

formation, a pink skin and a fine fleece. If pure breeds are being selected, breed characteristics must be given consideration as well as the above mentioned points.

BREEDING THE EWES.

Ewes should be bred the fall after they are one year old. Very large growthy lambs are sometimes bred the first year, but as a rule this is not a good practice. Such a practice will tend to decrease the size of the individuals in your flock. The time of year at which to



A CHOICE SUFFOLK RAM

breed the ewes will depend entirely upon the time at which you wish the lambs to come. However, as lambs generally do better when the weather is getting warm, it is best to breed the ewes in the latter part of November, or the early part of December. If bred at that time, the lambs will come about the latter part of April or the 1st of May, which time will be sufficiently early for the convenience of the average farmer. The period of gestation of a ewe is about 21 weeks, averaging from 140 to 150 days. The farmer knowing that, and being familiar with his own conditions, can best decide when to breed his ewes.