

THE EWE AT LAMBING

Hints on Care of Both Mother and Lamb.

Care Before Lambing Important-How to Help In Cases of Poor Delivery - A Good Ration for Ewes When Raising Lambs.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

THE two main factors contritributing to a satisfactory lamb crop are the proper feeding and care of the sheep during the six months previous to lambing time together with care and detailed attention given to the flock during the lambing period. Plenty of exercise coupled with sufficient amount of the right kind of feed to maintain the ewes in good thriving condition will usually result in the birth of active rugged lambs, for which the mother will have a sufficient supply of milk. In practically every flock, no matter how well cared for, the attendant must be on hand frequently, day and night, during the period the lambs are arriv-ing. A little attention at the proper time often results in the saving of not

a few lambs.

Absolute dryness and freedom from draught are very essential for the flock at lambing time, and when the lambs are expected in March or even early April provision should be made for reasonable protection from

Wool balls in the stomach is often the cause of much loss in young lambs. This trouble as well as diffi-culty in getting the lambs to nurse may be avoided by clipping away all may be avoided by clipping away all loose and dirty wool from around the udder and quarters of the ewes. It must be borne in mind that at this time the ewes, heavy in lamb, should be handled gently, otherwise serious loss may occur from ewes slipping their lambs.

Provision should be made for a few small pens located along the warmest side of the building. The ewe about to lamb is much safer separated from the main flock and in cases of difficult parturition, weak in cases of difficult parturition, weak lambs, ewes disowning their lambs, and numerous other difficulties that may arise they can be looked after a great deal more satisfactorily when confined in small enclosures. It not infrequently happens that a ewe has difficulty in delivering her lamb; this is more common in the case of young ewes with their first lamb. When the lamb has come forward far ewes with their first lamb. When the lamb has come forward far enough so that the nose and front feet are in sight and the head is unable to pass through the ewe should be assisted by gentle pulling on the forefeet. If this fails smear the inside of the vagina well with linseed oil; this has the effect of softening and allowing the opening to stretch, and will, unless the case is a very severe one, give relief. No

to stretch, and will, unless the case is a very severe one, give relief. No action should be taken until it is reasonably certain some assistance is needed, and before investigating the hands should be perfectly clean and disinfected.

Lambs may be born weak and apparently lifeless, more particularly in case of difficult delivery. These may be revived by quick action on the part of the attendant. First remove the phiegm from the mouth, then hold the mouth open and blow

tion. Next lay the lamb on its belly and gently beat it on the sides next to the heart just back of the to the shoulder.

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A ewe may lose her lamb and still have a supply of milk. She may be given a lamb say one of twins or an orphan lamb belonging to another ewe to raise. This may be accomplish by skinning the dead lamb and throwing the skin over the one to be adopted. A ewe may take to another lamb when held and the lamb allowed to suck. Especially is this true where a ewe has a full flow of milk. When a lamb is born during a cold spell it may become so thoroughly chilled as to require attention. Place the lamb in hot water until well warmed, rub dry, then wrap in a cloth and place beside a fire until restored. A little warm milk 'aken from the mother should be given as soon as the lamb will take it. A few drops of whiskey in a little warm water may often prove beneficial.

Ewes, like dairy cattle, vary a great deal in the amount of milk given. In case of single lambs the mother may have more milk than the lamb will take for a week or

mother may have more milk than the lamb will take for a week or more, the lambs may be nursing on one side only and the other side will become inflamed and caked. Either hold the ewe and allow another lamb to nurse or milk out. In case the udder has become hard bathe with hot water for five minutes with a woollen cloth, dry thoroughly and apply (warm) pure melted hogs'

Ewes should be fed sparingly, Ewes should be fed sparingly, especially of grain, for a few days after lambing, as soon as they are safely over the effects of lambing they should be gradually brought up to full feed. Clover or alfalfa hay, together with a grain ration of oats and bran should give results. If roots or good quality silage is available they will supply succuency and add variety to the ration. variety to the ration.

All lambs should be docked and the male lambs, other than those in-tended for breeding purposes, cr.strated at from ten days to two weeks'

Following is a good ration for wes when raising lambs:—
Oats, eight parts.
Bran, four parts.

Oil cake, one part. Roots, four to six pounds per day. Good hay. Lambs started on ¼ pound per day will give a good account of the feed consumed.—Percy Sackville, O. A. College, Guelph.

A laying hen requires grain, meat or milk as well as green food during the winter months.



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be without it."—C. TITUS, Jr., 28 Duke St.

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since."—ALEX McLEOD.

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