Market Lamb Management

From A–Z
Market Lamb Management

Facilities & Equipment

- Barns & Pens
  - Combination Arrangement – Shed & Exercise
  - Twenty square feet per lamb
  - Well drained & Ventilated
  - Forty-two inch fence for dog proof
Facilities & Equipment

- Feeders
  - Self-feeders for early stages
  - Movable troughs – hang on fence
  - Feeding Ram

- Water Trough
  - Small – drain & clean often
  - Locate in shade
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Facilities & Equipment

- Exercise Track
  - Circular or oval shape
  - 5 – 10 feet wide
  - 4 feet high
  - Inside fence should have elasticity
  - Running surface - sand
Facilities & Equipment

- Necessary Equipment
  - Shovel
  - Scales
  - Trimming table – 45” long, 20” wide, 18” tall
  - Electric shears
  - 23 tooth combs, 4 point cutter
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Facilities & Equipment

- Necessary Equipment (cont.)
  - Small wool card
  - Lamb blanket
  - Rope halter
  - Hand shears
  - Show box
  - Extension cords
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Selection

Muscle
- Naturally firm or hard muscled
- Longissimus dorsi – shoulder to rump
- Long, level rump
- Muscle indicators – forearm & leg muscles
- Wide body width – center of leg
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Selection

Structure
- Travel & stand wide
- Correct on front & rear legs
- Avoid
  - Open shoulders
  - Weak tops
  - Steep rumps
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Selection

- Style & Balance
  - Body parts blend
  - Eye appeal
  - Side profile
    - Clean Fronted
    - Smooth Shouldered
    - Level Topped
    - Level Rumped
  - Trim Middle
  - Correct Structure
  - Thin Hided
  - Smooth Skin
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Nutrition

“There are no magic feeds or formulas which make champions.”
Market Lamb Management

Nutrition

- Protein
  - 18-21% Crude Protein
  - Natural Protein
  - Excess protein may cause heat stress
Energy is the most common limiting nutrient in lamb rations. A ration should be at least 72% TDN at 60 pounds and 77% at 110 pounds.
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Nutrition

- Minerals
  - Salt (sodium & chlorine)
  - Calcium
  - Phosphorus
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Nutrition

- Ca: P Ratio – 2.5:1
- High levels of phosphorus = urinary calculi.
- Ammonium chloride will prevent urinary calculi.
  - (rate of 10 pounds per ton of feed)
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Health

- Diseases & Conditions
  - Enterotoxemia
  - Sore mouth
  - Tetanus
  - Ringworm
  - Wool Fungus
  - Rectal Prolapse
  - Internal Parasites
  - Polyarthritis

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