

**Pointers from Award-Winning Shepherds
2000 WSBC Master Shepherd - Purebred**

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OUTLINE

1. FEEDING PROGRAM

- A. Brood ewes are on pasture all summer until breeding time. At that time I dry-lot them and flush the ewes with 3/1 corn over oats.
- B. Replacement ewes and rams get 3/1 oat over corn with a 36% protein pellet to make a 15-16% ration.
- C. Creep feed lambs (all) are fed a 20% complete pellet until weaned which on the average is 60 days.
- D. All sheep are fed alfalfa mix hay.

2. BREEDING PROGRAM

- A. Choosing the right ram for your program needs.
- B. Flush ewes.
- C. Worm and vaccinate.

3. LAMBING TIME

- A. Start feeding ewes again last six weeks of gestation.
- B. When lambs are born, get colostrum in the lambs as soon as possible.
- C. At two to three days, dock them and give shots (penicillin, BoSe, CD&T, at 21 days repeat CD&T).
- D. Lambs are weaned at 60 days.

4. NATIONAL SHEEP IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- A. Birth weight
- B. Weights at 60 and 120 days
- C. Selecting for the best producing sheep

5. DRY-OFF

After ewes are dried up, worm, trim feet, and put them back to pasture so cycle can start again.

6. MINERAL

- A. Test hay crop every year and mix own mineral starting with a base mix adding Di-Cal and salt.
- B. Mineral is mixed according to what stage the ewes are in. All mixes may vary depending on the needs.

7. SCRAPIE PROGRAM

- A. Member of program since June of 2000.
- B. Keeping records of all sheep retained in the flock.

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