

DIRECTIONS FOR CARING FOR SHEEP IN ORDER TO PRODUCE A GOOD QUALITY AND CONDITION OF WOOL

- (1) Feed sheep well and regularly. Sheep poorly fed will possess a harsh fleece lacking in oil and frequently with a feeble or weak fibre. This does not constitute desirable wool for sale. Where sheep are starved for a period, the effects will be shown in the wool by a weak section which will break readily and, consequently, cannot be used satisfactorily for combing or worsted purposes.
- (2) Every effort should be taken to keep the wool free from chaff, hay and hurr. This can be avoided by using proper feed racks and care in preventing hay or straw dropping upon the sheep during feeding.
- (3) If sheep are scouring, if possible keep the wool well clipped behind, so as to prevent the formation of heavy dung locks.
- (4) Endeavor to eliminate in breeding operations black sheep from the flock. Mate only sheep possessing pure white wool. Black wool is sold in the reject class.
- (5) In marking sheep, never use oil paint or tar, which are insoluble and will not scour from the wool.
- (6) Sheep should be dipped in some reliable material twice a year, in the fall before entering winter quarters and in the spring after shearing.

DIRECTIONS FOR PREPARING AND PACKING WOOL

- (1) Shearing should be done on a clean board floor, never on the dirt, and the fleece should be kept as compact as possible.
- (2) Fleeces should be tied with paper twine, never binder or sisal twine. Turn in the sides of the fleece and roll compactly from tail to neck with the bright or clipped surface outward.
- (3) The wool should be packed in very closely woven jute, hemp or paper-lined sacks.
- (4) Tags, dung or stained pieces should never be included with the fleeces, but always packed separately if wool is adhering to them.
- (5) All black or gray fleeces should be packed by themselves.
- (6) Lamb fleeces, possessing unusual quality and length, may well be kept apart from the others and offered for sale as a distinct class.
- (7) The wool should be absolutely dry at shearing and should never, subsequently, be permitted to become wet.
- (8) Tubwashing should not be practised. If washing is followed at all, let it be done on the sheep's back, and at the time of shearing keep the washed separate from the unwashed.