

*Associated*  
FEED & SUPPLY CO.®

Lamb

L I V E S T O C K M A N A G E M E N T  
H A N D B O O K



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# Selection + Evaluation

*The road to winning is paved by  
making the earliest decisions  
in full sight of your  
final goal.*

## SIZING BY DATE

*You need to know the exact weigh in date for your fair.*

- + You need to match frame size and age of the lamb to the desired endpoint.
- + Smaller framed lambs will reach their terminal endpoint in fewer days than larger framed lambs.
- + Figure an average daily gain of 0.3 to 0.5 pounds and back figure what the correct weight should be at purchase time as shown below.

<i>Sale Date</i>	<i>Sale Weight</i>	<i>Show Date</i>	<i>Show Weight</i>	<i>Total Gain</i>	<i>Days to Show</i>	<i>Avg. Gain (Per Day)</i>
Mar. 1	75 lbs.	Jul. 15	140 lbs.	65 lbs.	137	0.47 lbs.

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

### MUSCLE

- + A lamb's ability to be muscular is determined by its skeletal foundation. Lambs should be wide chested, round bodied and wide pinned. This will give them the proper foundation to achieve the muscularity that we demand in the show ring.
- + Lambs should have a large, square rack and loin (highest priced cuts).
- + Lambs should have a big, muscular hip that extends into a full, thick leg.
- + The forearm can be an excellent indicator of muscle in lambs. A lamb with a large, expressive forearm will usually be muscular everywhere else.

### STRUCTURAL CORRECTNESS

- + Sound when on the move taking long, fluid and effortless strides off of all four legs.
- + Heavy boned and clean jointed.
- + As level as possible down their top and out their hip.
- + Strong and short on their pasterns.
- + Rule of thumb, bad structured animals never get better.

### BALANCE, DESIGN AND EYE APPEAL

- + Elevated, wide and shallow through their chest floor.
- + Smooth at the point of their shoulder.
- + Correct length of body—look proportional when viewed from the side.
- + Level designed from shoulder blade to hip.
- + Long and nearly level hip.
- + Rib cage needs to be round and flank-line needs to be more shallow in the fore-rib than the rear flank.
- + Wide based and tracking off both front and rear.

# Feeding + Nutrition

*Consult with your breeder about the genetic potential of your lamb.  
Understanding an ideal show weight & body condition  
will help you to make the proper feed  
changes & decisions.*

## FEEDING ROUTINE

*The single most important thing you can do to ensure success with your lamb*

- + Find a feed scoop or coffee can to use for the duration of your project and weigh the amount of feed it will hold.
- + Make adjustment to a lamb's diet slowly and watch for changes in appetite and general health.
- + Feed your lamb a minimum of two times per day with approximately 12 hours in between feedings.
- + Weigh lambs on a regular basis (weekly if possible). A lamb's average daily intake should be approximately 3% of its body weight.
- + Sheep are ruminant animals and require roughage for healthy body function.
- + Adjust hay/roughage accordingly based on your lamb's desired fill starting approximately two weeks before show.
- + Water is the most important nutrient in an animal's diet. Provide cool, clean, fresh water at all times

## FEED ADJUSTMENTS

*Evaluate your lamb on a regular basis to determine fat and muscle composition and make feeding adjustments accordingly.*

- + If a lamb is too lean consider using a fat supplement (Fat and Fluffy or THICC) to increase the lamb's energy intake.
- + If a lamb is too fat consider using a protein supplement (Muscle-N-Motion, Star Shine, or Shredded R, depending on fat cover).
- + Remember the best way to gauge where your sheep is in terms of fat cover is by handling them over their rack and forerib.
- + Evaluate your lambs feet and leg structure to determine if corrective hoof trimming is necessary.

# Management Tips

*Common Sense & good management are  
keys to getting your lamb project  
off to a successful  
start.*

## DAILY EXERCISE

- + Based on the needs of the individual lamb plan an exercise program.
- + Other than walking for training purposes, do not start exercising your lamb until they are fat enough.
- + Treadmills, lamb walkers, tracking are all popular exercise options.
- + Give a lamb a day in between exercise days to recover muscle strength
- + On the days off of exercise practice showmanship and breaking the lamb for show.
- + Short, fast bursts of exercise will build more muscle than long distance routines.

## HEALTH

- + Early diagnosis and prevention is extremely important. Keeping an eye on your lambs eating habits and normal demeanor when it's healthy allows for early diagnosis when a lamb is sick.
- + Talk to your breeder/Veterinarian about a vaccination and de-worming schedule.
- + De-worm your lamb approximately every 30 days.
- + A sheep's normal body temperature ranges from 102–103 degrees.

## DAILY SHOWMANSHIP

- + Bracing (or Driving) is not natural for a sheep. While some lambs are genetically more inclined to brace, all lambs have to be taught to brace properly.
- + A brace box or show platform can be used to encourage a lamb to brace.
- + Teaching a lamb to walk properly with its head up will give you an advantage on show day.
- + Halter breaking and tying a lamb up on a regular basis will help your lamb learn to walk properly in the show ring.

# Fitting + Showing

*The more hours and hard work  
you put into your project,  
the more successful  
you will be.*

## FITTING

- + Rough shearing your lamb allows for easier daily evaluations of body composition.
- + Keep a blanket on your lamb at all times to help prevent fungus and keep your lambs hide clean and conditioned.
- + Begin to rinse and condition leg wool to help with new growth and training of leg hair/wool.
- + Check your lamb often for club lamb fungus. Early detection is key, treat with an anti-fungal product.
- + Gather show day brushes, sprays and equipment and familiarize yourself with the products intended uses.
- + Shear your lamb for show using a surgical or fine blade depending on the breed of lamb. Blackface breeds use surgical blades. White Face breeds use Fine Blades.
- + Shear lambs ideally no more than 24 hrs before the show.
- + Do not slick shear below the front knee or hock. Blend knees and hocks to achieve a smooth transition.

## PACKING THE TACK BOX & TRAILER

### LAMB SHOW DAY SUPPLY LIST

- + Water bucket
- + Feeder/Feed pan
- + Measuring Scoop
- + Grain
- + Hay
- + Feed Supplements
- + Electrolytes

### WASHING

- + Hose
- + Soap
- + Bucket
- + Towels

## FITTING SUPPLIES

- + Fitting Stand/Rack
- + Blow Dryer
- + Clippers (surgical or fine blades)
- + Small leg Card
- + Small soft brush
- + Hide Conditioning spray
- + Sheen
- + Leg fitting spray

## PAPERWORK

- + Entry verification from Ag Teacher
- + Copy of completed entry form
- + Health papers (if required)
- + Copy of premium book
- + Project record book (if required)

## MISCELLANEOUS

- + Wire
- + Pliers
- + Pro-biotic paste
- + Electrolytes
- + Extension cords
- + Plenty of shavings
- + Scissors
- + Halter
- + Tools to clean pens



**NEED  
HELP?  
GET IN  
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WITH US!**

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# Weight Management

*Weight management should start  
at least two months  
before your  
show.*

## WEIGHT & GROWTH

<i>Days to Fair</i>	<i>Weight (Lbs.)</i>	<i>Avg. Daily Gain</i>	<i>Feed/ Gain</i>	<i>Feed/ Day</i>	<i>Total Feed</i>
120	55.5-70.55	0.50	5.0	2.5	17.5
113	59.05-74.05	0.55	5.1	2.8	37.1
106	62.9-77.9	0.55	5.1	2.8	56.7
99	66.75-81.75	0.60	5.2	3.12	78.54
92	70.95-85.95	0.60	5.2	3.12	100.38
85	75.15-90.15	0.65	5.3	3.44	124.46
78	79.7-94.7	0.65	5.4	3.51	149.03
71	84.25-99.25	0.70	5.4	3.78	175.49
64	89.25-104.25	0.70	5.5	3.85	202.44
57	93.25-109.25	0.70	5.6	3.92	229.88
50	98.25-114.25	0.75	5.75	4.31	260.05
43	103.5-119.5	0.75	5.75	4.31	290.22
36	108.75-124.75	0.75	5.75	4.31	320.39
29	114-130	0.75	6	4.5	351.89
22	119.25-135.25	0.75	6	4.5	383.39
15	124.5-140.5	0.75	6	4.5	414.89
8	129.75-145.75	0.75	6	4.5	446.39
1	135-150	0.75	6	4.5	477.89

## YOUR GOALS

Beginning Weight	Lbs.
Optimal Weight at Fair	Lbs.
Gain Needed (Fair Wt.-Beginning Weight)	Lbs.
Number of Days to Fair	Days
Average Daily Gain Needed (Gain Needed / Days to Fair)	Lbs./Day

## SHOW LAMB FEED

ShowMaker High Performance Lamb Slam	High energy feed that can go from start to finish. Added fat for extra bloom and performance.
ShowMaker Lamb Slam	Complete feed that can go from the creep to the show ring, balanced fiber and fat.
ShowMaker Supreme Ewe 14%	High energy diet for pre-breeding flushing, gestating and lactating ewes.
Rival Elite Show Lamb	Formulated to meet the needs of all growth stages. Enhanced with Rule Supplements for cutting edge nutrition, it will meet your demands to compete at the highest level.
Show-Rite Newco Lamb Feed	Complete feed designed to maximize muscle development and provide an ideal handle. Formulated with Alltech technology for a healthy gut and immune system.

## SHOW SUPPLEMENTS

3 Hrs Out	Makes sugar cells explode within the muscle fibers, giving muscle extra "pop" for the show ring.
Attitude Adjustment	Relieve stress & make livestock more manageable in the show ring.
DuraFerm Concept Aid Sheep Mineral	Complete vitamin/mineral supplement for sheep & lambs. Highly beneficial for breeding season.
DuraFerm Sheep Concept Aid Protein Tub	Contains organic zinc, manganese, selenium yeast & Vitamin E for max reproduction & health.
Gold Dust	Adds muscle "pop," show day freshness, helps sheep, goats, swine & cattle reach their potential.
Rule-The Formula	Maximize feed intake & digestive health. Also contains Zinpro zinc & manganese to improve skin, hair & hoof quality.
Rule-Shredded R	Designed for ruminants to add more natural shape, & muscle. Contains bypass protein and amino acids to keep rumen thriving.
Rule-THICC	High energy multi specie top dress designed to add cover, and give more bloom. Very palatable fat source!
Rule-Race Day	Extra energy, longer term. Helps manage fill, keeping them fresh while maintaining cover and handle. Ideal for the last 14 days
Show-Rite Muscle-In-Motion (M-N-M) Top Dress	High in omega-3s, builds optimal muscle and fleshiness while maintaining soundness.
Show-Rite Fat-N-Fluffy	Blend of fat sources in dairy proteins increases palatability for optimal intake, bloom & sheen.
Show-Rite Rite Factor Multi-Species	All natural, alfalfa based, drug free supplement helps highlight traits important in the show ring.
Show-Rite Rite Flex	Promotes healthy mobility, supports motion, flexibility, healthy bones, joints, cartilage, synovial fluid, skin, and immune system.
Show-Rite Rite Tyme	High protein top-dress for sheep & goats designed to add lean muscle shape and intensify definition.
Show-Rite Sculpt	Formulated for all species, designed to trim off unwanted fat while toning and firming muscle shape. Keeps them fresh!
Show-Rite Stamina	Wheat germ oil supplement with Vitamins A&D and linoleic acid for healthy skin & coat.
Show-Rite Star Shine	Highly palatable pellet improves performance and body condition in animals of all life stages.
Show-Rite Stretch	Increases expansion of body. Can be used to add fill day of show or use as a holding ration.
Show-Rite Swell	Gives show day fill, bulk, & expansion to set animals apart.
Sure Champ Extreme with Climate Control	Amaferm for appetite & gut health, Climate Control for extreme temps, and insect repelling garlic
Vita Charge Liquid Boost	Amaferm, Mos, & Niacin increase gut health & help fight off stress.