase the pasture available.

Among the winter feeds used we find the following: Prairie Hay, Wheat, Oats, and Barley Straw, Corn Fodder, Oat Sheaves, Barley Sheaves, Alfalfa Hay, Roots, Mill Screenings and Oats. Hay is the most common feed, above 60% use it. About 30% use oats, and an equal number use oat sheaves. Only one man used roots, and one used alfalfa.

About 90% of the reports state that they have not had any losses from disease. One man lost 15 lambs from scours, another had a few losses from an unknown cause. No further losses from disease were reported.