

LAMB SECTION

Preparing Your Lamb For Calf Club



Early lambs are those born between 1st July and 12th August
Late Lambs are those born between 13th August and 23rd September

Once your lamb is chosen you can begin to take responsibility for the care and feeding of it. You will need to arrange a pen/small paddock for it. For very young lambs you will need to provide shelter in the garage or laundry, until it's strong enough to be left outside at night time. An old dog kennel makes a great lamb house once it is outside in the paddock. Always keep your lamb sleeping area clean and dry.

Make sure you have time to look after your lamb, before and after school. You will need to allow at least 30min, morning and afternoon to care for your pet.

Feeding

For new born lambs it is important that they have had colostrum for the first few days before introducing lamb milk replacement (available from farm supply stores). Feed as per instructions on the bag. Right from the start your lamb will need feeding at least four times a day. A plastic 1.5 lemonade bottle is fine, with a screw on teat which are available from your vet or farm supply store.

It is very important to keep whatever equipment you use to feed your lamb, completely clean – as lambs can get scours (diarrhoea) from dirty feeding equipment, so clean everything after feeding with hot soapy water and rinse thoroughly. If your lamb develops scours, contact your local vet for advice.

Your lamb will grow quickly and begin to nibble grass and drink water, so make sure that this is available within the first week.

You should not have weaned your lamb before Calf Club Day – ideally it should still be receiving at least two feeds per day.

Preparation and Care

- Lambs must be hand reared by the child entering, using a bottle from approximately four days of age.
- Spend as much time as possible with your lamb, make it your pet
- Do not brush or comb your lamb as they bruise very easily
- Do not wash your lamb as you will lose points at Calf Club Day. If they are very dirty they can be rinsed with cool water. You may wash their mouth, bottom, feet and ears with a damp cloth.

- Your lamb needs to be docked and will lose points if it still has a tail on at Calf Club day.
- Ram lamb (attending Calf Club) must be wethered or fully castrated at least two weeks prior to Group Day (if castrated a vet certificate MUST be presented to the secretary showing date of castration).
- Consult your local vet regarding vaccination recommendations
- Keep your lambs hooves and legs clean. If necessary snip off any dags.
- Practice leading and calling your lamb as often as possible.

Leading

Collars and leads can be purchased from your local vet or farm supply store.

The collar, once in place, can stay on the lamb. When fitted correctly, you should be able to fit two fingers between any part of the collar and your lamb's skin, and it should not pull off if the lamb pulls back. As your lamb grows, check the collar regularly and loosen it off as you need to.

Hold the lead in the right hand, not less than 200mm and not more than 350mm from the lamb. The lamb must walk with its shoulder alongside your right leg and the slack end of the lead folded is held in the left hand. These will be very short walks to begin with, but can be increased to long walks quickly. Have the lamb walk beside you and remember not to grab it or pull it when it stops. Practise leading around the course you set up at home. Do NOT pull your lamb.

Calling

Always practise calling your lamb before feeding it. Get someone to hold it while you move away, then call loudly to it, when it is released. Move further away as the lamb gets used to coming to you. Now walk along with the lamb beside you, perhaps holding it by the collar without strangling it. Later you can try to walk with it at your heels.

Practise calling the lamb to you (about 9m) and when it gets to you turn (DO NOT TOUCH it yet) and walk approx 5m with the lamb following beside you, then turn and calmly catch it and attach it's lead. This is what will be required on Calf Club day.

Don't forget to reward the lamb for its efforts with a huge cuddle not food. Children are not to hold items of food in their hands when calling the lamb.

Rearing

The judge will want to know when your lamb was born, what breed it is and how often you feed it, etc. They will look at the general appearance of the lamb and look for lice, etc. The lamb must be docked and not clipped and the fleece is to be in natural condition, not bloom dipped or washed.

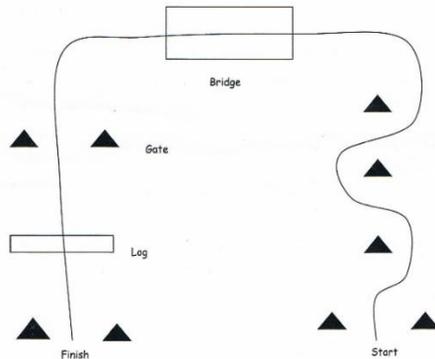
On the Day Bring

- A bucket with any washing equipment so you can spot clean if necessary
- A water bucket so you can give your lamb a drink
- Food, so you can reward them after a good effort

More information regarding the general care of your lamb can be found on the website www.anexa.co.nz

LEADING COURSE

Course for Calves /Lambs/Goats



- Weave in and out of the standards
- Over bridge without stopping
- Stop at the gate, count to 5 slowly, walk on
- Over the log and Finish