



Sheep

PROJECT PLANNING GUIDE

OBJECTIVES OF THE 4-H SHEEP PROJECT

1. To use Sheep Project activities as a tool in the total development of youth in 4-H. This is especially adapted to rural non-farm and certain urban situations.
2. To provide a learning experience in livestock production.
3. To develop an appreciation of livestock among youth who may not be able to handle other types of large animal projects.
4. To provide opportunities for demonstrating skills learned in selecting, producing, fitting and showing sheep.

EXTENSION RESOURCE MATERIALS

Extension materials available through the County Agricultural Extension Agents' Office:

- Sheep Management Schedule (Animal Husbandry Extension)
- 4-H Market Lamb Guide and Record (Animal Husbandry Extension)
- Raising a Small Flock of Sheep (USDA Animal Husbandry Extension)
- Foot Rot in Sheep (USDA Animal Husbandry Extension)
- Housing and Equipment for Sheep (USDA Animal Husbandry Extension)
- N. C. 4-H Livestock Judging Handbook, 4H M-5-17

LEVEL 1
(9- to 11-year-olds)

Level 1 is for 4-H members 9- to 11-years-old or for beginners of any age. Age levels are relative since all youngsters will not progress at the same rate. These are some things that 4-H Sheep Projects should teach and that participants should do. Other related activities will likely be suggested and are encouraged.

Things to Learn	Things to Do
1. The most important breeds of sheep in your area.	Visit a sheep producer and talk sheep with him if you do not have sheep on your farm.
2. The space, equipment and shelter needed for your project.	Select lambs the right age and weight for your show.
3. The kind and amount of feed you will need for your project.	Weigh your lamb and begin your project record.
4. How to handle and hold a lamb to have good control of him without injury to the lamb.	Give your lamb a name that seems to fit him.
5. How much you should feed your lamb each day.	Be sure to vaccinate your lamb for overeating disease (enterotoxemia). This is especially important for market lambs being placed on feed.
6. The most important parasite and disease problems of sheep and how to prevent or control them.	Weigh a bucket of feed and a half bucket of feed to help you keep up with how much your lambs are eating each day. Be sure to subtract the weight of the bucket from the total weight.
7. How to show a lamb.	Check feed trough and water bucket daily. Remove any moldy or lumpy feed. Keep water clean and fresh.
8. How to make a halter for sheep.	Make a rope halter for your lamb.
9. The names of different sexes of sheep and their major function (Production - Reproduction).	
10. The market classes and grades of sheep.	

LEVEL 2
(12- to 14-year-olds)

Things to Learn	Things to Do
1. The color markings and characteristics of the most important sheep breeds in N.C.	Worm your sheep. Give your lamb any necessary injections.
2. To worm sheep and vaccinate sheep. Learn how to give intramuscular and subcutaneous injections.	Clip and block your lamb for show. Attend a Sheep Shearing School or have someone teach you to shear sheep.
3. To block and clip for show, using electric clippers, hand shears and wool cards.	Inspect the feet on your sheep and trim if necessary. Treat for external parasites, if needed.
4. To shear sheep and tie and store wool.	Join a County Livestock Judging Team.
5. How to trim feet and treat for foot rot.	Attend and help with a lamb pool, if one is available to you, and observe lamb marketing.
6. To recognize and treat for external parasites.	Attend and help with a wool pool to observe wool marketing.
7. Learn the names of the body parts of sheep and where they are located.	Establish a breeding flock of sheep if you have the necessary resources.
8. The retail cuts of a lamb carcass.	
9. The advantages of wool in clothing.	

1. The name of the animal is _____	2. The sex of the animal is _____
3. The age of the animal is _____	4. The color of the animal is _____
5. The breed of the animal is _____	6. The purpose of the animal is _____
7. The date of birth is _____	8. The date of death is _____
9. The name of the owner is _____	10. The name of the breeder is _____
11. The name of the veterinarian is _____	12. The name of the hospital is _____
13. The name of the laboratory is _____	14. The name of the investigator is _____
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