Many farmers have never stopped to consider why animals behave as they do and, more importantly, what this behavior may mean to their personal safety. Animal handling practices are often acquired from watching others and from our own experiences growing up on the farm. Too often, this results in unsafe animal handling and restraint practices.

Although most animal accidents are not fatal, many people are needlessly injured each year because of a lack of safety awareness. Broken bones, crushed and mashed limbs, missed days of work, and unnecessary medical expenses are some of the results of animal related accidents.

Individuals may work carefully around animals most of the time, but they are injured in an animal accident because of preoccupation, haste, impatience, or anger. It is during these moments that a livestock handler really needs to understand animal behavior.

Beef, swine, and dairy cattle are generally colorblind and have poor depth perception. This results in an extreme sensitivity to contrasts, which may cause an animal to balk at shadows or rapid changes from light to dark. Sheep are also considered colorblind but do have good depth perception. Instead, sheep have difficulty picking out small details, such as the open space created by a partially opened gate.

Livestock with young exhibit a maternal instinct. They are usually more defensive and difficult to handle. When possible, let the young stay as close to the adult as possible when handling.

Most sheep have a strong territorial instinct and develop a sense of “homeland” in their pens, barn lots, and pastures. They develop a very distinctive, comfortable attachment to these areas. An example of the homeland instinct is the well worn paths created in most pastures and between pastures and buildings, water troughs, and feed bunks. Forcible removal from a homeland area can cause animals to react unexpectedly.

Considering these animal traits, it is easy to understand why animals often hesitate when going through unfamiliar gates, barn doors, and handling and loading chutes. In addition, shadows, yelling, and rapid changes in lighting can further excite animals and make their behavior unpredictable. Similar problems occur when animals are moved away from feed, separated from the herd or approached by an unfamiliar person. When moving animals, it is best to have your facilities set up ahead of time to move the animals. (See Figure 68.) To move your market lamb, it might be best to put a halter on it and lead it where you want.

Animals are extremely sensitive to noise and are easily frightened or spooked. In their attempts to move away from the direction or source of the noise, they may crash into or through objects, including people, because of their colorblindness and poor depth perception. Be cautious around animals that are blind or deaf on one side. They favor that side and can suddenly swing around to investigate disturbances. If standing too close, a person could easily be knocked down and trampled.

Young farm animals can form relationships simultaneously with other animals and with human handlers. Animals respond to the way they are treated and draw upon past experiences when reacting to a situation. For example, a newborn raised on a bottle or bucket may develop a very strong attraction for the person feeding it and feel comfortable around people. However, animals that are chased, slapped, kicked, hit, or frightened when young will naturally fear being approached.

Animals are often said to be “stubborn” because they balk or refuse to enter an area. Once this has
happened, the animal is likely to refuse the next several times as well and may become a little excited and dangerous with each refusal. It is important to take time to prepare for moving animals. Many farmers are tempted to move animals without the necessary planning and often end up in a battle with the animal that could lead to an injury. Plan ahead to prevent this. (See Figure 68.)

In addition to unique vision characteristics, sensitivity to noise, and a strong territorial instinct, animals have physical and mental sensations similar to those of humans that can cause them to react fiercely to handlers. Animals experience hunger, thirst, fear, sickness, injury, and strong maternal instincts. They also develop individual behavior patterns such as kicking or biting. The handler should be aware of these behaviors and take necessary precautions. Safety precautions include using personal protective equipment such as safety glasses, gloves, long trousers, steel toed shoes or boots, shin guards, and a hard hat, depending on the activity and type of livestock being handled.

Handlers should also be concerned with zoonotic diseases, which are illnesses that can be transmitted between humans and animals. Leptospirosis, rabies, brucellosis, salmonellosis, and ringworm are especially important. A livestock producer can contract zoonotic illnesses by being bitten by the animal, handling an infected animal, or disposing of infected tissues. To reduce exposure to disease, use basic hygiene and sanitation practices, which include prompt treating or disposal of infected animals, adequate disposal of infected tissues, proper cleaning of contaminated sites, and proper use of personal protective equipment.

Facilities can play a major role in preventing accidents. Good facilities provide a means of controlling animals while allowing easy access for routine chores—all in a safe environment. To help prevent accidents, keep walk and work surfaces properly lighted and clear of debris and obstructions. To reduce the risk of falls, provide slip resistant footing for workers and livestock with roughened concrete ramp and floor surfaces.

Most animal related accidents are the result of "people problems." Poor judgment and lack of understanding are major causes of accidents involving animals. Plan ahead to allow plenty of time to move animals, so there is no need to hurry. Do not try to handle animals when you are angry. Some handlers may exhibit a feeling of superiority over animals, which is foolish when one considers the size of some farm animals.

Other common problems should also be avoided, such as horseplay (people play), improper lifting of young animals, prodding an animal, attempting a task without enough help, not providing proper and safe facilities, and not wearing personal protective equipment.

What can farmers and you do to increase the level of safety when handling animals? Although there is certainly no magical formula, common sense is a key ingredient.
This material is based upon work supported by Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, under special project number 93-EFSQ-4096.

LEARNING LABORATORY KIT  Product distribution through Ohio Agricultural Curriculum Materials Service

Figure 68

Chapter 9 • Working Safely With Sheep
Chapter 10
Sheep Industry and Sheep Breeds

You and your sheep are an important part of the United States sheep industry. The sheep project has provided you with an introduction to the sheep industry. This chapter will provide you with more information about the other segments of the sheep and wool industry.

Food and clothing for the world—that’s what American sheep production is all about—that and a lifelong commitment to quality and conservation. The sheep industry is a unique blend of the past, the present, and the future. Each day, 110,000 men and women all over America put this combination to work. Producers are stewards of the land and their animals. For thousands of years, sheep producers have protected and developed their industry and its caring traditions. Today, they produce lamb and wool by natural grazing compatibility with the environment.

Types of Sheep Operations

The goal of the entire sheep industry is to provide a wholesome food product and quality fiber product to the consumer. Sheep producers from all across the United States share this goal, although their production systems and management styles may vary depending on several different factors. While producers raise sheep for many different reasons, ultimately the same goal applies. Most often, sheep operations are divided into purebred flocks, commercial flocks, club lamb flocks, and lamb feeders. Let’s take a look at the different types of operations.

Purebred Flocks

The purebred operations produce breeding stock for the commercial sheep industry. Often these producers will purchase breeding stock from other purebred operations to improve the quality of their stock, which in turn will improve the quality of the commercial sheep flocks. The purebred producer places great emphasis on size, structural correctness, growth traits, and particular traits or breed characteristics for which the breed is known. For example, a Dorset purebred breeder would place a lot of emphasis on out of season lambing, as this is an important Dorset characteristic. Purebred breeders often exhibit their animals at many different fairs and sales to showcase and market their sheep.

Commercial Flocks

The commercial operations produce lamb and wool that is destined for the consumer. Their goal is to maximize pounds of lamb and wool per ewe per year in an efficient and economical manner. Crossbred ewes are often used as they combine several different traits from many different breeds. These ewes are often more hardy and will produce lambs more efficiently on less feedstuffs than purebred ewes. Commercial producers emphasize several different traits when selecting breeding stock. Reproductive traits and growth rates are very important. A commercial producer may market his or her lambs as feeder lambs or choose to feed and market them at 110–130 pounds.

Club Lamb Flocks

Club lamb breeders produce a very specialized product. They are producing lambs for youth shows. They emphasize many traits in the selection of their breeding stock. They select heavily muscled sheep that are structurally correct. Growth rate and carcass traits are also very important. These breeders must also consider reproductive traits as many ewe lambs are kept for replacements. These lambs are sold privately and at many different sales in the spring of the year.
Lamb Feeders

The lamb feeder is a very specialized sheep person. They purchase lambs, most often from commercial producers, at weights of 60 to 90 pounds. They then feed these lambs to the desirable slaughter weight of 110 to 130 pounds. They like to purchase lambs that have adequate frame size and high growth rates.

Classifications of Sheep Operations

Sheep operations may also be classified by their location or management system. Size of the operation, weather conditions, and availability of feedstuffs are also considered. The adaptability of sheep makes it possible to raise them all over the United States. Some of the different systems include:

Farm Flock Sheep Operation

This type of sheep operation is the one that you are probably most familiar. You probably purchased your lamb from this type of operation. Farm flock operations tend to have smaller numbers of sheep, usually 30–200 head. The ewes are bred to lamb in the fall, winter, or spring. This producer places major emphasis on growth rates, type of birth (twin, triplet, etc.), size, and carcass traits. The majority of the club lamb and purebred sheep operations in the Midwest are also farm flock operations. Columbia, Corriedale, Dorset, Hampshire, Suffolk, and Shropshire are the most common breeds represented, although any breed adapts to this type of operation. Crossbred ewes are also very popular. The ewes commonly lamb in the barn and the ewes and lambs receive grain and protein supplements. Most of the commercial lambs are marketed as feeder lambs at weaning or slaughter lambs at 5–6 months of age. Feedstuffs are generally abundant.

Range Sheep Operation

This type of operation is located in the western United States and is greatly influenced by climate. Flocks of 1,000–5,000 ewes are very common. Fine-wool, Rambouillet-type ewes predominate in the Southwest, because they are well suited to the hotter, drier range conditions. Northwestern range ewes are primarily crosses of Rambouillet, Columbia, Targhee, Corriedale, and Polypay breeds. Much consideration is given to the wool characteristics of the ewe, but type of birth and body size is also important. The rams are selected based on growth rate, fleece characteristics, and reproductive potential. Black-faced rams are often selected for slaughter lamb production, due to their higher growth and carcass traits. Most of the lambs are marketed as feeder lambs or fed to slaughter weights. Labor and feedstuffs are often limited.

As you can see, the sheep industry is larger than just a market lamb or two that you carry as your 4-H project. Many people’s lives and family incomes are affected by our industry. The next time you think about your lambs, remember the entire industry and the goals that sheep producers have set. In a world filled with disposable products and chemical substitutes for nearly everything, the American sheep producers are proud of the high quality food and clothing they produce from nature’s renewable resources. And these natural, renewable products are produced by one animal.
Breed Classification

There are more than 35 breeds of sheep in the United States, most of which are of British or European origin or crosses of these. Classification of these breeds of sheep can be made in many ways. Examples of these classifications are wool type, face color, or productive function.

Ram Breeds

The ram breeds are meat-type breeds used as terminal sires. (The offspring of a terminal sire goes to market. They are not kept for breeding purposes.) They are known for size, growth rate, carcass merit, and ease of lambing. The ram breeds are:
- Cheviot
- Hampshire
- Oxford
- Shropshire
- Southdown
- Suffolk

Ewe Breeds

These are white-faced breeds of fine, medium, or long-wool types or crosses of these types. These breeds are highly prolific and have superior mothering abilities. The ewe breeds are:
- Corriedale
- Finn Sheep
- Merino
- Rambouillet
- Targhee

Dual Purpose Breeds

These breeds can be used as either ewe or ram breeds, depending on the production system.
- Columbia
- Dorset
- Lincoln
- Montadale
- North Country Cheviot
- Polypay
- Romney

The same breeds of sheep also can be classified by wool type.

Fine-Wool Breeds
- Merino
- Rambouillet

Medium-Wool Breeds
- Cheviot
- Columbia
- Corriedale
- Dorset
- Hampshire
- Montadale
- Finn Sheep
- Oxford
- Polypay
- Shropshire
- Southdown
- Suffolk
- Targhee
- North Country Cheviot

Medium- to Long-Wool Breeds
- Lincoln
- Romney

You will probably want to select a lamb that is a ram breed since they are considered meat-type breeds. Suffolk- and Hampshire-sired lambs are good selections: they have superior growth rate, muscling, scale, and trimness. Dorset-sired lambs also exhibit these traits but usually mature earlier and do not exhibit the length and scale of Suffolks and Hampshires.

Breed Associations

Now that you are aware of some of the breeds, you need to know that there are breed associations that maintain registration and performance records for the breeds. They also furnish information on judging, fitting, and showing. Judging pictures and breed magazines may be obtained for a small fee.

Before you actually select your project lamb, you may want to write to the executive secretaries of the breed associations in which you are interested and request their up-to-date information. The addresses for the breed associations can be found in this chapter.

See the color section of this book to learn more about breeds of sheep.
Breed Associations

American Cheviot Sheep Society
R.R. 1, Box 100
Clarks Hill, IN 47930
(765) 523-2767

American Corriedale Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 391
Clay City, IL 62824
(618) 676-1046

American Cotswold Record Association
18 Elm Street, P.O. Box 59
Plympton, MA 02367
(781) 585-2026

American Delaine-Merino Record Association
1026 County Road 1175, Route 3
Ashland, OH 44805
(419) 281-5786

American Hampshire Sheep Association
1557-173rd Avenue
Milo, IA 50166
(515) 942-6402

American Karakul Fur Registry
Route 1, Box 179
Rice, WA 99167

American North Country Cheviot Sheep Association
8708 South County Road 500 W
Reelsville, IN 46171
(765) 672-8205

American Oxford Sheep Association
1960 East 2100 North Road
Stonington, IL 62567
(217) 325-3515

American Polypay Sheep Association
609 South Central, Suite 9
Sidney, MT 59270

American Rambouillet Breeders Association
2209 Sherwood Way
San Angelo, TX 76901
(915) 949-4414

American Romney Breeders Association
P.O. Box 247
Corvallis, OR 97339
(541) 754-3051
E-Mail: ewebetmccoy.proaxis.com

American Shropshire Registry Association
P.O. Box 635, 24905 Streit Road
Harvard, IL 60033-0635
(815) 943-2034

American Southdown Breeders Association
HCR 13, Box 220, Highway 71
Fredonia, TX 76842
(915) 429-6226

Columbia Sheep Breeders Association
P.O. Box 272
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351
(740) 482-2608

Continental Dorset Club
P.O. Box 506
North Scituate, RI 02857
(401) 647-4676

Montadale Sheep Breeders Association
P.O. Box 603
Plainfield, IN 46168
(317) 839-6198

National Finn Sheep Breeders Association
HC 65, Box 495
DrRuyter, NY 13052
(877) 873-4667
E-mail: stillmeadowfinns@hotmail.com

National Lincoln Sheep Breeders Association
1557-173rd Avenue
Milo, IA 50166
(515) 942-6402

National Tunis Sheep Registry
819 Lyons Street
Ludlow, MA 01056
(413) 589-9653
Breeds of Sheep

There are many breeds of sheep from which you can choose your project animal. As a 4-H member, it is your choice as to which breed of sheep you want to show. Most county fairs do not show market lambs by breeds, however, the Ohio State Fair and some jackpot lamb shows do. Every breed has the capacity to produce a good, finished market lamb that can do well for your market lamb project. The following are brief descriptions of some of the breeds of sheep. Color photos of these breeds can be found in the back section of this handbook.

Border Cheviot

(Commonly known as Cheviot)

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 160–200 pounds; Ewe, 120–150 pounds

This breed, highly adaptable to a variety of climates, was developed in Scotland. These small-sized, white-faced sheep with bare heads and legs are moderately prolific, easy lambers, good milkers, and possess excellent lamb vigor.
Columbia

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 250–350 pounds; Ewe, 150–225 pounds

The Columbia breed was developed in the United States from a Lincoln ram and Ram-bouillet ewe cross and is known for its size, wool-producing ability, and productivity under range conditions. This breed is large, white-faced, polled, and has wool on the legs.

Dorset

(may be polled or horned)

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 200–250 pounds; Ewe, 140–180 pounds

Originating in Southern England, these sheep can be polled, scurred, or horned and are known for breeding out of season, being heavy milkers and producing more than one lamb crop per year. Hardy lambs yield heavy muscled carcasses.

Corriedale

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 175–275 pounds; Ewe, 130–180 pounds

White-faced breed developed in New Zealand from Lincoln ram and Leicester/Merino ewe cross. These medium-sized sheep are prolific, good mothers that produce good market lambs and yield heavy, medium-wool fleeces with good staple length.

Finn Sheep

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 150–200 pounds; Ewe, 110–150 pounds

Developed in Finland, this small to medium-sized, fine-boned breed is open-faced and produces medium-grade, good staple length wool. Reaching sexual maturity early, ewes have strong maternal instincts and are very prolific—producing two to four lambs each lambing.
**Hampshire**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 250–350 pounds; Ewe, 175–250 pounds

Developed in Southern England, these sheep are a large, moderately prolific breed with wool caps, black faces, and medium-wool fleeces. They also have very good milking ability, growth, and carcass cutability.

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**Merino**

(Delaine Merino)

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 175–225 pounds; Ewe, 125–160 pounds

This breed was developed from a fine-wool sheep in Spain. It is the basis for all wool breeds. These sheep are fine-wooled, have a tremendous flocking instinct, and have a white face with wool on their head and legs.

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**Lincoln**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 250–350 pounds; Ewe, 200–250 pounds

An English breed that is predominate in Great Britain, the Lincoln has a white face, is polled, and has the heaviest fleece of the long wool type breeds.

---

**Montadale**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 200–275 pounds; Ewe, 150–180 pounds

The Montadale originated in the United States from a Cheviot and Columbia crossbreed. It is medium-sized, white-faced, bareheaded, and bare-legged. This breed is polled, hardy, and prolific.
**Oxford**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 225–325 pounds; Ewe, 150–200 pounds

An English breed resulting from a Hampshire and Cotswold cross, the Oxford is medium to large in size, has a dark brown to grey face and is polled. Oxfords have a wool cap, and wool on the ears and legs. They are good milkers, prolific, and have a fast growth rate.

**Rambouillet**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 200–300 pounds; Ewe, 135–180 pounds

Developed in France, this long-lived, rugged breed will breed out of season and has wool that is fine in fiber diameter. These sheep are large, white-faced, with wool on the head and legs, and can be polled or horned.

**Polypay**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 180–240 pounds; Ewe, 130–170 pounds

Developed in the United States at the Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, this breed was developed from Targhee/Dorset Ram and Rambouillet/Finn Sheep Ewe cross. This breed is medium-sized, white-faced, prolific, and breeds out of season.

**Romney**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 200–275 pounds; Ewe, 150–200 pounds

An English breed that is small to medium in size, the Romney has a white face and legs. This breed is polled and has long wool.
**Shropshire**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 225–275 pounds; Ewe, 160–200 pounds

Originating in England, this medium-sized, dark-faced, polled breed has wool on its head and face. It is prolific, matures early, milks well, and is heavily muscled. Lambs are hardy, fast-growing, and produce lean, well-muscled carcasses.

![Shropshire Sheep](image1)

**Suffolk**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 275–400 pounds; Ewe, 200–300 pounds

This polled breed with black head and legs has the most number of purebred registrations in the United States. It is known for its meatiness and high carcass quality. Lambs grow rapidly and produce high cutability carcasses.

![Suffolk Sheep](image2)

**Southdown**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 180–230 pounds; Ewe, 120–180 pounds

The oldest breed from England, this sheep is small to medium in size and known for producing meaty carcasses. It is polled, with a grey to mouse-brown face and wool on its legs. Fleece from this breed are of medium-wool.

![Southdown Sheep](image3)

**Targhee**

Mature Body Weight: Ram, 200–300 pounds; Ewe, 140–200 pounds

Developed by the Sheep Experiment Station in Idaho, this breed is made up of Rambouillet/ Columbia and Rambouillet/Corriedale crosses. This breed is large-sized, white-faced with wool on the legs.

![Targhee Sheep](image4)
### Summary of Breed Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Wool Grade*</th>
<th>Wool Length*</th>
<th>Wool Weight*</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Med. wool</td>
<td>meat</td>
<td>med-lg</td>
<td>med (\frac{3}{8}) low (\frac{1}{4})</td>
<td>2–5”</td>
<td>med.</td>
<td>most in U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long wool</td>
<td>meat and</td>
<td>med-lg</td>
<td>low, common</td>
<td>5–12”</td>
<td>med-light</td>
<td>locks and curls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>wool</td>
<td></td>
<td>and braid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine wool</td>
<td>wool</td>
<td>sm-med</td>
<td>fine and (\frac{1}{2})</td>
<td>1–4”</td>
<td>heavy</td>
<td>white face and legs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See Wool Information in Chapter 11.

### Books, Handbooks, and Resources

**SiD Sheep Production Handbook**  
Sheep Production Guide, 1999  
Sheep Industry Development Program  
6911 S. Yosemite St.  
Englewood, CO 80112-1414

**Caring For Animals Video & Discussion Guide**  
Contact OCMS at 614-292-4848

**Beef, Sheep, Swine Selection and Evaluation**  
(for beginners)  
4-H Bulletin 103R  
Livestock Judging Manual  
4-H Bulletin 104R (for advanced members)

**Reasons Note Tablet**  
4-H Bulletin 828  
Contact your County Extension Office for these 3 publications.

Sets of **Skills for Life Animal Science Guides** are available for beef, cats, dairy, dogs, goats, horse, pets, poultry, rabbits, swine, and sheep 4-H projects.

How to order 4-H **Skills for Life Animal Science**  
Sheep Series Publications:  
**Sheep 1 Lambs, Rams and You**  
NCR 515  
**Sheep 2 Shear Delight**  
NCR 516  
**Sheep 3 Leading the Flock**  
NCR 517  
**Sheep Group Activity Guide For Advisors**  
NCR 518

Regular Orders Contact:  
Distribution Center  
20 Coffey Hall  
Minnesota Extension Service  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul, MN 55108-6069  
FAX: 612-625-6281

Phone: 612-625-8173 (Credit card orders, information and order forms)  
E-mail: order@dc.mes.umn.edu  
Visit the Web Site at: www.n4hccs.org

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Magazines

Sheep! (monthly)
Route 1
Helenville, WI 53137 or
Sheep Magazine Inc.
Box 329
Jefferson, WI 53549

Sheep Learning Laboratory Kit

This kit is useful in enhancing the educational component of club meetings, conducting interview judging, and conducting skill-a-thons.

It includes:

- Educator's curriculum guide entitled _Quality Assurance and Animal Care_ and accompanying videotape with 7 teaching segments.
- Animal medication product label poster
- Animal medication product insert poster
- Medication bottle and syringe style pipette
- Animal skeleton structure poster
- Animal handling and management poster
- Animal part identification poster
- Structural correctness poster, focusing on feet and leg characteristics
- Wholesale meat cut poster
- Color breed identification photos with breed name tags and breed trait descriptions
- Color retail meat identification
- Resource materials master for educator/leader

All posters, photographs, and label tags are laminated with answer keys on reverse side. Velcro is included for label tags. Packaged in durable carrying case for easy use, storage, and transportation.

* Also available on CD Rom

To order the Sheep Learning Laboratory Kit contact:

The Ohio Agricultural Education
Curriculum Materials Service
254 Agricultural Administration Building
2120 Fyffe Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1067
(614) 292-4848
Organizations

American Sheep Industry Association
6911 S. Yosemite Street
Englewood CO 80112-1414
(303) 771-3500

American Wool Council & American Lamb Council
6911 S. Yosemite Street
Englewood, CO 80112-1414
(303) 771-3500

(publications, videos and slide sets)

Ohio Sheep Improvement Association
P. O. Box 479, Two Nationwide Plaza
Columbus OH 43216-0479
(614) 677-7860
http://www.ohiosheep.org

National Livestock Ethics Council
1910 Lyda Drive
Bowling Green KY 42104-5809
(270) 782-9798

National Institute for Animal Agriculture
(formerly known as Livestock Conservation Institute)
1910 Lyda Drive
Bowling Green KY 42104-5809
(270) 782-9798

American Sheep Industry Association
http://www.sheepusa.org

Breeds of Livestock
http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/BREEDS/index.htm

Lamb Recipes
http://www.lambchef.com

National Institute for Animal Agriculture
http://www.animalagriculture.org

Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center
http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/

Ohio Department of Agriculture
http://www.state.oh.us/agri/

The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
http://cfaes.ohio-state.edu/

The Ohio State University Department of Animal Sciences
http://www.ag.osu.edu/-ansci/

The Ohio State University Extension
http://www.ag.osu.edu/

The Ohio State University Homepage
http://www.osu.edu/

National Sheep Association
http://www.nationalsheep.org

United Producers, Inc.
http://www.upducers.com

Sheep Breeders Directory
http://www.breedersworld.com/sheep

Quality Assurance
http://www.fairsnet.org/quality/index.htm

Sheep Artificial Insemination
http://www.elitegenetics.com

Sheep Producers Directory
http://www.agdomain.com

Sheep Producers Directory
http://www.nebraskasheep.com
Caring for Animals
Animal Well-Being, Quality Assurance, Show Ring Ethics

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Jodi Black, OSU 4-H-An. Sc. Extension Associate

Acknowledgments: Quality Assurance and Animal Care Youth Education Program

Reference: Use in conjunction with the Caring For Animals video

Privileges, Responsibilities, and Rewards

Everyone associated with livestock—either on the farm or in the show ring—is responsible for the well-being of their animals. As a 4-H member, you need to learn to care properly for your projects and develop acceptable livestock husbandry skills.

Your duty as a 4-H member is to properly care for your animals. As a 4-H animal owner, you need to understand the privileges, responsibilities, and rewards that you can expect from the 4-H program.

Privileges

• To know as much about your project as possible.
• To receive information to raise the project.
• To be given a variety of experiences relating to project work.
• To be given sound guidance and direction.
• To ask questions and share concerns.
• To be recognized.

Responsibilities

• To treat all livestock projects in your possession humanely.
• To be sincere and believe in the value of a job well done.
• To be loyal to the values and ideals of the 4-H program.
• To accept the guidance and decisions of the program coordinators.
• To be willing to learn and participate in training programs and meetings.
• To continue learning throughout your years of 4-H membership.
• To follow good practices insuring a safe, wholesome product of the highest quality.

Rewards
• To enjoy satisfaction from a job well done.
• To receive both public and personal recognition.
• To learn new skills, receive special training, and experience personal growth.
• To make new friends and have fun.
• To feel good about producing a wholesome, consumable product.
• To know you are special and you can make a difference.

Animal Well-Being

As a 4-H member, you need to be aware of the things you can do with your own animal to promote animal well-being. The image of the agricultural industry and the 4-H program are affected by the decisions you make and actions you take in the care of your animal. You need to set goals and develop a plan that will positively impact your animal’s well-being—either on the farm, in your backyard, or at the county fair.

You can complete some tasks before you even obtain your animal. First, think about the size your animal will be as it grows to maturity, and your facilities large enough for the animal to exercise in? Are there hazards where you are going to keep your animal such as protruding nails, broken boards, or wire? Can the animal reach any potentially dangerous objects (for example, an electrical box or a poisonous plant)? Think about the type of bedding you will be using and the quantity it will take to keep your animal dry and warm. You should have an ample supply of clean water available to your animals at all times. A designated feeding area should be kept free of manure, urine, and bedding.

Once your animal arrives and is in your care, providing it with a balanced ration is an important first step. Many processed feeds, supplements, and pre-mixes are available. Be sure your animal is receiving the nutrition it needs in relation to its age, growth cycle, and purpose. Your animal also needs special consideration if it is in gestation, in lactation, or at stud.

Animal Health

When questions or concerns arise, involve your veterinarian. Develop a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR). This relationship requires that the veterinarian has seen and has knowledge of the animal (patient) and has discussed a health plan or any treatments with the owner (client). Your veterinarian can be very helpful in developing a health care program for your animal. Your plan should include an appropriate schedule for vaccinating, castrating, dehorning, tail docking, internal/external parasite control, etc. You should check with your veterinarian before administering treatments, especially if there is any question about the diagnosis and the medication you are planning on using. If injections are necessary, give them in the proper location using good technique. Injection sites in the neck are
recommended to avoid possible damage to high-priced meat cuts such as the ham and round. Use subcutaneous (SQ) injections (under the skin) whenever allowed by the label directions.

A withdrawal time may be indicated on the label of certain medications. This is the period of time that must pass between the last treatment and the time the animal may be slaughtered. For example, if a medication with a 14-day withdrawal period was last given on August 1\textsuperscript{st}, the withdrawal would be completed on August 15\textsuperscript{th}, and that would be the earliest the animal could be slaughtered for human consumption. It is important that you follow withdrawal time directions as given by the label or as prescribed by your veterinarian.

In addition to the withdrawal time, the label of a drug lists the animal species for which the drug is approved, the dosage to be administered, how it is to be given, and for what diseases/conditions it can be used as a treatment. Any use, other than that printed on the label, can only be directed or prescribed by your veterinarian. For example, a neighbor’s animal is sick and a veterinarian has treated it using twice the dose listed on the label of an OTC (over-the-counter) product. Your animal becomes ill and is showing the same symptoms as your neighbor’s. You may not use the neighbor’s double dose for your animal without a veterinarian examining and prescribing the specific treatment. Any deviation from the label directions when using a drug is referred to as extra-label drug use. Unless directed by a veterinarian who has established a VCPR, extra-label drug use is illegal.

Each animal in your care needs to be permanently identified. Individual animal identification enables good record keeping, from which you can measure your progress. If your animal becomes lost, stolen, or needs medical attention when you are not available, the only way to know the animal’s identity and health history is by permanent identification. This is most commonly done by tattooing or ear tagging. Your county 4-H program may identify all 4-H animals through county-wide tagging or tattooing. If not, you are responsible for identifying all of your animals.

Training animals and acquainting yourself with them needs to begin at an early age or as soon as you acquire your animal. If at all possible, you should spend time with your animal daily. As you walk, stand, and set-up your animal, you both develop trust and become accustomed to each others’ movements. You also become aware of what sounds or sights bother your animal and in which direction it tends to jump or shy away from. Handling your animal daily also helps you to recognize abnormal behavior in your animal that could signal illness, stress, or pain. The longer you avoid working with your animal, the more difficult training and preparation for show becomes. The two Ps—practice and patience—usually pay off.

From the day you acquire your animal until the day it leaves your care, you should maintain feed and treatment records. This is important for the continual care of your animal and for whomever might later purchase your animal. This is also the best way to keep track of the kinds and amounts of expenses you have incurred with your project.

Finally, if you plan to exhibit your animal for show or sale, continue the same quality care program throughout the exhibition as you did at home. This starts by loading and hauling your animal safely and with concern for its well-being. The exhibition facilities should be prepared and checked ahead of time, just as you prepared your facilities at home when you first acquired your animal. Continually watch your animal for signs of stress, pain, or illness. Exercise your animal daily. Clean, feed, and water your animal regularly.

Above all, enjoy your animal project experience. You should feel good about the knowledge you gain and the quality care program you develop and implement with your animal project.
Care That You are Giving Your Animals

Check the ways in which you are already caring for your animal. If you want to improve how you care for your animal, check that column too.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Care</th>
<th>I am already doing</th>
<th>I want to improve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepare facilities before I get my animal.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide adequate housing and bedding.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide access to clean, fresh feed and water.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control internal and external parasites.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If animals are to be castrated, docked, etc., do it when they are young.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Train animals to be handled at a young age.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have a planned health program to prevent disease.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observe animals daily and immediately treat those who need care.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide adequate amounts of a balanced ration.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify animals (tag, tattoo, ear notch, etc.).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep feed and treatment records.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be aware of animal comfort at all stages of production.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use proper techniques for vaccination and treatment.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observe and follow drug residue avoidance rules.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observe and follow label directions including withdrawal times on medication, vaccines, and medicated feed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sort and load animals safely and with concern for them.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(adapted from Iowa State University Extension V1-1042DJH Oct. 1991)

After deciding in which areas you want to improve, list your specific goals for the year.

Goals


Questions

Did you accomplish your goals? ____________________________

What worked well? __________________________________________

What would you change? ________________________________________
Quality Assurance and the Livestock Industry

With your livestock project comes new responsibilities. You are now a member of the livestock industry. The livestock industry, just like any industry, provides a product to the consumer. Even producers of breeding stock are providing seedstock for future food and fiber production.

Think back to some time when you bought a toy or other product and were disappointed in it. Would you buy it again? Consumers will choose to buy or not buy a product from their perception of the value of that product. What would happen to a business if no one purchased its products?

Many businesses have quality assurance departments to make sure that their products are of the highest quality. Businesses pay attention to quality assurance because that helps to assure consumer satisfaction. When quality is high, consumers will buy again. Livestock products must be safe, wholesome, and produced in a manner that meets consumer approval.

Who is in charge of quality assurance in the livestock industry? When you feed a lamb and sell it to the market, who is responsible for assuring that the meat eaten by the consumer is a high-quality product? The retailer? The packer? You? The breeder? Everyone involved in the livestock industry is obligated to do their part to provide a safe, wholesome product to the consumer.

Quality assurance in the livestock industry begins with providing the right genetics and continues with the proper husbandry of the live animal, a good packing house, and good retailing. Every action you take as a livestock producer will reflect on the quality of the livestock industry as a whole.

Quality assurance in raising livestock involves providing for the animal's needs to produce a healthy and a wholesome product. Basic animal needs include water, food, shelter, and care. Proper attention to animal husbandry helps assure a high-quality, marketable product.

Good animal husbandry requires an understanding of many different sciences, including nutrition, environmental design, genetics, veterinary health, production, and economics. These topics all contribute to a quality livestock product. To learn more, consult your project book, a 4-H advisor, an Extension agent, FFA instructor, a veterinarian, or a livestock production expert.

Evaluating quality assurance of your project is something like looking into a mirror. Reflect on your project for a moment. Do you like what you see? More important, will the consumer like it?

Quality Assurance Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics Important to Livestock Quality Assurance and the Producer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential nutrients, feed and forage analysis, ration balancing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental Design</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space requirements, ventilation, freedom from hazards and injury, feeding systems, handling and loading, feeding facilities, manure handling, image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Genetics</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer preferences, producer needs, suitability to livestock production systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veterinary Health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease prevention, proper drug usage, drug residues and withdrawal times, injection technique, records</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Treatment Record Factors

Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) is established when a veterinarian, who knows about an animal's health by having seen it or other animals in the same herd, takes charge of the medical decisions about the animal's treatment. The veterinarian has to be available for follow-up, in case the animal does not respond as expected, and the caretaker of the animal has to agree to follow the veterinarian's instructions regarding the treatment program.

Withdrawal Time is the time needed to allow the residue to diminish to a safe level. It is the period which must elapse after the last treatment and before harvest (slaughter) of meat animals, the use of milk for human consumption from dairy animals, or use of chicken eggs for human consumption.

Extra-label drug use is using a medication in a way other than that stated on the label by the manufacturer. For instance, using a medication as a treatment for a disease not listed on the label for that type of animal is extra-label use. Extra-label use, if not directed by a veterinarian with an established VCPR, is illegal.

Veterinary drugs are available in two categories, over the counter (OTC) and prescription (Rx). To be an OTC product, the medication must meet certain criteria for safety to both the animal and the person handling the product. If simple directions can adequately be written on the label by the manufacturer, a product can be classed as an OTC. The OTC medications may be sold through retail outlets such as farm supply stores in the same manner as aspirin is sold at a grocery store.

When human and animal safety, proper diagnosis, and special directions are concerns, medications are classed as prescription (Rx) products. A prescription product can be identified because the exact following statement will appear on the container: Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Just as veterinarians are not allowed to authorize extra-label drug use without a valid VCPR, neither are they permitted to prescribe Rx medications for animals where a valid VCPR has not been established. Rx medications are available only from or on the order of a veterinarian much as prescription drugs for people are only available from physicians and from a pharmacist by prescription.
OMNIBIOTIC
(hydrocillin)

Directions for use: See package insert

Warning: Milk that has been taken from animals during treatment and for 48 hours after the last treatment must not be used for food. The use of this drug must be discontinued for 30 days before treated animals are slaughtered for food. Exceeding the highest recommended dosage level may result in antibiotic residues in meat or milk beyond the withdrawal time.

Store between 2° and 8° C (36° and 46° F)
Keep dry and away from light

Net Contents: 100 ml
Distributed by
USA Animal Health, Inc.

Lot # 0009900-Q123
Expiration Date 05/17/XX

Quality Assurance and Animal Care: Youth Education Program
This material is based upon work supported by Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, under special project number 93-EFSQ-4096
Product distribution through the Ohio Agricultural Curriculum Materials Service
OMNIBIOTIC
(hydrocillin in Aqueous Suspension)

For use in Beef Cattle, Lactating and Non-Lactating Dairy Cattle, Swine and Sheep

Read Entire Brochure Carefully Before Using This Product

Active Ingredient(s): Omnibiotic is an effective antimicrobial preparation containing hydrocillin hydrochloride. Each ml of this suspension contains 200,000 units of hydrocillin hydrochloride in an aqueous base.

Indications: Cattle - bronchitis, foot rot, leptospirosis, mastitis, metritis, pneumonia, wound infections. Swine - erysipelas, pneumonia. Sheep - foot rot, pneumonia, mastitis, and other infections in these species caused by or associated with hydrocillin-susceptible organisms.

Recommended Daily Dosage
The usual dose is 2 ml per 100 lb of body weight given once daily. Maximum dose is 15 ml/day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Body Weight</th>
<th>Dosage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 lb</td>
<td>2 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 lb</td>
<td>6 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 lb</td>
<td>10 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750 lb or more</td>
<td>15 ml</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continue treatment for 1 to 2 days after symptoms disappear.

Caution: 1) Omnibiotic should be injected deep within the fleshy muscle of the neck. Do not inject this material in the hip or rump, subcutaneously, into a blood vessel, or near a major nerve because it may cause tissue damage. 2) If improvement does not occur within 48 hours, the diagnosis should be reconsidered and appropriate treatment initiated. 3) Treated animals should be closely observed for at least 30 minutes. Should a reaction occur, discontinue treatment and immediately administer epinephrine and antihistamines. 4) Omnibiotic must be stored between 2° and 8° C (36° to 46° F). Warm to room temperature and shake well before using. Keep refrigerated when not in use.

Warning: Milk that has been taken from animals during treatment and for 48 hours (4 milkings) after the last treatment must not be used for food. The use of this drug must be discontinued for 30 days before treated animals are slaughtered for food.

How Supplied: Omnibiotic is available in vials of 100 ml.
Guide to Reading Drug Label on Outside of Container

- **Active Ingredients**: Chemical name(s) of what is in the drug.

- **Withholding/Withdrawal Times**: Withdrawal time is the period that must elapse after the last treatment and before processing (harvest/slaughter) of the animal for its meat or harvesting animal products (milk, eggs) for human consumption. It is the time it takes for the drug/chemical to be used up by the animal’s body after it has been administered (or the time it takes a drug/chemical to wear off). A residue is a substance that remains in an animal’s body tissues after the animal has been exposed to that substance. The substance can enter the animal’s body as a feed or water additive, as an injection or external treatment.*

- **Cautions and Warnings**: Tells things to be cautious about when using the product. Examples:
  
  a.) Do not give to certain kinds of animals.
  b.) Do not give too much.
  c.) Pay attention to withholding times (see above).

- **Storage**: Tells how the medication should be kept while not in actual use. Many medications may lose their potency when exposed to moisture, direct light, warm and/or freezing temperatures. Most also lose effectiveness with time. The label will indicate how the product should be stored to retain maximum strength.

- **Quantity of Contents**: Tells how much is in the container. Usually in metric units [liquid measure: 1 fluid ounce=29.6 milliliters (ml), 1 cubic centimeter (cc)=1 milliliter (ml); dry measure: 1 pint=551 milliliters (ml)].

- **Lot Number**: (may also be referred to as serial number) A manufacturer’s reference number indicating the day or batch in which this product was made. These numbers are needed if the product is recalled.

- **Date of Expiration**: Discard (do not use) drugs when this date is reached.

* Remember, you are responsible for everything your animal consumes even if it is an accident.
Guide to Reading Medication (package) Insert Label
(sometimes found on outer label)

- **Species and Animal Class**: The species and animal class in which the drug is to be used.
- **Approved Uses (Indications)**: The situation for which the drug is to be used. Indicates the particular type of animal, condition, illness, etc.
- **Dosage**: How much to give and how often/how many times given.
- **Route of Administration**: How is the product given to the animal? Basically, there are three routes of administering medications:

1. **Oral Route**. Administering drugs through the mouth. Tablets, pills, capsules, and liquid medications are easily administered orally. A drenching tube, balling gun, or oral dosage syringe is usually used to place the liquid or pill at the base of the tongue at the back of the mouth. Make sure the medication goes down the throat and the animal swallows it. Make sure the animal is not choked by the medication going down the trachea (windpipe). You can also administer medication in the animal's feed or water.

2. **Topical Route**. Applying the medication to the skin or to the mucous membranes of the eyes, ears, nasal passages. Such medications are available as ointments, aqueous solutions, powders, and aerosols. Do not allow these products to come in contact with the animal's eyes, nose, reproductive tract, or mouth unless it is specifically formulated for that use.

3. **Injectable Route**. Administering the drug directly into an animal's body with a syringe and needle. Injections are the most common method of administering medications to individual animals. The label will specify which of the following injection methods to use.

   - **Subcutaneous (SQ) injections** are accomplished by inserting the needle just under the skin and not into the muscle. This is important because SQ injectables are designed for a slower rate of absorption or are highly irritating to muscle tissue.
   
   - **Intramuscular (IM) injections** are the most commonly used. This is accomplished by inserting the needle straight into the skin and deep into the muscle.
   
   - **Intravenous (IV) injections** are sometimes used. Some medications are labeled for intravenous injection only, because they are strong irritants to muscle tissue and can cause damage. The IV route of administration provides a rapid means of getting the medication into the system of a sick animal as well as eliminating the chance of tissue damage. IV injections are given directly into the bloodstream.
Today is May 15, 2001. Your name is Lynn Monroe. Your Suffolk market lamb "Elmo" (ear tag #3159) that you are planning to take to the county fair July 2-7, 2001, is lame on the left front leg. When you examine it, you find the foot smells bad and the hoof wall is separating from the sole. These findings lead you to believe the lamb has foot rot. The veterinarian who regularly cares for your animals is Angela Adams, D.V.M. She examined the animal and gave you (prescribed) the bottle of medication listed below and instructed you to give the treatment today at 3:00 p.m. Your lamb weighs about 100 pounds.

Using the information on the label of the bottle, please fill in ALL of the information in the first row of the treatment chart below.

**BOTTLE LABEL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANGELA ADAMS, D.V.M.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 Quality Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hometown, OH 43200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>614-555-5050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OWNER: Lynn Monroe</th>
<th>DATE: May 15, 2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANIMAL ID: Lamb #3159</td>
<td>INDICATIONS: Foot rot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTIONS: Give 5 ml (cc) intramuscularly on May 15, 2001.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRECAUTION: Avoid the muscle tissues of high carcass value.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARNING: USE OF THIS DRUG MUST BE DISCONTINUED FOR 10 days BEFORE SLAUGHTER OR MARKET FOR FOOD.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRODUCT/ACTIVE INGREDIENT(S): Biomycin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPIRATION DATE: August 15, 2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY 2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TREATMENT RECORD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Animal ID</th>
<th>Condition Being Treated</th>
<th>Estimated Weight</th>
<th>Treatment Given (Medication Dispensed, Amount and Route of Administration) Also include product lot/serial # if available</th>
<th>Print Name of Person Who Gave Treatment</th>
<th>Instructed Milk/Meat Withdrawal</th>
<th>Results/Comments (recovered, sold, or died)</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time Withdrawal Complete</th>
<th>If this is an extra label or Rx drug, list the licensed veterinarian's name, address &amp; phone number who prescribed or directed the treatment.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

X

What is the date and time the withdrawal period is complete: ________________
# Youth Quality Assurance Medicine Label/Treatment Record Activity Sheet (Sheep)

## Answer Key

### TREATMENT RECORD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Animal ID • Name</th>
<th>Condition Being Treated</th>
<th>Estimated Weight</th>
<th>Treatment Given (Medication Dispensed, Amount and Route of Administration) Also include product lot/serial # if available</th>
<th>Print Name of Person Who Gave Treatment</th>
<th>Instructed Milk/Meat Withdrawal</th>
<th>Results/Comments (recovered, sold, or died)</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time Withdrawal Complete</th>
<th>If this is an extra label or Rx drug, list the licensed veterinarian's name, address &amp; phone number who prescribed or directed the treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 15, 2001 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Elmo Mkt lamb #3159 Suffolk</td>
<td>Foot rot</td>
<td>100 lbs.</td>
<td>Biomycin 5 ml IM</td>
<td>Lynn Monroe</td>
<td>10 days Meat</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>May 25, 2001 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Angela Adams, D.V.M. 100 Quality Avenue Hometown, Ohio 43200 (614) 555-5950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X = This information was not supplied in the situation, therefore you do not need to complete this box.

What is the date and time the withdrawal period is complete: **May 25, 2001 at 3:00 p.m.**

Prepared by Dr. William Shulaw, Ohio State University Extension Veterinarian
LAMB STARTER 
MEDICATED 
STARTER FOR GROWING LAMBS

FOR THE PREVENTION OF COCCIDIOSIS 
CAUSED BY Eimeria ovina, Eimeria crandallis, Eimeria ovinoidalis, Eimeria ninaehylakimovae, Eimeria parva 
AND Eimeria istratica IN SHEEP MAINTAINED IN CONFINEMENT.

ACTIVE DRUG INGREDIENT
LASALOCID (AS LASALOCID SODIUM)
90 G/TON

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS
CRUDE PROTEIN ............. MIN 20.00%
CRUDE FAT ................. MIN 2.50%
CRUDE FIBER .............. MAX 10.00%
CALCIUM .................... MIN 0.75%
CALCIUM .................... MAX 1.25%
PHOSPHORUS ............... MIN 0.55%
SALT ......................... MIN 0.40%
SALT ......................... MAX 0.90%
SELENIUM .................. MIN 0.30 PPM
VITAMIN A ................... MIN 2,000.00 IU/LB

INGREDIENT USAGE
Processed Grain By-Products, Grain Products, Plant 
Protein Products, Forage Products, Roughage Products, 
Molasses Products, Ground Limestone, Salt, Lignin 
Sulfonate, Potassium Sulfate, Magnesium Sulfate, 
Magnesium Oxide, Sodium Selenite, Calcium Propionate, 
Vitamin E Supplement, Vitamin A Acetate, Vitamin D3
Supplement, Zinc Sulfate, Zinc Oxide, Sodium Molybdate, 
Manganese Oxide, Calcium Iodate, Cobalt Carbonate, Ferrous Sulfate.

FEEDING DIRECTIONS
Lamb Starter contains 45 mgs. of lasalocid per pound. 
Feed continuously as the sole ration to growing lambs from 
1 to 6 weeks of age at the rate of 0.33-1.55 pounds per 
head per day to provide not less than 15 mgs. And not 
more than 70 mgs. Of lasalocid per head per day. Provide 
clean, fresh water at all times.

CAUTION
The safety of lasalocid in unapproved species has not been 
established; do not allow horses or other equines access to 
lasalocid as ingestion may be fatal; feeding undiluted or 
mixing errors resulting in excessive concentrations of 
lasalocid could be fatal to sheep.

MANUFACTURED BY:
SKILLATHON FEEDS

NET WEIGHT 50 POUNDS (22.7 KILOGRAMS) 
OR AS SHOWN ON SHIPPING DOCUMENT

This activity relates to GPP #3 and #9.

How to Read a Feed Tag

Questions

1. What is the main ingredient in this feed?
2. What is the active drug ingredient?
3. What is the minimum crude protein level?
4. What is the minimum crude fat level of this diet?
5. Is this a medicated feed?
6. At what growth stage of development should this ration be fed?
7. Is there a withdrawal time for this feed?

Ohio State University Extension 
Adapted from materials created by Dan Frobose, 

Lamb Starter Answers:

Chapter 13 • Caring for Animals 147
Suggestions for Proper Injection of Animal Drugs

- Properly restrain the animal before giving an injection.
- Give the injections according to label instructions. Subcutaneous (SQ) means under the skin; intramuscular (IM) means in the muscle; intravenous (IV) means into the blood; orally (PO and/or O) means in the mouth or in water; and (MF) indicates medicated feeds.

>>>SQ, IM, IV, O, PO & MF are examples of routes of administration <<<
- When the label directions permit, give injections under the skin so that the muscle tissue is not injured.
- Use sterilized needles and syringes. Keep the bottle cap clean.
- Give injections at clean, dry sites on the animal, avoiding the areas where the muscles (meat cuts) are of high value.
- Do not transfer needles back and forth from animal to bottle because you may carry bacteria from the animal’s skin back into the bottle.

Treatment Record for Vaccines, Medication, and Medicated Feed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Animal ID</th>
<th>Condition Being Treated</th>
<th>Estimated Weight</th>
<th>Treatment Given (Medication Dispensed, Amount and Route of Administration) Also include product lot/serial # if available</th>
<th>Print Name of Person Who Gave Treatment</th>
<th>Instructed Milk/Meat Withdrawal (days/hours)</th>
<th>Results/Comments (recovered, sold, or died)</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time Withdrawal Complete</th>
<th>If this is an extra label or Rx drug, list the licensed veterinarian's name, address &amp; phone number who prescribed or directed the treatment.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 3 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Kirby Lamb #67 Suffolk Ewe</td>
<td>White muscle</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Bo-Se, 1cc SQ</td>
<td>Holly Myers</td>
<td>14 days, meat</td>
<td>Walking better</td>
<td>March 17 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. S. Veterinarian 364 Smith Ave. Columbus, OH 43210 (614) 555-1234</td>
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Questions

1. What are special quality-assurance issues that relate to your project?

2. Why is it important that your animal be permanently identified?

3. What is the difference between a prescription and over-the-counter medication?

4. What is extra-label drug usage? When is it allowed?

5. What is a medication withdrawal time? Why is it important?

6. Explain what is meant by a Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR).

7. What information should be recorded when an animal is given medication?

8. How do you think the consumer would view the way your project is housed? Fed? Handled?
Show Ring Ethics

One of the most visible components of 4-H is livestock shows. Much of the public’s contact with 4-H is at the county fair where show ring events draw large crowds. What the audience sees reflects on the total 4-H program and the entire livestock industry. How are you contributing to that image?

The desire to win at any cost has tarnished the record of 4-H members personally and livestock shows in general. Why have YOU chosen to show an animal? What motivates some to act dishonestly in the show ring?

Competition, if you keep it in perspective, can be a positive tool to help develop important skills in your life. Many 4-H alumni who showed animals during their 4-H years attribute successes in their careers to the diverse skills gained as a 4-H member. You use decision-making skills and critical thinking techniques to select your animal and choose a feeding program. Answering the judges’ questions in a confident manner helps you gain poise, which is beneficial in many other situations. Good sportsmanship is a characteristic we all need. Certainly self-esteem is affected in the show ring when people watch and applaud your performance!

Is your only goal to win—or do you want to get more out of it than that? Your ability to think while paying attention to the judge, your animal, and other exhibitors is an important skill. Keeping a level head and staying composed will be good practice for other challenges in your life. Many long lasting friendships are developed from showing animals.

Proper training of your animal for the show ring should only include techniques that offer no risk of injury or pain to the animal. If a TV camera was present when you were working with your animal, would you do anything differently than you normally do? Putting in many long hours of practice with your animal is the only way to achieve that polished, confident look with the animal giving complete response to your commands.

The effects of unethical practices on animals can be harmful or even fatal. If your animal goes to slaughter and residues are found in the tissue, the animal will be rejected. How does this reflect on you and the animal industry?

Even if you do win, your moment in the spotlight with a champion is short-lived. Think about what will stay with you after the thrill of winning has worn off. What image of the meat industry did consumers perceive while watching you present your animal?

Using unethical techniques to train, feed, or show your animal is wrong. If you see it happening, don’t turn your back. Tell a committee member or show official.

Pillars of Character

- Trustworthiness—being honest, standing up for what is right.
- Respect—judge people on their merits or good things they do.
- Responsibility—do your best, be a good example.
- Fairness—use the same rules or standards for everyone.
- Caring—do unto others as you would have them do to you.
- Citizenship—being committed to the welfare of your community, state, or country.

Source: Josephson’s Institute of Ethics
Questions

1. List the six pillars of character. Choose one pillar and describe how you could practice that pillar.

2. List some proper techniques that you can use to prepare your animal for the show ring.

3. a. What have you seen or heard about that you think was an unethical practice in relationship to showing an animal?

b. Why do you feel that it might have been wrong?

4. List the benefits you have gained from your past show ring experiences.

5. Describe what you feel is appropriate behavior when you win. What behavior is appropriate when you don't place where you had hoped?

6. Can you be a “winner” showing an animal without getting a purple or blue ribbon? What are your reasons?

7. What are some ways to recognize exhibitors for skills gained other than winning in the show ring?
Policy Statement

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission (OFACC) was organized in 1990 to provide leadership on matters related to farm animal care. In 1997 the organization changed its name to the Ohio Livestock Coalition (OLC) to provide leadership and lend support to the recommendations made by the Ohio Livestock Industry Task Force which released its report in late 1996. The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission was then designated as a vital part of the Ohio Livestock Coalition.

The commission has dedicated itself to the promotion of sound animal husbandry practices in the care and efficient production of animals used for food and fiber. The use of proper animal husbandry practices minimizes stress, improves animal efficiency and profitability for the farmer and insures a safe, healthy and wholesome product to the consumer at a reasonable price.

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission believes animals are vital to human existence and therefore, deserve our protection and compassion. Humans have had an inseparable relationship with animals and nature, as man has served as their sole caretaker for centuries. Yet, humanity is answerable to another set of laws and concepts that is uniquely a product of human society. Animals cannot be made subject to the laws that we as human beings are governed by and therefore, do not have the rights of humans.

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission firmly believes that all animals use other animals for their existence. Thus, the responsible use of animals by humans is natural and appropriate.

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission believes that farmers take pride in their responsibility to provide proper care for their animals and endorse the following “Code of Practices”.

Code of Practices

The following describes general responsibilities of the farmer and all persons in his or her authority in the proper care and handling of animals raised for food and fiber.

- To provide food, water, and care necessary to protect the health and welfare of my animals.
- To provide a safe and healthy environment for my animals that is clean, well ventilated, and provides ample space.
- To provide a well-planned disease prevention program to protect the health of my herd or flock. This includes a strong veterinarian/client relationship.
- To use humane and sanitary methods when it becomes necessary to dispose of my animals.
- To make timely inspections of all animals to evaluate the health and insure that all basic requirements are being met.
- To insure proper handling techniques are used to eliminate any undue stress or injury when manual manipulation is necessary.
- To provide transportation for my animals that avoids undue stress or injury caused by overcrowding, excessive time in transit, or improper handling when loading or unloading.
- The willful mistreatment of my animals or the mistreatment of any animal will not be tolerated. In cases of mistreatment, I will notify the proper authorities.
- To make management decisions based on scientific fact and to consider the welfare of my animals.
- We encourage livestock producers to complete species-specific quality assurance programs.