

LAMB & WOOL

A Newsletter For The Iowa Sheep Industry / October - 2008



Summer Photo Contest

Congratulations to Dee Heinrich, Marion, Iowa for winning the 2008 Summer Photo contest with her photo entry, "Grazing the Clover" which will be the subject of the original artwork drawing for the 2009 Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival.

The ISIA photo contest is normally judged during the Sheep & Wool Festival but due to the flooding and cancellation of the festival this year, judging took place in September. Entries were limited but judging was still tough

with great pictures submitted. Thank you to all who took time to send in entries.

The 2009 Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival will include a new photo contest. Get your cameras out so you can get those great sheep shots now. Details for submitting photos will be on the webpage at www.iowasheep.com/PhotoGallery.com. You don't need a fancy camera because this is not a photography contest! All you need is a great sheep and/or wool photograph that will make a great original drawing.

Breeding Season Ram Management

J.L. GOELZ
D.V.M

Once you turn the rams out into the ewe flock ram management is not done. If possible rams should be observed daily. I prefer observing rams in the evening as you are more likely to see them chasing ewes than during the heat of the day. Rams should be actively chasing ewes during the evening and sometimes you may even observe mounting. This confirms that the libido (desire to breed) is good in the ram.

If the ram has a breeding harness new marks can be recorded and a reasonably accurate due date can be calcu-

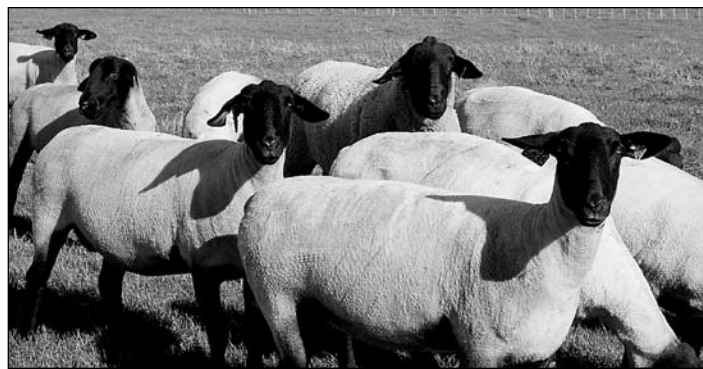


Photo submitted by Bob Kimm

lated. Marking crayons can be switched every two to three weeks (moving from light colors to darker) to help keep track of ewes that remark.

BREEDING Continued on page 6

ShortCLIPS by Dan Morrical

Cutting the fat from your sheep enterprise



Harvest season is in full swing with lots of soybeans already harvested in northwest Iowa. Producers may need to consider rolling up some soybean stubble for winter feed or bedding. Although the nutrient content of soybean stubble is not very good it beats snow balls. The other aspect of putting up some soybean stubble is that with the late harvest in 2008 it may be difficult to get corn stalks baled.

I recently ran a year-round feed budget for a set of ewes run in confinement year-round. With corn stalks and condensed distillers solubles fed for 250 days and ad libitum soybean hulls and dry distillers grains with solubles fed for 115 days, the total feed cost was \$48.00 per ewe per year. This cost however did not account for the labor and the fuel to mix and deliver the rations daily. It was surprising the feed costs could be that low. Costs were set at \$30 per ton for corn stalks and CDS and \$180 per ton for soybean hulls and dry distillers grains. Use of the two low cost feeds might be cheaper than grazing on a per ewe per day basis.

Cutting items that are critical to the health and production capacity of the ewe flock is not the way to trim fat from the enterprise. One example that I think many operations are making is to not offer salt or mineral to the ewes. This choice last winter resulted in ewes that were excessively licking newborn lambs resulting in severe injuries to the newborns' ears, tails and even feet. It required over three days of high salt intake to satisfy the ewes craving for salt and stop the excess licking. Ewes which were not the dam of the lambs were involved with five to six ewes licking newborn lambs. The other extreme of not feeding salt and mineral is to way over feed salt and mineral. Trace mineral salt should cost around \$20 to \$25 per hundredweight. Following label directions, ewes should only consume one quarter to half ounce per head per day. Annually that equates to 6 pounds per year which would only cost \$1.50 per head. Trace mineral salt feeding is not the place to save on the feed bill. However if one is feeding more expensive sheep mineral which contains high levels of calcium and phosphorus then mineral supplementation becomes expensive. If one assumes one ounce intake per day then the ewes consume 22 pounds per year. Cost of mineral runs roughly double the cost of TM salt so feeding expensive mineral is four times as costly. In many situations mineral costs per ewe are exceeding \$10 per ewe per year. Reading and following label directions is critical to controlling mineral supplementation costs.

Choosing not to ultrasound for fetal counts or lambing date because three dollars per head is too expensive is another poor choice in terms of trimming the fat. Culling open ewe lambs alone can cover the cost of scanning. If one assumes the winter feed bill for an open ewe is \$30 to \$50 then 10% open ewes more than pays for the scanning. Saving on feed by putting late lambing ewes on the supped up late gestation ration at

the appropriate time is another place to save a \$1 or \$2.

With the higher feed costs, many calls are continuously coming in to my office requesting help with ewe rations. Last week a producer who had been feeding two pounds of hay and two pounds of corn to his ewes wanted to switch to cornstalks and dry distillers grains. The only reason not to switch is if one can not control amount of cornstalks offered per day. Back in the day when cornstalks cost \$10.00 per ton and no one worried about the nutrients being removed from the field, we could waste corn stalks. The first step in controlling corn stalk feeding waste is to use a good large bale feeder. If equipment exists to feed tub ground corn stalks that is a much better approach. One can allow the ewe flock access to the corn stalk bales every other day in early-mid gestation. Ewes, because they are real hungry, tend to consume the bales more uniformly with less waste. However for budgeting purposes I would assume a minimum cornstalk feeding waste at 25% and may be close to 50%. Cheap stalks may become expensive feed on a pound consumed basis. However the alternative to cornstalks is hay which currently is \$100 for low, low quality big round bales up to \$250 per ton for large squares of 3rd cutting alfalfa. So stalks are not cheap like the old days but still much cheaper than high quality hay.

Another bad choice that can result in costing more than it saves is the failure to correctly supplement protein to the ewes. Many producers use energy tubs or protein tubs to supplement their ewes. It is easy and it is convenient, however most ewes have not take a nutrition course or read a fact sheet on feeding ewes so they frequently over consume the expensive nutrient source. The other mistake is that we do not provide protein supplement at all when feeding crappy roughage sources like CRP hay, corn stalks or soybean stubble. Dry distillers grains are currently competitively priced and is an excellent source of both energy and protein for the ewes. Ewes may only need one half pound per day of DDGS to meet the ewe's protein needs. The cost of DDGS is \$180 to \$200 per ton or \$.09 to \$.10 per pound. Protein tubs probably cost double or triple that price per pound. Using tubs is a case of fat that needs to be trimmed from the enterprise.

There are not any single magic cuts that will by themselves move the flock into positive income. However there may be two, three or six items that combined might be enough to move your ewe flock to a positive income basis. The bioeconomy is exciting but it does make feed costs much higher and profitable sheep production much tougher. Doing things the way we always have is no longer acceptable if one wants to stay in the sheep business with black ink instead of red ink.

A Producer's Guide to Scrapie

The American Sheep Industry Association has a web based course titled, "A Producer's Guide to Scrapie". The online course, which is found at http://sheepindustrynews.com/scrapie_guide/, takes about an hour to complete. The course describes scrapie, prevention methods, National Eradication Program, producer obligations, and assistance. This is a great reference tool for experienced and new producers as well as an excellent resource for youth programs. All U.S. sheep and goat producers are encouraged to access this user friendly learning tool.



COMMERCIAL BREEDING STOCK FOR SALE

Lincolns – PB Lincoln Ram, born April 2008. Sire and Dam from James & Donna Lein. Will do well in your flock, whether or not you have Lincolns. \$250 with registration. Inquire also about other Lincoln ewes and ram. Contact Randall Parkin, 1477 Juniper Trail, Earlham, IA 50072, 515-991-7584, RanDesigns@aol.com. (10/08)

Suffolk Sheep – Ten purebred Suffolk ewe lambs ready for fall breeding, all have at least one R gene, nice size from easy lambing and good mothering ewes. Two RR Suffolk ram lambs, fast growing, good muscling, ready for breeding. Stewart Suffolk, Newton IA (641) 792-2323, rstewart@pcpartner.net. (10/08)

Suffolk Ram lambs– Nice set of Midsized, well muscled commercial ram lambs. Born late January through February. Email to see pictures. tldeemer@wildblue.net or call Tracy 641-203-2490, Laura 641-203-2493. Tracy Deemer, Lacona, Iowa. (9/08)

Rams & Ewe Lambs - 3yr old Ile de France x Dorset Ram, Coopworth ewe lambs and ram lambs (not registered). Pat Meehan (563)926-2573. (9/08)

Polypay ram lambs - with EPDs will help to select for your flock's needs. West Cyclone Farm, Jerry Sorensen, 712-755-7259, wclones@fmctc.com. (9/08)

Five Purebred Suffolk Yearling Rams – Nielsen Family Suffolks, Rock Valley, IA. Call (712)476-5238 or (712)470-2841. Email dencd@hickorytech.net. (9/08)

Polypay Ram – Two year old, RR, Twin, Grandview Farms Genetics. Mark Proehl 712-723-5281. (9/08)

Registered Cotswold Breeding Stock – Three ram lambs, one ewe lamb, also two yearling ewes. Rock'n G Acres, Horace Gunter, 816-930-3535, ynnigg@netzero.net. (7/08)

Ile de France – Rams and ewe lambs. Born and raised on pasture with easy care and low input management. Rams \$400 - \$500. Ewe lambs \$150. Gordon Shelangoski, 319-694-4403. (7/08)

Ram Lambs - 1/2 Romanov, 1/2 Polypay ram lambs. Large-framed, RR. Dave and Julie Hofland, Hartley. 712-728-3103. (7/08)

Rams and ram lambs - Two 2007 fall born 50% Ile de France X 50% Romanov ram lambs \$500 each or \$450 each for the pair. Breeding age White Dorper and Dorper rams starting at \$375. S.A. Mitcham/Crane Creek, 3061 160th St, Sumner, IA 50674, 563-578-5665, sam@netins.net, www.netins.net/showcase/sam/ccidf.htm. (7/08)

Composite rams and ewe lambs: ¼ Romanov X ¼ East Friesian, ¼ Romanov X ¼ Ile De France, and ¼ Romanov X ¼ Rambouillet, out of mainly Polypay ewes. wesmoser@juno.com or call 712-478-4622 (6/08)

Free listing for ISIA members. Ads must be limited to 50 words and will run in four issues (date in parenthesis indicates first issue). Ads may be re-submitted for an additional four months at a time. Send ad information along with name, address, phone and email to the ISIA office at 5771 230th St., Sibley, IA 51249, or info@iowasheep.com by the 25th of the month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Newsletter is published 11 times/year with a July/August issue.

Needle vs. Needle-free Vaccinations of Sheep

Repeatedly using one needle to vaccinate sheep can laterally transmit diseases. On the other hand, a pneumatic, needle-free injector eliminates needles and the concern for lateral transmission. But will a pneumatic, needle-free injector stimulate the same antibody response as needle injections? This was the subject of a research study undertaken by USDA/Agricultural Research Service, with information shared at the July, 2008 American Dairy Science Association/American Society of Animal Science Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

“Needle-free technology to vaccinate sheep without damaging the carcass, causing lesions and/or leaving needle fragments – and eliciting a similar antibody response to traditional needle vaccination – has been hampered due to variable wool length,” researchers said.

In the study, research evaluated the vaccine delivery, injection time and antibody response for a prototype pneumatically powered, needle-free injector and for traditional needle injections. To determine optimal pressure for vaccine delivery with the pneumatic, needle-free injector, researchers injected two

8-month old wethers. Serum samples were collected before and after inoculations on Days 0, 14, 28 and 42.

Study findings included:

- Inoculation of 100 wethers required 60 percent less time with the pneumatic, needle-free injector than the needle injections when a new needle was used on every animal.

- Antibody titers were the same (P, 0, 12) for pneumatic, needle-free and needle injections on Days 14, 28 and 42.

- As expected, titers increased after primary and secondary inoculations.

“This study indicated that a pneumatic, needle-free injector can be used to elicit the same antibody response in sheep as a needle injection, and the pneumatic, needle-free injector was faster,” researchers report. “The pneumatic, needle-free injector will reduce lateral transmission of blood-borne diseases, save time and eliminate biohazard waste – such as needle sticks for livestock handlers when vaccinating sheep.”

Reprinted from Fall 2008 issue of Animal Agriculture, a publication of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture.



Sales at Clay Co. Fair

Julie Hofland (R) assists customers at the Northwest Iowa Sheep Producers Wool Booth during the 2008 Clay County Fair. The booth re-located to a different building this year and exposure and sales increased considerably. Consumers love the wool products and had a lot of questions about wool and sheep. Volunteers staffed the booth during the nine day fair but Julie Hofland, chair of the wool products, volunteered more than her share of time and energy toward this profitable venture. Proceeds from the NWISP wool products help to fund educational meetings, sheep and wool promotion, youth projects, the annual meeting and banquet and other projects.

Flock Talk

by Marsha

County of Origin Labeling (COOL) is now in effect. What does that mean for producers and feeders? We all need to become educated about what is expected for record keeping and need to be prepared to sign an affidavit declaring the country of origin of our lambs when we sell them. If you are purchasing lambs (feeder or otherwise) you will need to require an affidavit from the seller. The affidavit needs to be signed by someone having first-hand knowledge of the lambs. According to the ruling, records must be maintained that "establish and identify the immediate previous source and the immediate subsequent recipient of a covered commodity, in such a way that identifies the product unique to that transaction, for a period of 1 year from the date of the transaction". The Iowa Beef Center at www.iowabeefcenter.org has a very informative section dedicated to COOL.

This fall we lost four perfectly normal appearing lambs, near market weight, to enteroxemia. These lambs were vaccinated according to recommendations when they were younger. Our veterinarian office said that it is not uncommon to have an enteroxemia outbreak after a wet, rainy period and according to Dr. Goeltz, from the Pipestone Veterinarian clinic, late season enteroxemia can be a problem on some farms in lambs ranging from 80 - 120 pounds. Goeltz said that boosting the lambs with one dose of type D vaccine will stop mortality and if producers are raising ewe lambs, he recommends giving type D booster around five to six months of age.

Successfully treating lambs suffering from polioencephalomalacia happens first with recognizing the symptoms. We have, over the past few years, had success treating with these lambs but wonder how many producers know polioencephalomalacia if they see it. Last year Dr. Paul Plummer gave a presentation on this during the ISU Extension educational programming. His main focus was on how it can be associated with the sulfur content in feedstuffs but he also described the clinical symptoms and

different causes. The most common symptoms we find on our farm is that they are blind or appear to be "star-gazing", pushing their head up against a wall or "stuck" in a corner. Extreme cases we have experienced have been that they are unable to get up, eyes are rolled back in the sockets and their head is wrenched up and over their back. One such lamb was found this year and we figured he would be dead in a short time. Dr. Plummer's recommendation for treatment is 10-20 mg/kg of Thiamine Hydrochloride, under the skin or in the muscle, three times daily for up to three days if there is no response. He said that if treatment happens prior to development of brain damage they often respond. Also dexamethasone, an anti-inflammatory, can be given at a dose of 1-2 mg/kg to decrease brain swelling. We treated the lamb with Thiamine Hydrochloride at a rate of 1cc/20 pounds and dexamethasone and basically left him for dead. About an hour later I returned to the barn and the lamb was standing against a wall, not normal, but improving. We continued treatment for several days and that lamb is alive today and should make it to market. Lambs with less severe symptoms have responded after only one shot, often times within literally minutes. In the past we used Fortified Vitamin B but the Thiamine Hydrochloride is much less expensive. The cost from our veterinarian is less than \$7 for 100 cc. A link to Dr. Paul Plummer's paper, "Sulfur-associated Polioencephalomalacia in Feeder Lambs" may be found at www.ans.iastate.edu/faculty/morriscal.

One last note for this month. We have butchered two rectal prolapsed lambs this year that weighed about 110 pounds. We cut the legs into steaks and ran them through a tenderizer that we bought for deer processing. They are very similar to minute steaks and are really delicious. It might seem like a waste to some to do this with leg, which is already very tender, but it makes for a very easy, quick meal. They can be marinated and grilled or dredged in flour and fried just like minute steaks. We love to eat traditional leg of lamb but this offers a way to eat



Versatile feed bunk

The sheep feeder on the top was adapted for use as a self feeder for lambs as shown in the bottom picture on the left. Plywood was used to form a "holding tank" with a small opening to allow the feed to flow into the bottom of the bunk. After using as self feeders the plywood can be removed and the bunks returned to their original use as hay/grain feeder for ewes.

The sheep feeder is based on a design by Premier and the plans can be found at www.premier-1supplies.com. Click on Sheep - Equipment - Feeders - Walk-thru and Drive-by Feeders. The feeders provide minimal waste, less wool contamination, no risk of injury from animals, grain, silage and hay can be fed in the same feeder and it is easily converted to a self feeder with a few pieces of plywood.

An important component is use of the panels with 4" x 4" holes as opposed to using hog panels. Nothing is more sickening than finding two dead ewe lambs stuck in one hole of a hog panel, which was used rather than the panels with the 4" x 4" holes.

On-line Sheep Management Classes

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program is currently taking registrations for On-line Sheep Management Classes which are designed for sheep producers.

Continuing with providing various delivery methods of educational information, the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program launched four online courses so sheep enthusiasts can keep current in the comfort of their own home or office.

The courses provide fundamental sheep management information designed for any size or type of sheep operation.

- Introduction to Sheep Management (LWMP 1001)
- Introduction to Sheep Health (LWMP 1300)
- Ewe Ration Formulation (LWMP 1502)
- Wool Characteristics and Properties (LWMP 1701)

These courses would be an excellent opportunity for youth and adults to learn more about sheep production within their own home or community.

The Introduction to Sheep Management course is a 14 lesson self paced course with continuous enrollment. This is the online version of the successful home study course that provides an overview of year long sheep management. The other courses are more structured and are designed for more interaction. The required text book for the Introduction to Sheep Health is Gates' Practical Guide to Sheep Disease Management (3rd edition) and the Sheep Production Handbook, 2002 Edition is required for the Ewe Ration Formulation course and the Wool Characteristics and Properties course.

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program is a sheep management education/consulting program offered by Minnesota West Community and Technical College located at Pipestone, Minnesota. The purpose of the program is to help sheep producers increase income and profit through the production of quality lamb and wool. To maximize the profit per ewe and realize the full potential of all sheep through use of modern management practices, new technologies and new approaches to marketing of both lamb and wool.

For more information visit the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program web page www.pipestonesheep.com or contact one of the Lamb and Wool instructors, Philip Berg, philip.berg@mnwest.edu, (507) 825-6799 or Mike Caskey, mike.caskey@mnwest.edu, (507) 825-6808. To register for one of the on-line courses contact Sue Lovell (507) 847-7929, sue.lovell@mnwest.edu or register on-line at www.mnwest.edu/formmail/formdl.htm.



Felting, Fulling, or Boiled Wool?

by Maddy Cranley

To ignore one of the basic knitting commands, "Thou shalt not put wool into hot water" is to risk suffering the dreaded consequence of such action - very small, very stiff, little sweaters into which no family member would ever want to grow. But approaching the hot water as friend not foe, affords an opportunity to enjoy a wonderful new perspective on rows of knit and purl stitches. As a distinct change of texture and appearance results from the felting process, simple stocking stitch knitting can be magically transformed all without knowledge of complicated knitting technique.

"Felting" is the term most often used to define the transformation of a protein fiber into this warm and wonderful fabric. In the strictest sense, felting describes the procedure of taking batts of wool fleece (raw wool that has not yet been spun into yarn), adding hot, soapy water and kneading the wool batt until the fiber scales interlock. The word "filz" is found in Old High German. This language was in use prior to the 12th century, an indication that when felting today we are continuing to explore a very ancient craft.

"Fulling" is the process of producing felt fabric from animal fiber yarn that has already been woven or knitted. Fulling takes the woven or knitted fabric through the process of hot water and agitation in order to facilitate shrinkage and create felted fabric. In the Middle Ages, "fullers" were textile workers who used Fuller's Earth, a highly adsorptive clay that removed grease and oils from the woven cloth. The agitation of the cleansing action would shrink and matt the fibers creating a fabric that would not unravel. The term fulling stems from "fullare", a Medieval Latin word meaning "to walk on or trample". This process emphasizes the agitation that is required in coaxing those fiber scales to intertwine. Today, it is more common to see Fuller's Earth used as an ingredient in a cosmetic face mask, where it sets its shrinking powers to other tasks.

"Boiled wool" is another descriptive term for felted cloth. It is the characteristic fabric produced in Austria and used to fashion chic Tyrolean jackets embellished with braid binding and pewter buttons. Again, the basic raw material is wool yarn. The process is the same as fulling but completed on an industrial level in order to facilitate the handling of larger quantities. Computerized controls finely tune water temperature levels and agitation strength in order to produce a consistent result. The yarn is first dyed, then knit and shrunk without the aid of chemicals. This process produces felt fabric available by the yard, ready for cutting into pattern pieces to be assembled into garments.

Reprinted with permission. Copy2007. Maddy Cranley is a professional knitwear designer, who has created exclusive designs for knitting and craft magazines, authored and published three books on the subject of creating felt garments and projects from hand knitting, and produces an ever-growing line of maddy laine hand knitting patterns. For additional information and to access the full article see <http://www.maddycraft.com>.



ISIA Member in the Spotlight

Congratulations to Ken Hykes, Adel, Iowa for Reserve Champion Pen of Lambs at the 2008 National Lamb Performance Classic. The lambs consigned by Hykes were sired by a Suffolk ram and the feed efficiency for the pen was 3.84 pounds of feed per pound of gain throughout the 63 day finishing period.

The National Lamb Performance Classic (NLPC) is a progeny performance test designed to evaluate genetic superiority for growth and carcass merit. This year 96 lambs in 24 pens of 4 started on test on March 28 at the South Dakota State University (SDSU) campus in Brookings, SD. The test was sponsored in part by the Iowa Sheep & Wool Promotion Board.

Plans are in the works for the 2009 NLS. For more information contact Rob Zelinsky, SDSU shepherd, at (605) 693-3808 (Robert.Zelinsky@sdstate.edu) or call SDSU Extension Sheep Specialist Jeff Held at (605) 688-5433.

Managing breeding rams

BREEDING *Continued from page 1*

Rams should also be observed for general health; they should be athletic and sound on their feet. Any lameness is cause to consider pulling a ram out of the breeding pasture. During the act of breeding a ram must be able to support nearly all his weight on both back legs. If one is painful he will not breed. When a ram dismounts half of his weight lands on both front feet; if one is sore he will not breed.

Back injuries are a common reason for pulling rams from the breeding pasture. Breeding requires both strength and flexibility in the spine. As rams age the spine becomes less flexible as calcium bridging starts to fuse the vertebrae. If this bridging cracks the ram will experience intense pain and have no desire to breed. Intervertebral disks can also become compressed or inflamed and cause compression of the spinal cord. This is often evident as pain or hind limb weakness or lameness. While lameness from a foot injury carries a good prognosis for recovery and a future as a breeding ram a back injury will nearly always reoccur the next time that a ram mounts a ewe.

Other reasons that rams may have to be pulled from the breeding pasture include pneumonia, rapid weight loss or testicular injury. Pneumonia or fever in general may cause temporary infertility if the testicles get too warm. Testicles are outside of the body for a reason. Sperm cannot be produced at body temperature. Therefore if body temperature increases 2-4 degrees the sperm in the testicles and epididymis are at risk of being dead. It takes 60 days for a sperm cell to be produced so fever can cause 60 days of infertility. Testicular injury is not common but obviously ends the ram's ability to breed ewes.

After any insult to the testicle such as infection or trauma the first sign is swelling and heat. Heat will cause temporary infertility just like fever. After the swelling phase you may notice one or both testicles shrink in size. This is a poor prognostic indicator as it indicates that the sperm producing tissue is dead.

Rams will lose weight during breeding season, especially ram lambs as they are still growing and will not eat enough during breeding season to grow and maintain their weight. Ram lambs may need to be pulled out of the breeding pasture if they get too thin. Often this is late in the breeding season when most of the ewes are bred and fewer rams are necessary to "clean-up" the remaining open ewes.

Treatment for rams that have to be pulled from the breeding pastures is aimed at 1) salvaging the ram to use later in the breeding season or for next year's breeding season or 2) salvaging the ram for cull value. Number one is not a bad option if the reason for pulling is mild such as pneumonia, foot sprain, etc. Number two is a bad option as cull rams are never worth much. In most cases severe injury, weight loss, etc producers will be better off by culling the ram immediately. As far as we know treatment with Bamamine (flunixin), long-acting penicillin, Excenel, Naxcel or Nuflor is not detrimental to fertility. Treatment with dexamethasone or LA-200 can cause transient infertility for 60 days.

Reprinted with permission from the Pipestone Veterinary Clinic newsletter, Pipestone, Minnesota.

Editors Note: These recommendations are provided for your information. Advice from your local veterinarian should always be sought for treatment of your livestock.

Calendar of Events

■ **October 18** – 7 p.m. - Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board conference call meeting. For more information contact: Jean Van Houweling, Executive Secretary, PO Box 35633, Des Moines, IA 50315. Email j.vanhouweling@mchsi.com

■ **November 7 – 20** – ISIA office will be closed for sheep tour to New Zealand. If you have any requests please direct them to Dr. Dan Morrill at morrill@iastate.edu or 515-294-2904.

■ **November 14-15** – Sheep and goat production

conference, Island Grove Park, Greeley, Colorado sponsored by six state universities. Up-to-date information on nutrition, grazing, reproductive health, marketing and other facets of sheep and goat production. For more information call Rodney Kott at 406-994-3415 or rkott@montana.edu.

■ **Dec 5 - 6** – Missouri Livestock Symposium at Kirksville, Missouri. Excellent line up of sheep education seminars in addition to goats, beef, equine, stock dogs, forage, renewable resources and more. For more information visit www.missourilivestock.com or call 660- 665-9866. No pre-registration or registration fees are associated with attending the symposium programs or trade show.

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Do you have an event that you would like to place in the Lamb & Wool newsletter? Please send information by the 15th of the month preceding publication date of newsletter. Submit via email at info@iowasheep.com or phone 712-736-2109.

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The Lamb & Wool Newsletter, a publication of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association, is published 11 times each year with partial funding from the Iowa Sheep & Wool Promotion Board.

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