

delivering the lamb. However, the shepherd should be watchful and at once render assistance or he may lose both ewe and lamb. In normal parturition the lamb comes front feet first, with the head lying between the legs. If delivery appears to be taking place in any other way, you will at least know that it is not normal, and then you must be on the lookout for trouble. When the lamb is born and has sufficient strength to take nourishment from its mother, it is a pretty safe proposition. Keep the mother and her young lamb quiet for a few days and feed the ewe sparingly so as not to stimulate heavy milk production before the lamb is able to take it from her. At this time the attendant must watch the udders of the ewes, and if the lamb is leaving so much milk that there is a danger of a caked udder, the milk must be drawn by hand. In a very few days the ewe and lamb may be again turned with the flock. At this period there is no food to excel good rape and grass pasture. In most cases the lambs come before the pasture is very good, and other feeds must be supplied. Oats, bran, alfalfa hay and roots are all excellent foods for the ewes at this time. At any rate, keep them liberally fed, as heavy milk production will only come with good feeding, and this we must have if we would get early growth in the lambs.

THE RAM.

As in all other classes of animals, a good sire is important. When a poor ram is used on a flock of good ewes, the quality of the entire flock is thereby lowered. Select a ram of the breed you prefer. See that he has size and quality. Look for a sire that is low set and blocky in form. A short, broad head, wide, compact shoulders, a deep, full chest, a broad back and hindquarter and a full leg of mutton are all conducive to the proper form. Good, strong bone is desirable, and yet it should not show coarseness. Be sure of strength of constitution as indicated by the fullness of chest and heart girth. A point that must not be overlooked is masculinity. See that he has strength in his head and presents the appearance of a male. Do not decide without first examining the length, compactness and quality of his fleece. Having considered all the above points, turn your attention to breed characteristics.

During the breeding season have the ram healthy, but not too fat. An overfat ram is often lazy and infertile. For that reason avoid rams that have been highly fitted for show purposes. Keep him vigorous with good food and plenty of exercise. Such foods as oats, bran, oil cake, alfalfa, clover, prairie hay and roots will all be found useful for this purpose. The feeder must judge for himself the amount of feed to be given, as this will differ greatly with different animals. About 2