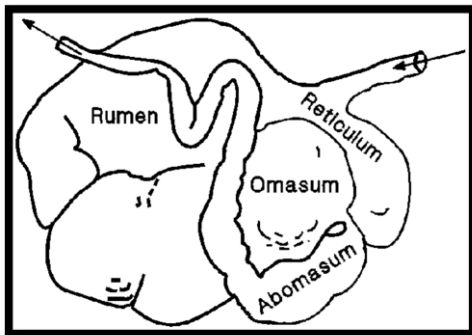


Northwest Livestock Expo

2017 SHEEP STUDY GUIDE

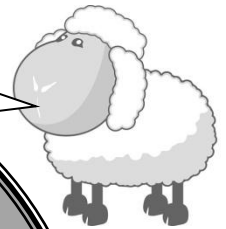
RUMINANT ANIMALS:

- A sheep is a ruminant animal. They have four compartments to their stomach (rumen, reticulum, omasum, abomasum).
- Ruminant animals ruminate. Ruminating is when the animal regurgitates their feed into what is called a “cud” to further breakdown their feed with their teeth.
- Sheep can eat roughages (hays) and concentrate (grains).



Name the four different compartments of the stomach of sheep.

DID YOU KNOW: The rumen in a mature sheep can hold 10 gallons?



6 essential nutrients for sheep
 Protein
 Fat
 Carbohydrates
 Vitamins
 Minerals
 WATER
“What one do you think is the most important?”

Lamb and Mutton Grading Systems

(Lamb is meat from sheep less than a year old and Mutton is meat from older sheep.)

Yield Grade: Yield grade describes the amount of fat within a cut of meat.

Grades: (least to most external fat) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

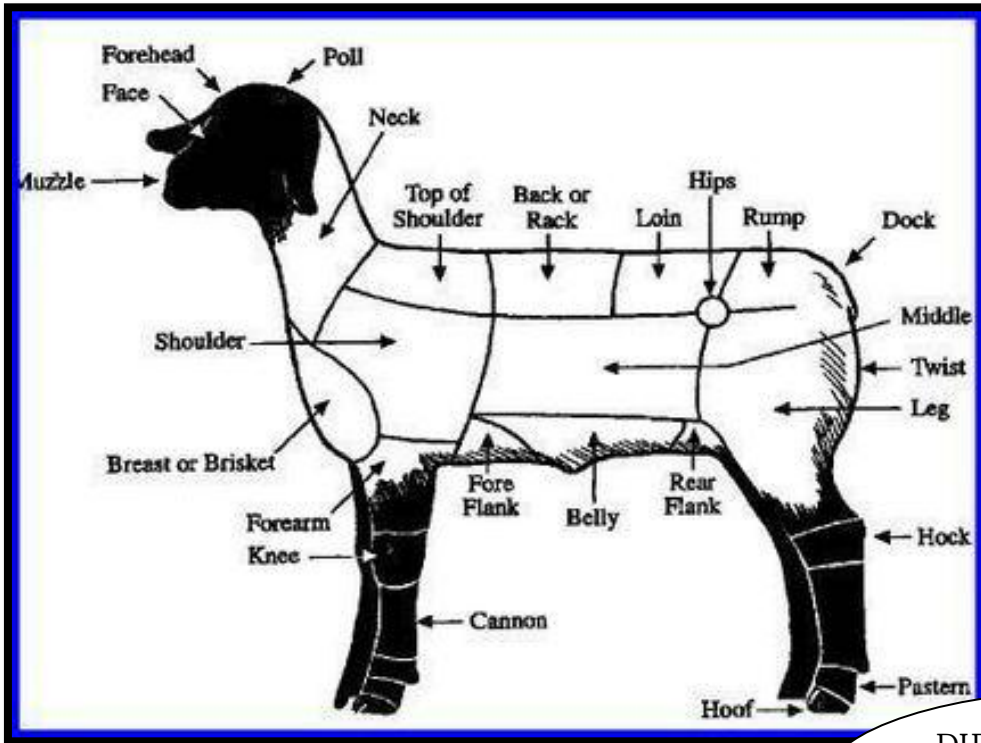
Quality Grade: Quality grades are a guide for describing the tenderness quality of meat.

Grades: (highest to lowest quality) Prime, Choice, Select, Standard, Commercial, Utility, and Cull.

Quality grades are based on Marbling and Maturity

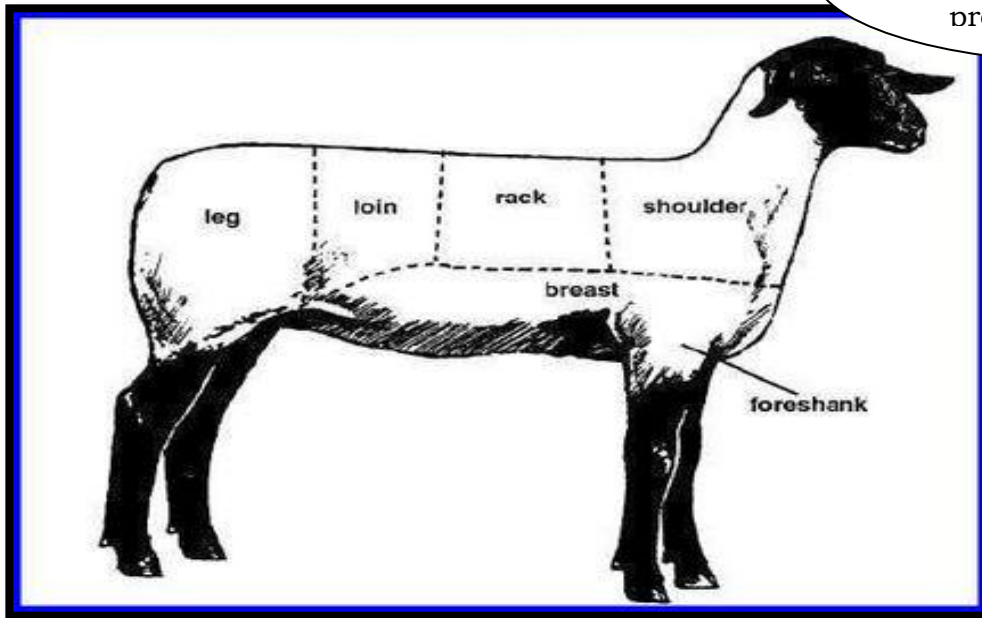
- Marbling: the amount of fat within a cut of meat
- Maturity: The estimated age of the carcass

Back fat on market lambs should measure 0.15 to 0.20 inches at the 12th rib to protect the carcass during storing.



Parts of a Sheep

It is important to be able to identify the parts of your 4-H animals to help you describe it. Study this picture and practice identifying the parts.



DID YOU KNOW: LAMB is a great source of protein for humans?



Wholesale Cuts of Lamb:

Name wholesale cuts pictured above.

Breeds of Sheep

Knowing the names and a few characteristics of different breeds of sheep is important.

Match the breeds of sheep with the pictures



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



- Cheviot: These animals are small sized, white-faced sheep with clean heads and legs. They are easy lambers, good milkers and possess excellent lamb vigor.
- Columbia: These sheep were developed from a Lincoln ram and a Rambouillet ewe cross. They are known for their size, wool-producing ability, and productivity under range conditions. This breed is large, white-faced, polled and has wool on the legs.
- Hampshire: These sheep are large, moderately prolific breed with wool caps, black faces, medium-wool fleeces. They also have very good milking ability, growth, and carcass cutability.
- Rambouillet: This is a long-lived, rugged breed that will breed out of season and have 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.
- Shropshire: Shropshire is a medium-sized, dark-faced, polled breed and grows 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.
- Suffolk: 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 quality carcass. Lambs grow rapidly and produce high cutability carcasses

What is the difference between a “ewe breed” and a “ram breed”? Can you give an example of each?

THINGS TO KNOW!

Temperature: 102.5 F

Gestation Length: 142-152 days

You can tell the age of a sheep by looking at its teeth.

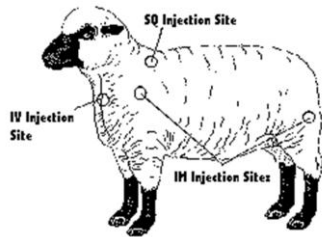


Animal Health

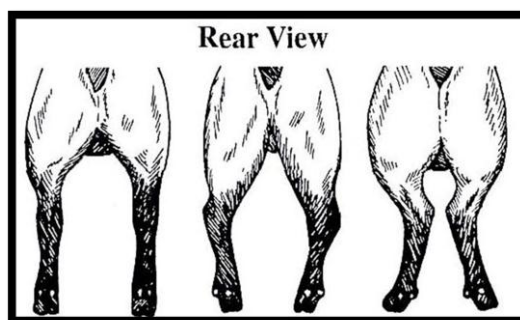
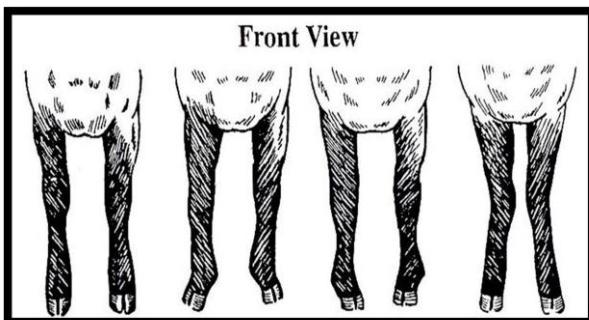
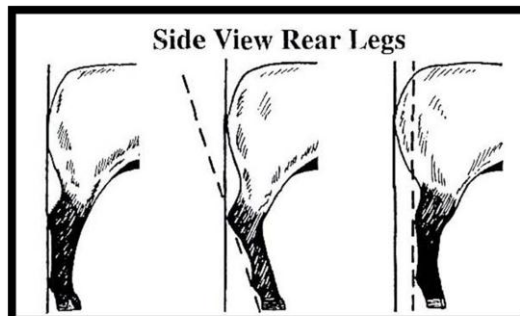
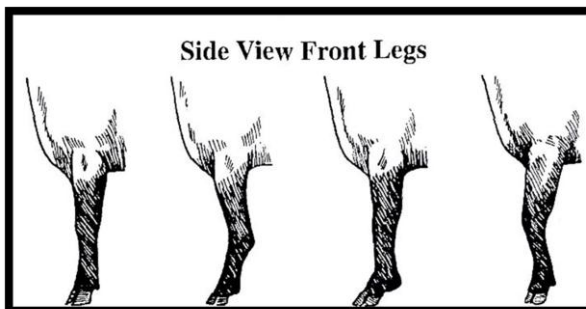
It is very important to be able to monitor the health of your animal, know your vet and be able to properly treat the animal as need.

- Never give medication to your animal without your vet, a parent, or your 4-H leader.
- To properly give medication to animals you must be able to understand the medication label. *Be able to identify:*
 - Name of the drug
 - Name of the distributor
 - Storage instructions
 - Withdrawal time
 - Quantity of contents
 - Active ingredients
 - Cautions and warnings

Preferred site for intramuscular (IM) injections



Sheep Feet and Leg Structure



Side View Front Legs: Correct, Calf-Kneed, Weak Pasterns, Buck-Kneed.

Side View Rear Legs: Correct, Sickle-Hock, Post-legged

Front View: Correct, Splay-Footed, Pigeon-Toed, knock-Kneed

Rear- View: Correct, Bowlegged, Cow-Hocked

Definitions:

- Breakeven price: The price per pound you need to cover your total expenses.
- Colostrum: the first milk that a lamb gets from its mother. It is rich in nutrients and antibodies.
- Concentrate: High energy low fiber feeds (example: corn)
- Conformation: The shape and design of an animal
- Cud: The bolus of eaten feed which is regurgitated
- Dressing Percentage: The amount of meat on a carcass. The more meat, the higher the cutability
- Ewe: Female sheep
- Fattening: The process of depositing energy in the form of fat within the body tissue.
- Gestation: The length of time a mother carries her lamb.
- Ram: Male sheep
- Regurgitate: The process of bring feedstuff from the stomach back up to the mouth to be re-chewed
- Roughage: High fiber low energy feeds (example: hay)
- Ruminating: When the animal regurgitates their feed, into what is called a “cud,” to further breakdown their feed with their teeth.
- Wether: Castrated male sheep

- ✓ Page 1: Four compartments: Rumen, reticulum, omasum, abomasum ; The most important Nutrient: Water;
 - ✓ Page 2: Leg, loin, shoulder, rib, foreshank and breast.
 - ✓ Page 3: Breeds of Sheep A. Cheviot; B.Shropshire; C.Suffolk; D. Columbia; E. Hampshire; F.Rambouillet. .
Ewe Breeds: Cheviot, Columbia; (produce more wool and milk)
-
- 5 | Page** Breeds: Hampshire, Suffolk, Shropshire (bred in flocks to produce market-meat lambs)