

hand-power machine will be found useful on the farm. It can be obtained with different attachments for clipping sheep, horses, and cows. To shear, the sheep is thrown and placed on its haunches with its back against the shearer's legs. Commencing at the throat, an opening is made down the belly; then the legs are clipped, and the head and then one side clipped along until the backbone is reached. This latter is done with the sheep lying on the other side. By holding a front leg and keeping the head down the sheep is easily controlled. Then the animal is turned over to clip along the other side. When finished the sheep is lying on the untorn fleece.

The following concise directions on preparing wool for market are given in Pamphlet No. 2 of the Sheep Division, Live Stock Branch, Ottawa:—

*"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 burrs. 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.) Endeavour 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-locks, or staled pieces should never be included with the fleeces, but always packed separately if wool is adhering to them.

"(5.) All black or grey 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.) Tub-washing 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."

#### DIPPING FOR TICKS.

Sheep should be dipped at least once every year, and twice if necessary. Soon after shearing is the usual time to give the main dipping, but fall dipping is usually needed. After shearing, most of the ticks are on the lambs and will hinder their growth. The earlier it can be done, with the weather fairly warm, the better. The wool will be short, and so the dip will be effective. If lambs are less than three weeks old, however, there is danger of the ewes disowning their lambs on account of the dip destroying the scent by which the lamb is recognized.

If any ticks are present the flock should be dipped in the fall, so that the sheep are not worried all winter by the vermin. It is difficult to see why sheep-owners