

**1996-97 LAMBING PERFORMANCE OF THE SPOONER
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION FLOCK**

**Yves M. Berger and Richard A. Schlapper
Spooner Agricultural Research Station
University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Breed Abbreviations:

EF = East Friesian
RT = Romanov x Targhee
FT = Finnsheep x Targhee

Numbers in parentheses are the number of lambs.

Lambing Performance of Commercial Ewes
(1/2 Dorset, 1/4 Romanov, 1/4 Targhee)
bred by either 1/2 EF, 3/4 EF, 7/8 EF rams from August 15 to September 19

Number of ewes at breeding	71
Number of ewes at lambing	70
Number of ewes aborted	0
Number of ewes lambed	67
Number of lambs born	151
Number of lambs dead before weaning	10
Birth weight of female lambs (74), lb.	9.6
Birth weight of male lambs (77), lb.	10.3
60 day weight of female lambs, lb.	51.0
60 day weight of male lambs, lb.	57.8

Fertility	95.7%
Litter size	2.25
Survival rate	93.3%
Total 60d wt./ewe at lambing, lb.	109.5

Lambing performance of RT and FT ewes
bred by 7/8 EF ram
September 20 - October 24

Number of ewes at breeding	17
Number of ewes at lambing	17
Number of ewes aborted	0
Number of ewes lambed	15
Number of lambs born	38
Number of lambs dead before weaning	4
Birth weight of female lambs (21), lb.	9.2
Birth weight of male lambs (17), lb.	9.8
60 day weight of female lambs, lb.	48.7
60 day weight of male lambs, lb.	52.1
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Fertility	88.2%
Litter size	2.53
Survival rate	89.5%
Total 60d wt./ewe at lambing, lb.	100.3

Lambing performance of adult ewes put to milking
most bred by Dorset rams^a
September 17 - October 24
50 ewes synchronized with CIDRs

	1/4 EF	3/8 EF	1/2 EF	Dorset Type
Number of ewes at breeding	51	21	19	28
Number of ewes at lambing	51	21	18	28
Number of ewes aborted	0	0	1	0
Number of ewes lambed	50	20	16	28
Number of lambs born	96	41	34	57
Number of lambs died		6	1	1
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Birth wt. of females, lb.	10.4 (48)	10.2 (25)	10.2 (16)	10.1 (31)
Birth wt. of males, lb.	10.7 (48)	11.6 (16)	11.4 (18)	10.3 (26)
30 day wt. of females, lb.	31.5	32.3	31.5	29.6
30 day wt. of males, lb.	31.7	34.5	33.2	30.4
Wt. of ewe 30 d postpartum, lb.	156	152	141	153
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Fleece wt. , lb.	7.2	7.9	7.4	7.4
Fertility	98%	95%	94%	100%
Litter size	1.92	2.05	2.12	2.03
Survival	94%	97.5%	97%	98%
30 d wt./ewe at lambing, lb.	55.9	62.9	61.9	59.7
Milk production-1st lactation, lb.	205	157	242	107
Length of 1st lactation, days	114	103	132	89

^a The 12 ewes with the highest milk production in their last lactation were mated to a 7/8 East Friesian ram.

Lambing performance of ewe lambs put to milking
all bred by Dorset rams
October 24 - December 1

	1/4 EF	3/8 EF	1/2 EF	DorsetType
Number of ewes at breeding	41	24	29	16
Number of ewes at lambing	40	22	27	15
Number of ewes aborted	0	1	0	0
Number of ewes lambed	40	21	26	14
Number of lambs born	70	37	47	17
Number of lambs died	0	8	3	7
Birth wt. of females, lb.	9.4 (37)	8.7 (20)	8.9 (28)	9.8 (9)
Birth wt. of males, lb.	9.6 (33)	10.3 (17)	10.5 (19)	9.9 (8)
30 day wt. of females, lb.	29.9	27.7	28.9	32.2
30 day wt. of males, lb.	30.5	31.1	32.5	30.8
First mating weight, lb.	141	132	136	112
Fleece wt. , lb.	9.5	8.5	8.9	7.4
30 day wt. postpartum, lb.	156	148	154	129
Age at 1st lambing				
Fertility	100%	100%	96%	93%
Litter size	1.75	1.76	1.81	1.21
Survival	88.6%	91.9%	85.0%	100%
30 d wt./ewe at lambing, lb.	46.8	47.6	44.8	35.4

Total Spooner Flock

Number of ewes at mating	317
Number of ewes at lambing	309
Number of ewes aborted	2
Number of ewes lambed	297
Number of lambs born	588
Number of lambs died	41
Fertility	96.7%
Litter size	1.98
Survival rate	93 %
Number of lambs weaned/ewe at lambing	1.78