





## SHEEP HEALTH AND MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

DATE	SUGGESTED HEALTH OR MANAGEMENT PRACTICE	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES
Pre-breeding — 45 Days	<p>Rams—Conduct a breeding soundness examination to include semen evaluation and soundness of teeth, eyes, feet, legs, sheath and testicles. Shear, deworm and start feeding rams.</p> <p>Start flushing ewes—feed 1/2-3/4 lb. grain or graze high quality pasture.</p> <p>Deworm.</p> <p>Vaccinate for abortion diseases (vibrio [campylobacter]/Enzootic abortion [chlamydia]).</p> <p>Identify all ewes with paint brands and/or ear tags.</p> <p>Determine ram to ewe ratio to be used. (see fact sheet #3860)</p> <p>Put out teaser rams—two weeks before breeding.</p>	<p>Ewes bred on Sept. 9 are due to lamb Feb. 1</p>
Breeding — 60 Days	<p>Turn in rams.</p> <p>Use marking harness.</p> <p>Record breeding dates.</p> <p>Observe matings.</p> <p>Rotate rams as needed.</p> <p>Feed rams (especially ram lambs).</p> <p>Check rams and ewes for internal parasites.</p> <p>Deworm if necessary.</p> <p>Breed ewe lambs after most of the older ewes are bred (minimum seven months of age).</p>	
Pre-Lambing — 90 Days	<p>Daily observation of flock.</p> <p>Build and repair lambing pens.</p> <p>Clean lambing area.</p> <p>Assemble supplies needed for lambing.</p> <p>Shear ewes or tag (shearing around dock, crotch and udder).</p> <p>Pregnancy test ewes.</p> <p>Start feeding ewes 1/2-1 lb. grain per 100 lb. body weight six weeks before lambing starts.</p> <p>Vaccinate ewes for enterotoxemia and tetanus two to four weeks before lambing starts.</p>	
Lambing — 60 Days	<p>Be familiar with sheep obstetrics.</p> <p>Be available to assist with lambing problems.</p> <p>Apply iodine to lambs' navels.</p> <p>Strip ewes' teats.</p> <p>Get lambs to nurse.</p> <p>Keep ewe and lambs in lambing pen 1-3 days.</p> <p>Identify lambs.</p> <p>Provide creep ration.</p> <p>Observe ewes and lambs daily.</p> <p>Deworm ewes, dock lambs, and castrate ram lambs.</p> <p>Separate ewes with singles from those with twins or triplets.</p> <p>Feed ewes 1-2 lb. grain/day plus high quality forage.</p>	
Pre-weaning/Lactation 60-80 Days	<p>Vaccinate lambs for enterotoxemia.</p> <p>Continue feeding ewes 1-2 lbs. grain/day plus high quality forage.</p> <p>Remove grain from ewes' ration.</p> <p>Wean lambs.</p>	
Post-weaning — 30-50 Days	<p>Sort and market cull ewes.</p> <p>Self feed lambs a complete growing and finishing ration.</p>	<p>Market lambs at an average of 100-110 lbs.</p>