

ous to keep ewe and ram lambs apart 18 or 20 months, from January or March till October, the ensuing year, before they be suffered to go together. It is best that there be not more than one ram with a division of ewes, at a time when they can be parcelled off into different fields, or lots for two or three weeks.

To observe the ages of sheep is important—Some age ought to be fixed on by the farmer, beyond which nothing should induce him to keep them. At the shearing time, the mouth of every sheep and lamb is to be inspected; and the lambs having blackish gums, or that are not straight, well made and promising, are to be marked for sale; as also the aged rams, ewes, and wethers, whatever be the age fixed on by the farmer for clearing his flock from old sheep, be it four or five years; which seem to be the ages for governing us in this particular, in the climate of America. As many lambs, the best, are to be turned out for breeders, and for muttons, proportioned as there are sheep to be disposed of as being aged, and a few more to supply losses, while they are growing up.

The farmer will first determine on the number of grown sheep to be kept by him; then on the age he means to observe for disposing of them; for he is to have none in his flock which are not in full vigor. Dividing the number in the whole flock by the age at which he means to dispose of them, gives the number of lambs which he is to turn out as a supply to the same number of sheep, to be disposed of from the old stock; and a few more lambs are to be turned out with the flock lambs, for making good any losses. If five years be fixed on for the full age, and there be one hundred sheep, the fives in a hundred, being twenty, direct to the disposing of twenty aged sheep, and to the turning out from twenty to twenty-five lambs for a supply to the flock. After six years of age sheep decline in vigor and in wool.

H. E. RO

His excellency
Sec. chan

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Ld. bishop
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