

DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

LIVE STOCK BRANCH.

H. S. ARKELL, Commissioner.

SHEEP AND GOAT DIVISION.

THE MANAGEMENT OF SMALL FLOCKS SERIES.

PAMPHLET No 16

March, 1919.

VALUE OF CASTRATION AND DOCKING

BY

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It is useless to advocate a practice which does not show returns in dollars and cents. Money returns appeal to all who regard their operations as a source of revenue and a means of a livelihood. If after looking into such returns the practice is not followed then nothing further can be said on the subject. In order to obtain the fullest returns it is necessary to sell the finished product for the highest market price. A slight premium is always paid for a first-class article when it is sold. These premiums are the returns which change an investment from a mediocre one to a good one.

These photographs represent carload lots of lambs of approximately the same age which were sold on a Canadian stockyard and the final photographs show the difference in the carcass. The buyer values the live animals from the dressed carcass standpoint.

WHY CASTRATING PAYS.

1. Castrated lambs are not as restless as ram lambs and attend to their business better which is getting fat and ready for the block.
2. Wethers are easier to fence and herd on the farm.
3. Wethers do not annoy the ewe and ewe lambs in the flock. The wether lambs can be left in the ewe flock without danger. Ram lambs must be separated or breeding will take place.
4. On the same feed and under the same conditions wethers will grow bigger and fatter than ram lambs.
5. If the market in the Fall drops and becomes dead, the wethers may be carried over but the ram lambs must be sold at any price.
6. Finally and most important, wethers sell at a premium above ram lambs on the market.