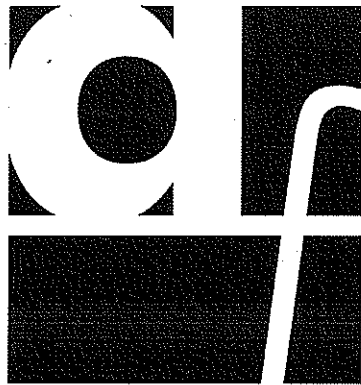


# associated *feed*

**800•540•FEED**

**[www.associatedfeed.com](http://www.associatedfeed.com)**



**Jr. Livestock Camp**

**Sheep**

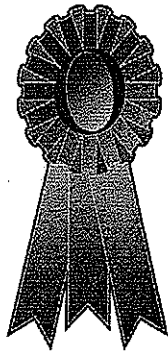
**associated** *feed*



## Sales Team

Andrea Kaldhusdal	(661) 332-9915
Lily Siebert	(209) 604-7479
Ron Luis	(209) 531-5936
Brady Otto	(530) 521-9054

# Show Maker



## Junior Awards Program

**Associated Feed** – Founded in 1971, has been dedicated to the livestock feed industry for over thirty years. With a focus on excellent performance and customer service, AFS has long been recognized as a reputable source of poultry, swine and livestock feeds.

Associated Feed is proud to offer a "full line" of feed products to meet the diverse needs of our customers. A family owned business that has the flexibility to deal with the ever-changing needs of the livestock industry, Associated Feed and Supply strives to provide quality products at a fair price along with excellent service.

**Akey and AFS** – Associated Feed and Supply and Akey have teamed up to provide "high Tech" show diets that Maximize Performance. The MP line of Specialized Show Diets is designed to lead the way with nutrition that meets the demands of the novice or serious show contender.

Extensive research has allowed Akey Inc., a leader in livestock feed nutrition to develop time tested show diets developed for your junior livestock project. The MP Diets have been designed to allow animals to reach their true maximum genetic potential.

**Specialized Show Diets** are the standard when evaluating nutrition and performance for the show ring. Be sure to watch for new product alerts and ask your dealers for new information. We are on the cutting edge of show animal nutrition and as new products and information become available we want make sure you are informed.



For more information about our program, or to find you're nearest dealer, you can reach your Livestock Nutrition and Management Specialist by calling (800) 540-FEED.

## Let's get associated!

**Junior Awards Program** – All junior members competing at Junior Livestock Shows are eligible to participate. Please

complete the awards application upon completion of the fair if you are eligible to receive an award from Associated Feed. Your local Associated feed dealer can request the application for your completion.

Applicants are eligible if they have fed Associated Feed, Meatmaker, or Specialized Show Diets as there primary feed for the animal that received the award. Applicants that receive an award for an animal agree not to use the animal in any other advertisement for a competing feed company, doing so will forfeit the award.

Participants may collect cash awards paid by check from Associated Feed by exhibiting either the Supreme Grand Champion or Reserve Supreme Grand Champion in their respective livestock division. Awards are eligible for market animals only. Requests for awards should be presented within 60 days to:

**Junior Awards Program**  
c/o Associated Feed  
Attn: Shelbey  
P.O. Box 2367  
Turlock, CA. 95381

Participants are asked to send proof of purchases or verification from the local dealer along with a high quality photo of the winning animal. By submitting your photo and application you provide a release for advertising to Associated Feed.

<b>Beef</b>	Grand Champion	\$ 200.00
	Reserve Champion	\$ 100.00
<b>Swine</b>	Grand Champion	\$ 100.00
	Reserve Champion	\$ 50.00
<b>Sheep</b>	Grand Champion	\$ 100.00
	Reserve Champion	\$ 50.00
<b>Market Goats</b>	Grand Champion	\$100.00
	Reserve Champion	\$ 50.00
<b>Rabbits - Fryer</b>	Grand Champion	\$ 25.00
	Reserve Champion	\$ 15.00
<b>Poultry – Broilers</b>	Grand Champion	\$ 25.00
	Reserve Champion	\$ 15.00

# Junior Awards Program

Applicants Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

***Show Level***                      ***Show Date***                      ***Show Name and Location (City & State)***

\_\_\_\_ County                      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ State                      \_\_\_\_\_

*\*JACK POTS NOT APPLICABLE*

Description of animal (kind, breed, weight), which won the award \_\_\_\_\_

**Supreme Grand Champion**       **Reserve Supreme Grand Champion**

***Associated Feed was the only brand of commercial feed fed in this project:***

Yes       No (if no attach full details of feeding program.)

Dealer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer Signature \_\_\_\_\_

***Enclosed with this application are:***

Dealer verification for feed purchased. (Receipts or signature)

High quality photo for advertising purposes. Photos will not be returned and become Associated Feed property.

Short story describing information about project and explanation of feeding program.

With this application I consent to the use of my name and picture, information about my use of feeds, and my results for advertising and promoting the sale of its various products by Associated Feed and Supply and/ or its dealers, representatives or agents. I agree to participate in no other commercial feed company awards program for the animal specified in this application, doing so will result in forfeiture of the above award and any cost associated with collection of returned award along with advertising cost incurred. I am submitting this within the 60 day requirement.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or guardian for persons under 18 years of age.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# Feeds & Feeding

1-800-540-FEED  
[www.associatedfeed.com](http://www.associatedfeed.com)



## The Six Essential Nutrients

### Protein

Are made up of amino acids the building blocks for growth, finishing, reproduction, work, production and maintenance. There are multiple sources of protein, for correct nutrition and proper amino acid balance.

Examples of protein are: Soybean meal, Fishmeal, Alfalfa meal and Linseed meal are used as protein sources.

### Carbohydrates

They are used as a source of heat, energy and stored as fat in the body.

Examples of Carbohydrates: Grains – Rolled Corn, Whole Oats, Rolled Barley and Ground Wheat.

### Water

The most neglected nutrient. Water needs to be clean, cool and available free choice. Use electrolytes ( 4-Sure ) during stressful periods or prior to shows to get animals used to fair water.

Signs of dehydrated might include:

- Animals sides are sunken in
- Animals feces are dry and crumbly
- Animal won't eat

### Fat

Fat like carbohydrates provide a source of heat and energy. However fat provides more heat and energy than carbohydrates but takes more energy to break it down.

Examples: Vegetable fats and animal fat

### Minerals

Required for basic bodily functions and bone growth and density.

Provide salt free choice.

The Essential Minerals – Calcium, Phosphorous, Zinc, Selenium and trace minerals.

Other important minerals- Ammonium Chloride to prevent urinary calculi in Sheep and goats.

Some minerals can be toxic- Avoid excess copper in sheep diets to avoid toxicity.

### Vitamins

Required for immune system – to help maintain health and bodily functions.

Supplement Vitamin A, B12, E, and D to ensure proper intakes in the mixed feeds. Forages and sunlight also provide vitamins to be synthesized by your show animal.

**associated** feed

# Show Maker



## LAMB SLAM TEXTURED MIX

Complete Feed for Show Lambs

400006

For the prevention of coccidiosis caused by Eimeria oyina, E. crandalis, E. ovinoidalis (E. ninakohlakimovea), E. parva and E. intricata in sheep maintained in confinement.

### ACTIVE DRUG INGREDIENT

Lasalocid ..... 30 g/ton

### GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

Crude Protein .....	Min	18.00 %
Crude Fat .....	Min	2.48 %
Crude Fiber .....	Max	7.10 %
Ash .....	Max	7.10 %
Calcium.....Min	0.83 % .....	Max 1.13 %
Phosphorus .....	Min	0.22 %
Salt.....Min	0.34% .....	Max 0.84 %
Sodium.....Min	0.21% .....	Max 0.41 %
Selenium .....	Min	1 ppm
Vitamin A .....	Min	2539 iu/lb

### INGREDIENTS

Soybean Meal, Corn, Oats, Barley, Cane Molasses, Beet Pulp, Wheat Millrun, Calcium Carbonate, Ammonium Chloride, Alfalfa Meal, dehydrated Cane Molasses, Linseed Meal, Salt, Manganous Oxide, Yeast Dried, Vegetable Oil, preservatives, Modified Inosulfonate, Mono-Dical Phosphate, Propionic acid, Zinc Sulfate, Bovatec(Lasalocid 68g/lb), Potassium Chloride, Vitamin E Acetate, Iron Sulfate, Magnesium Oxide, Sodium Selenite, Zinc Methionine, Artificial Flavor, Choline Chloride, Vitamin A Supplement, Mineral Oil, Vitamin B12 Supplement, Ethylenediamine dihydroiodide, Niacin Supplement, Manganese amino acid complex, Vitamin K Supplement, D-Calcipantothenate, Thiamine Mononitrate, Vitamin D3 Supplement, Menadione Sodium Bisulfite Complex, Riboflavin Supplement, Cobalt Carbonate.

**Caution: TYPE C FEEDS:** The safety of Lasalocid for use in unapproved species has not been established. **TYPE A Articles:** Feeding indiluted, mixing errors may result in excess Lasalocid concentration which could be fatal to cattle or sheep. Do not allow horses or other equines access to Type A articles or Type C feeds containing Lasalocid as ingestion may be fatal. Safety of Lasalocid for use in unapproved species has not been established.

### FEEDING DIRECTIONS:

Feed at the rate of 2-3% of the growing lambs body weight. Feed with good quality alfalfa hay. Provide clean, fresh water at all times.

**Medication-**  
No withdrawal of these medications, if there is any withdrawal it will be on the tag.

**Guaranteed Analysis-** What we guarantee is in this bag of feed.

**Caution:**  
Super important to read and keep away from other animals

**Ingredients -** All tags must list in the order of most to least. For example Corn is 1<sup>st</sup> ingredient, and Vitamin D Supplement is the last.

**Feeding Directions-** this will guide you with the amount of feed you should be feeding your animal

**Manufactured By:**  
Who made the feed and how much is in the bag.

**Manufactured By:**  
Associated Feed & Supply Co.  
5213 W Main  
Turlock, CA 95380

NET WEIGHT 50 LBS #410018

# Showmaker Lamb Feeding Guidelines

## Growing Phase

### *50 to 75 pound lambs*

- Lamb Slam 1.5 to 2 pounds per day
- Alfalfa Hay  
OR
- Total Lamb (Pelleted) 1.5 to 2 pounds per day.

### *76 to 100 pound lambs*

- Lamb Slam 2.5 to 3 pounds per day
- Alfalfa Hay  
OR
- Total Lamb 2.5 to 3 pounds per day
- Alfalfa Hay

## Show Finish Phase

### *100 to 130 pound lambs*

- Lamb Slam 3 to 4 pounds per day.
- Alfalfa Hay  
OR
- Total Lamb 3 to 4 pounds per day.

### Lambs that do not have enough condition add:

ShowMaker Bloom- a 100% dry fat supplement to the diet at a rate of 2 to 8 ounces per day.

### Lambs that have too much condition: Reduce intake and add

Showdown- a 46 % protein supplement at a rate of 2 to 8 ounces per day.

## Holding Phase \*\*\**(Please Note that not all lambs need to be held.)*\*\*\*

### *125 to 140 pounds or heavier*

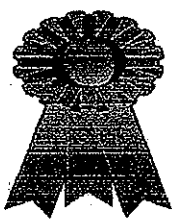
- Lamb Slam 1 to 3 pounds per day.
- Top dress with Showdown at a rate of 2 to 8 ounces.
- Top dress with ShowMaker Bloom at a rate of 2 to 8 ounces to maintain proper energy intake.
- Alfalfa Hay  
OR
- Total Lamb 1 to 3 pounds per day
- Top dress with Showdown at a rate of 4 to 8 ounces.
- Top-dress with ShowMaker Bloom at a rate of 2 to 8 ounces to maintain proper energy intake.
- Alfalfa Hay

The information given is to be used as a **GUIDELINE**; the feeder and the animal will help determine the proper feeding program. Please note all animals are individual and will respond differently to the feeding program. Wishing success to all!

## Lamb Management Tips

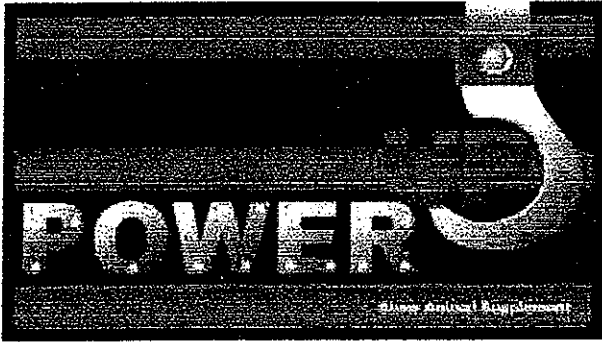


- Have a clean, spacious pen available upon arrival
- Allow lambs to settle in by feeding alfalfa hay and ½ to 1 pound of ShowMaker show feed for 2 to 3 days.
- If possible feed lambs in pairs according to lambs weight
- Provide fresh cool water at all times, keep water out of direct sunlight
- Lambs should have adequate shelter for protection against rain, sunlight and predators
- Hand feed ration at least twice per day. A coffee can is a great tool for feeding with, but make sure you know how much the grain weighs in the can.
- Lambs appetites are most aggressive when feeding 12 hours apart, feed early morning and late evening during summer months.
- Increase amount of feed per feeding gradually over time. If lamb leaves feed in the feeder, remove old feed and reduce the amount of new feed put in.
- Closely monitor for any signs of illness (i.e. not hungry, difficult breathing, depressed attitude, runny nose) consult a veterinarian as needed. Medication may be needed, observe directions and withdrawal times.
- Lambs should be vaccinated with CD/T for protection against Tetanus and Enterotoxemia. Also BoSe should be administered in selenium deficient areas. Sore mouth vaccine should be given prior to you receiving your lamb.
- Lambs should be treated for internal and external parasites, 60 and 30 days prior to their end point.
- Weigh lambs regularly and monitor gains. Average daily intake should be approximately 3 % of your lamb's body weight.
- Feed a small amount of alfalfa hay to provide good rumen function
- If your lamb is approaching your fairs maximum weight limit. Provide exercise, limit feed intake and introduce a protein and supplement (ShowMaker Bloom and Showdown) to the diet.
- In the case your lamb is still very lean several weeks prior too the endpoint add rolled grains or supplement with ShowMaker Bloom.
- During jackpot season, remember that animals will lose condition due to the stress of being hauled and shown.
- Practice showing lambs out of their normal environment in order to get them used to diverse situations.
- Practice bracing the lamb everyday to build stamina for the show ring.

S h  w M a k e r

Associated Feed  
1-800- 540- 3333

## *Sunglo Power-Up*



**Sunglo Power UP** is an extruded (fully cooked) mini-nugget that contains a blend of high-quality energy sources to help optimize show ring appearance. Sunglo Power UP can be mixed with a

high quality show feed to enhance calorie intake of pigs, lambs, beef calves and goats being conditioned for show or sale.

The high quality vegetable oil sources, including flax seed and soybeans, provide a blend of Omega 3 and Omega 6 fatty acids. This blend will improve bloom, haircoat, skin condition and overall appearance.

### **Advantages:**

- Improved palatability allows for quick adaptation to high energy diet
- Small mini-nugget blends easily into pelleted, texturized or meal show feeds
- Contains a blend of Omega 3 and Omega 6 fatty acids for improved haircoat and skin condition
- Does not contain added copper, and thus can be fed safely to lambs

### **Feeding Directions:**

Sunglo Power UP should always be added to a fortified diet. Start by adding Sunglo Power UP slowly to the daily diet (2oz. daily) and work up to the desired feeding level

### **Normal Daily Feeding Level after adaptation period is:**

1/4% to 1/2% of animal body weight

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# Selection & Evaluation

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# Market Lamb Selection

## Selection Considerations

A winning lamb is a combination of proper selection, good nutrition management, a good exercise program, and excellent showmanship.

Selection of the lamb for a project is one of the most important decisions you will make. The type of lamb you select will have a major influence on the project's results.

People differ in their ability to select animals. Some have a natural eye for selecting young animals of high quality, whereas others never develop this ability. Ask for help, if needed, from someone with these skills; it may be your county Extension agent, FFA instructor, parent, or some other leader in your county. Many breeders are willing to assist you in your selection.

When selecting a lamb, be aware of its wool length and fat thickness. If possible, select your club lamb after shearing. Young lambs that are in bloom and are fat always look good, whereas young lambs that are thin may not. Learn to look past the fat and recognize muscle, ensuring that you pick a lamb that is genetically superior.

When purchasing a lamb, it is important to know something about the lamb producer. Do not hesitate to ask questions about the lamb's bloodlines and the age of the lamb.

*Consider the following factors when you select a lamb:*

### Classification

Show lamb classification relies upon the animal's physical characteristics, which include color markings, physical structure, wool placement, and ear size. When selecting a lamb, be sure it will classify within the division you want to show it in.

### Muscle

Select a lamb that feels firm or hard muscled. The lamb should have a good expression of muscle from the shoulder to the rump down its top. It should have a long, level, square rump with good width at the pin bones (dock). Other good indicators of muscling are the forearm and leg muscles. The widest part of the leg, when viewed from behind, should be through the middle of the leg or the stifle area. A lamb that walks and stands wide is generally going to be more heavily muscled.

### Structural Correctness

Structural correctness refers to the skeletal system or bone structure of an animal. A lamb should hold its head erect, and the neck should extend out of the top of the shoulder. A lamb should be straight on both its front and rear legs, and the legs should be placed

squarely under the body. A lamb should have a strong top and a long, level rump. It should be heavy boned and be strong on its pasterns. Avoid open-shouldered, weak-topped, steep-rumped lambs.

### **Style and Balance**

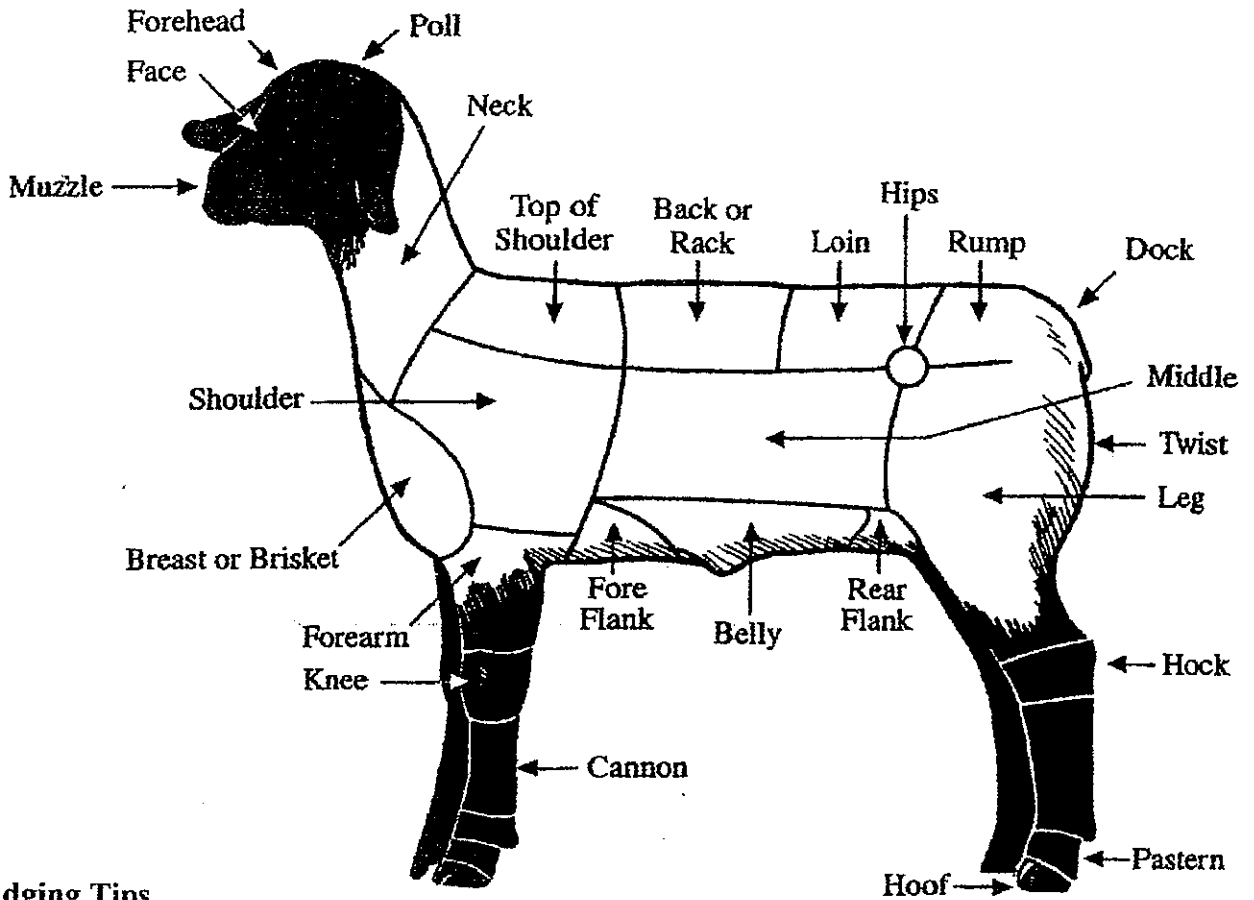
Style and balance refer to the way all body parts blend together, how the front end matches the rear end, and the "eye appeal" of the lamb. When viewed from the side, a lamb should have a clean front, smooth shoulder, level top, level rump, trim middle, and straight legs. Because all club lambs are shorn smooth, it is absolutely necessary that the lamb have a tight hide, free of wrinkles. A good, smooth, thin-hided lamb has eye appeal and will handle well when properly finished. A lamb that is balanced, smooth, pretty, and holds its head up is usually the first one you notice when you walk into the pen.

### **Growth Potential**

The ability of an animal to grow rapidly is very important. Generally, larger framed lambs, as indicated by a long head, neck, cannon bone, and body, will grow faster, be larger, and be more competitive in the show ring. Under normal circumstances, lambs that are extremely long in the loin and rump (higher percent hindsaddle) will have an advantage over the others.

# Evaluation and Selection of Market Animals

## Parts:



### General Judging Tips

1. Stand Back (look at the big picture)
2. Animals tied up will always be numbered from left to right
3. If possible Watch the animal as it moves (don't make a decision based on one view)
4. Compare animals to an ideal for that species
5. Use big points to make decisions, don't be too critical of little details
6. When looking at a feeder or project animal, look for future. They *should not* look like a market ready animal.

### Emphasize these traits when evaluating a market animal

1. Size
2. Muscling
3. Finish (or future for a young animal)
4. Overall carcass merit
5. Skeletal correctness
6. Overall attractiveness based on species

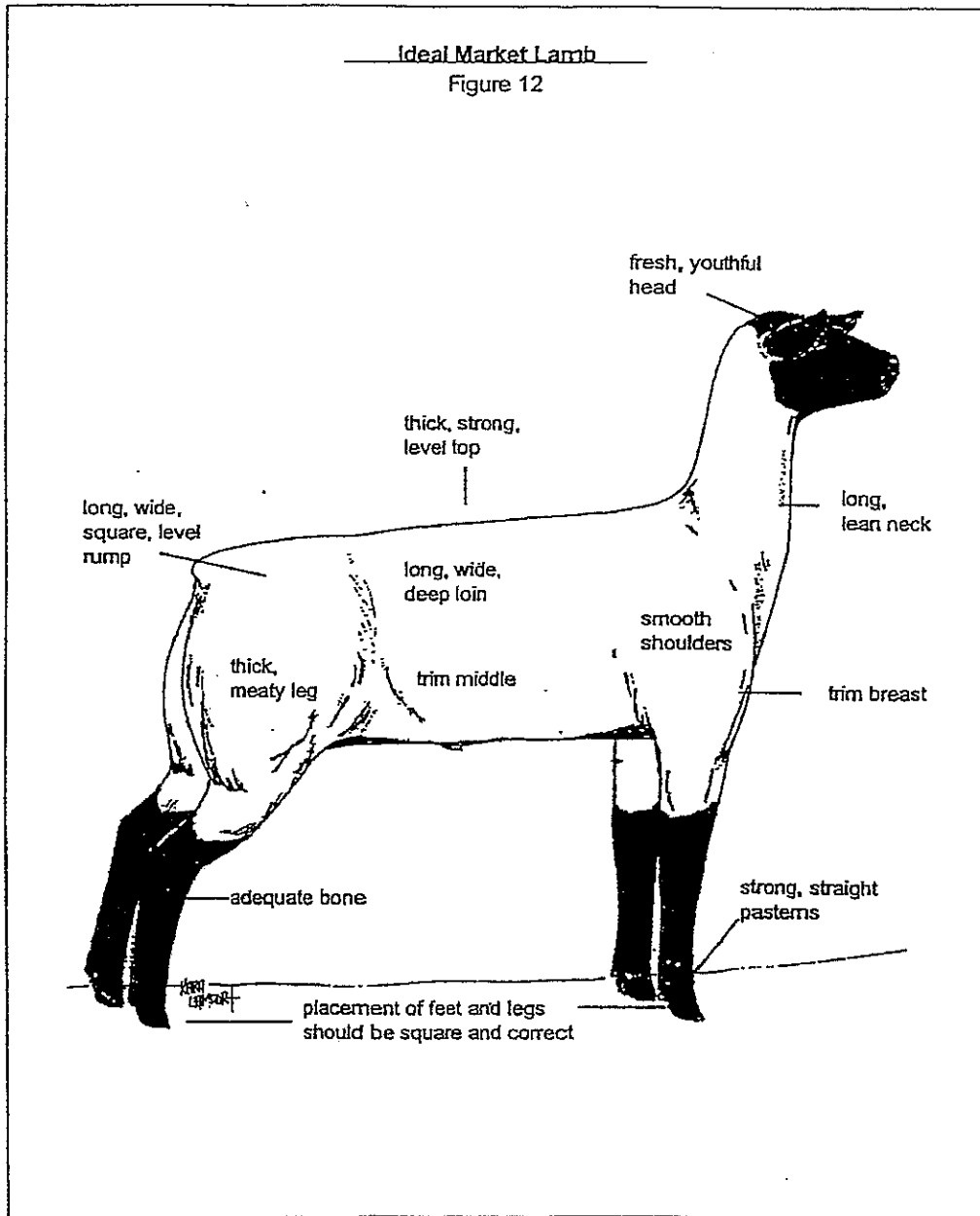
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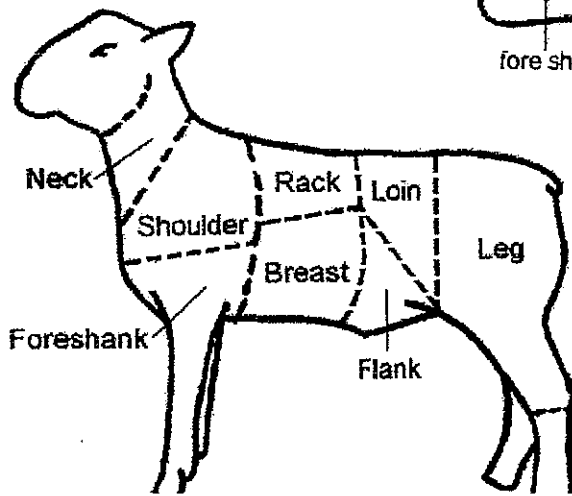
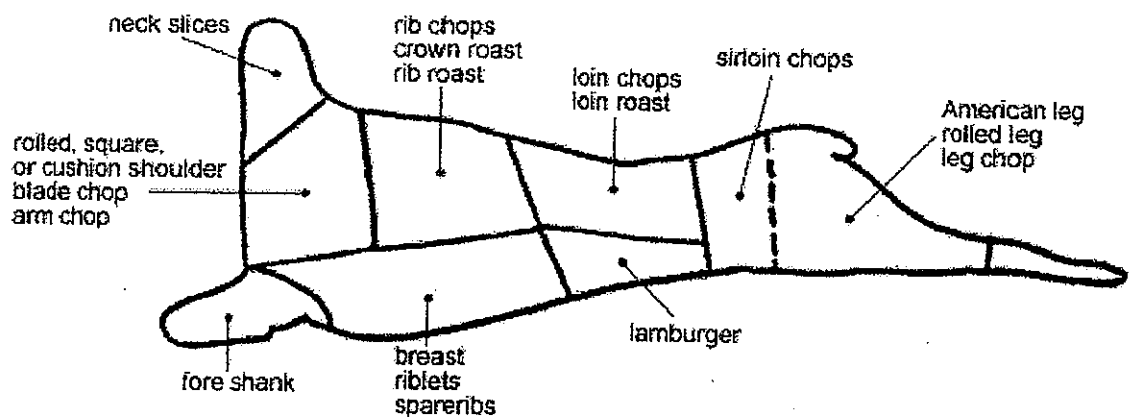
Ideal Market Lamb

Figure 12



# Sheep Facts

- Average Live Wt. = 135
- Average Dressing Percentage = 52% (Shorn Lamb)
- Average Back Fat Thickness = .15-.3
- Average Loin Eye Area = 2.5-3
- Quality Grade- Conformation, maturity, and quality of lean.
  - Prime, plus, average, minus
  - Choice, plus, average, minus
  - Good
  - Utility
- Yield Grade- based on amount of external fat present. (Cutability)
  - Yield Grade 1 = .00-.15 in. Back Fat
  - Yield Grade 2 = .16-.25 in. Back Fat
  - Yield Grade 3 = .26-.35 in. Back Fat
  - Yield Grade 4 = .36-.45 in. Back Fat
  - Yield Grade 5 = .46-Greater in. Back Fat



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# Fitting

**1-800-540-FEED**  
**[www.associatedfeed.com](http://www.associatedfeed.com)**

# S h w M a k e r

## *Lamb Show Day Supply List*

### Misc.

Water bucket  
Feed pan  
Hoof Trimmers  
Alcohol  
Lamb Tube (blanket)

### Washing equipment

Towels  
Bucket  
Wash Brush  
Soap  
Hose

### Fitting Supplies

Fitting Stand/Rack  
Blow dryer (slick-sheared lambs don't need)  
Listers Stablemate Clippers (surgical or fine blades)  
Small Leg Card  
Trimming Shears  
Black Paint (some fairs don't allow, check first)  
Coat Conditioner  
Hoof Polish

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[www.associcatedfeed.com](http://www.associcatedfeed.com)



## **Market Lamb Fitting**

Fitting lambs for show requires more than simply shearing them. Wash lambs, regardless of breed, before shearing. A clean fleece is easier to shear and extends the life of clipper blades. Any livestock soap or liquid dishwashing soap works extremely well for washing lambs, but be careful to remove all soap when rinsing. Wash and shear lambs as close to the show day as possible.

Frequently shorn lambs tend to wrinkle or become loose hided. Use a blow dryer to hasten drying time. A bath towel is adequate for drying short-fleeced lambs in warm weather. Do not blow dry lambs that tend to wrinkle.

Shear a lamb's wool while it is still damp. Clippers perform better in loose, damp wool. Use a good brand of clippers, with surgical blades, to ensure a smooth clip and attractive lambs.

Shear lambs so they are smooth. While shearing, run the clippers parallel to the length of the body rather than vertical to it. Shearing parallel to the length of the body will make lambs appear balanced and longer bodied.

Do not shear slick the wool below the knees and hocks. Card out the leg wool and blend it in with hand shears or electric clippers to improve structure and bone appearance. Leave wool on the legs to improve the balance and eye appeal of lambs.

Use small animal clippers to clip closely around the eyes, ears, or delicate areas. Immediately after shearing in cold weather, cover each lamb with a lamb sock or blanket. Provide a clean, well-bedded pen to keep lambs clean and dry.

### **Hoof Trimming**

Hoof trimming is also necessary for a good health management program. Trim hooves every 4 to 6 weeks. Always trim hooves at least 1 week before a show. If you cut into the quick and temporarily cripple the lamb, the lamb will have time to heal before the show.

# SHOWING AND FITTING YOUR FIRST 4-H LAMB

Showing a lamb is a good way for you to develop skills in showmanship and to teach an animal to do things for you. To be successful, you must work with the lamb so that it can become familiar with you and you with it.

If you have worked with lambs before, 4 weeks of work daily (1 hour a day) is usually enough time to have a lamb ready for showing. If this is your first lamb, you will need more time for breaking and training. Advice from someone who has trained and shown a lamb successfully may save training time.

Remember that each lamb is different and may require different methods of training. It takes work and devotion to do a good job!

## HOW TO MAKE A HALTER

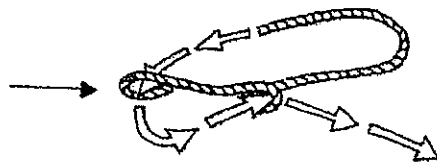
Breaking the lamb to be led by a halter is your first step. Buy a good rope halter or make one from any  $\frac{3}{8}$ - to  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-diameter rope. The rope should be at least 10 feet long.

Nose piece—7 inches  
from end of one loop  
to end of other loop



Make two loops, fastening the rope together by sewing, plaiting, or pig rings at these two spots where ropes touch.

Halter is completed  
by pulling loose end  
of rope along the  
path of the arrows.



Place the halter on the lamb  
so that the rope you hold is  
on the left side of the lamb's head.



## BREAKING A LAMB TO LEAD

The first time the lamb is haltered, it may buck, run over you, kick, roll over, drag you down, fall down, and make a real scene. This is normal, and if you will hang in there, the lamb will calm down after a day or so and start obeying your directions. When the lamb learns to walk when you walk and stop when you stop, you are well on the way to being ready to show.

After your lamb is responding nicely to the halter, your next step is to teach the lamb to ignore being touched, especially by a stranger. On show day the judge will be a stranger to both you and the lamb. You need to show this stranger how good a showman you are, and the lamb needs to learn that the stranger in the ring has no intention of hurting it. During showmanship contests, judges will feel of your lamb to see how well you can control it and also how much fat and muscling the lamb has. Usually, they will walk up behind the lamb (the lamb may not even see them coming), so you need to have the lamb trained to stand still when touched.

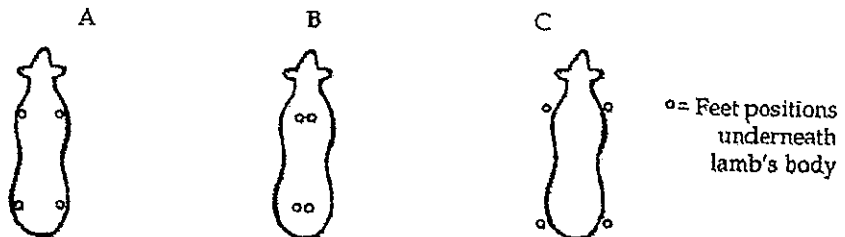
One way you can do this is to have a friend, parent, brother, or sister touch and handle the lamb while you brace it (later we will discuss how bracing is done). It will take a lot of handling before the lamb will ignore the touch. This may be frustrating for you, but you will soon gain control.

If you must do all the training by yourself, try breaking the lamb by backing it into a fence or bale of hay. To the animal, striking the hay hits the "go button" just like a judge touching the back or leg. If you repeat that move long enough, the lamb may no longer jump when being touched on the rear.

In the final steps of training the animal to lead, do not use the halter. For young, less experienced showmen, the halter may be left on the sheep's head during a show, with the other end of the halter looped around the showman's wrist. This makes sure that your lamb will not break free and run away. Although the halter may be left on the animal, the lamb is shown by holding its lower jaw in your left hand. If the lamb stops or balks, you may have to use the right hand behind the head to help push it along. You may even have to reach back with the right hand to the dock (stub left after tail was removed) and pull forward to get the lamb back on the move. Again, practice is the secret to success.

## "SETTING UP" THE LAMB

Another training step involves "setting up" the lamb. When the lamb is stopped, its feet should be positioned squarely under the corners of its body (see A below).



Two "wrong feet positions" are B, where the lamb stands with feet side by side, or C, where the lamb stands too spread out, allowing its back to sag downward.

When setting up the lamb to show its side view, squat down (your knees up, and your bottom down) and turn so that one knee is in front of the lamb's chest and neck and other knee alongside lamb's shoulder. Keep your knees off the ground—they might pick up dirt that later could be wiped onto the lamb's wool and take away from its appearance. The leg and knee against the neck and under the jaw make the lamb feel more secure as you bend down to lift its feet to place them as you want them under the animal's body. This also keeps the lamb from moving forward when you lift its legs. (You could set up the lamb while you are standing, before you assume the squatting position.)

To move the foot and/or leg, simply lift the foot. The sheep's reaction will be to jerk its foot from your hand. Usually it will put the foot down in a better position. If the feet are not in the proper position now, keep lifting them until your lamb sets them down correctly.

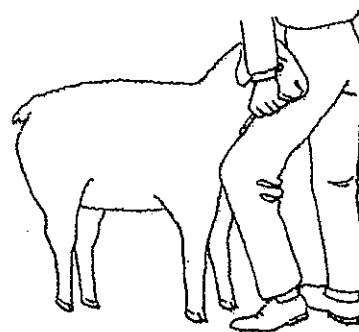
Once the animal is set up, an occasional scratch to the middle of the lowermost belly will keep the animal calm. Also, scratching the belly will make the lamb lift its back if it is sagging. Scratching the belly can be useful also when the judge feels of a lamb's back because this causes the lamb to lift and strengthen its back muscles.

## BRACING THE LAMB

Solid control of the lamb in the showing is a must. Bracing involves controlling a lamb's natural tendency to move forward when touched or excited. Keep the lamb from moving by controlling the head and neck positions and also by using your legs and hands as braces against the lamb's neck and shoulder. Let's look at some examples of when you use bracing and how you might use it.

Bracing is used to show the rear view of the animal to the judge. In this illustration, you are standing in front of the lamb and the lamb's rear is pointed toward the judge. Place your left hand over the head of the lamb and grasp its right jaw. Take your left leg and position it under the lamb's jaw and neck, holding the head firmly against your leg. From this position, you can lean over the lamb and, with your free right hand, pick up its legs from either side to set it up correctly. Also, from this position, you are ready to brace the lamb for handling by the judge. If your lamb is still ticklish to the judge's touch, you can use your free right hand to push the lamb's breast area backwards and upwards toward the judge.

Braced lamb



A second way to brace is to leave the lamb's neck over your thigh as before and reach down with both hands to the front of the shoulders, pushing backwards slightly to brace the lamb.

A third way to brace is to grasp the lamb's jaws with both hands and push downwards and backwards toward the judge. This procedure does not give the novice as much control as the other two.

Remember—you are not trying to shove the lamb over the judge; you are trying to keep the lamb from jumping forward or running away when handled. Since most handling is done when presenting a rear view, most bracing is done at that time. Bracing may well be the most important showmanship tool you can have because most failures occur when animals are handled.

## THE SHOWRING

When you work with your lamb, always work as if show day were here! What can you expect as you lead your animal into the ring with all the other contestants?

The judge will stand in the center of the ring and will ask you to move all the lambs around him/her. Always keep your eye on the judge. Try to keep your lamb at least 8 feet behind the lamb in front. If you get too close to the lamb in front, you may spook that lamb and yours, too. Move clockwise.

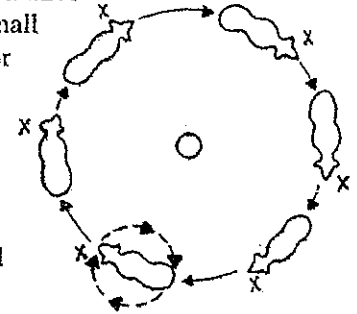


Remember to stand proudly, left hand under the lamb's jaw and with your eyes always on the judge. You should be neatly dressed, with no chewing gum in your mouth and no cap, and have a nice smile on your face. You want the judge to see that you are attentive, have your animal under perfect control, and are as happy as can be showing what you brought to the show.

Perhaps the judge will ask you to stop in the circle. Stop immediately and keep your eye on the judge, who will turn and look at all the sheep. As soon as the judge's eyes are on someone else, go to brace position, lean over your lamb, and set it up. Do this quickly and return to your relaxed holding position, carefully keeping your eye on the judge.

If your lamb is nervous and jumps around when you have stopped, very calmly pull your lamb out and into a small circle, then go back to where you were. Never fight or wrestle with your lamb. Moving it will calm the lamb much quicker than wrestling with it. Keep your eye on the judge when you are doing this!

Next, the judge will want a side view. Lambs will be lined up end to end with your lamb between you and the judge. Quickly brace, set up the legs, and assume your proper showman's position.



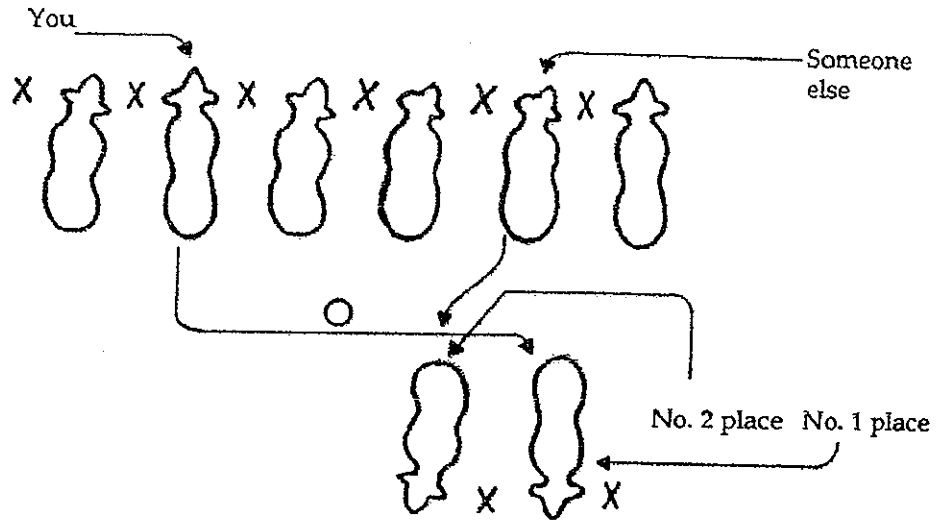
Smaller, younger showmen may stand behind their lamb, left hand grasping the jaw. Larger and more experienced showmen may squat behind the lamb. The lower your head is in relation to the sheep's back, the taller the lamb will look. You want the lamb to be presented in its most attractive position. Never place your hand on top of the lamb's back. This is considered a major mistake by many judges.

A rear view (with handling) may be called for by the judge. Lambs should be lined up side by side for this. Try to put your lamb a few feet away from lambs on either side of you.



Once in position, brace and set up your lamb. Then back away, keeping your eyes on the judge. Position yourself as much in front of the animal as you can. If the judge is coming to handle your lamb, brace again by stepping in with your left leg under the neck, left hand over the lamb's head grasping the right jaw, and your right hand on the front and lower side of the shoulder or the breast to hold. If your lamb is jumpy, turn it in a short circle and repeat the set up process, trying not to draw the judge's attention.

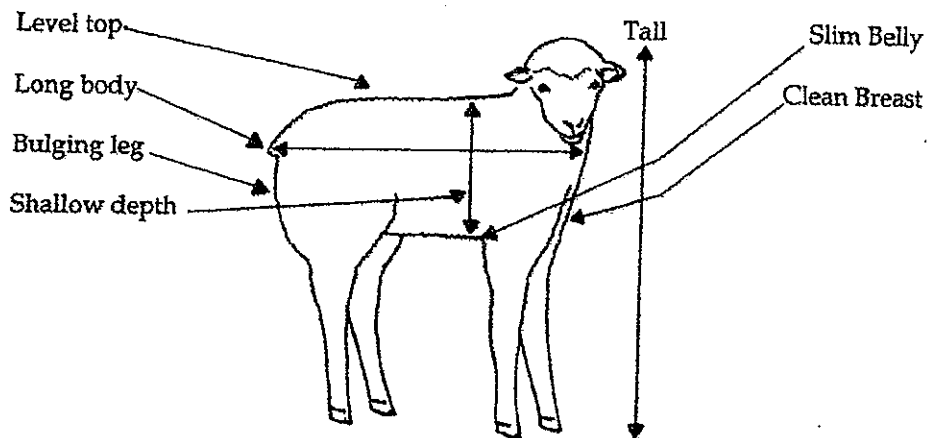
Finally, the judge will begin to pick the winners of the class. The judge will point at you and tell you to bring your lamb out and place it somewhere else.



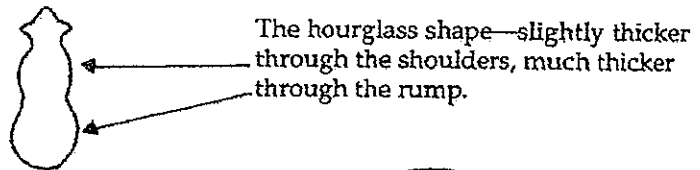
Move your lamb and set it up. Try to do everything correctly because the judge will turn, look at the placing one more time, and perhaps switch one or two animals if a showman is asleep on the job. Be alert, attentive, and happy. Your hard work just paid off! You won the class!

### FITTING THE LAMB

Cleaning and shaping the wool on a lamb to give the proper body shape is called "fitting." You want to have a clean animal that looks very muscular but not fat. Shaping the wool properly can cause the muscling to look better than it really is. From the side, your lamb should have these characteristics:



From the top side:

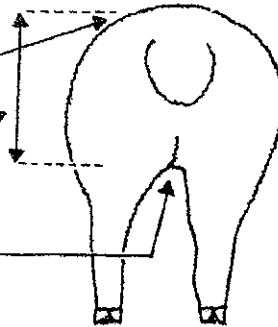


From the rear:

Rounded top

Deeply muscled

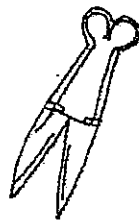
Twist clean, deep



To properly work the wool into its desired shape, these tools are needed:



Electrical shears



Hand shears



Card



Spray bottle

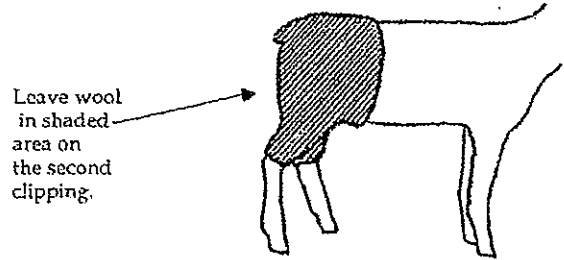
## INITIAL SHEARING

Eight weeks before show time, completely shear the lamb's body—legs, belly, neck, head, face—all of it, with the electrical shears. The wool grows back rapidly on a freshly shorn lamb and you will use this rapidly grown wool to shape your lamb later.

## SECOND SHEARING

Two weeks before the show, clip the body close again except the rear legs. Ideally, you want 3/4-inch wool on the rear of the animal for the final fitting on or about show day. You can always cut excess wool off but you can never put wool back on.

For the second shearing (and all shearings thereafter), use special blocking combs that are available for either 2 1/2- or 3-inch shearing heads on electrical shears. You want the wool remaining on the body to be smooth and free of ridges and creases. If your lamb's wool is not smooth, criss-cross the rough areas with your shears to remove most of the high spots.



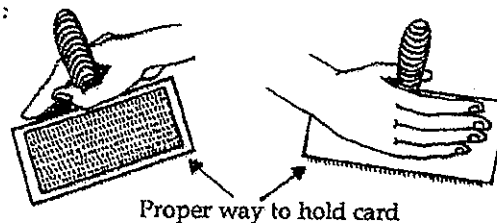
## WASHING

The lamb must be washed 3 or 4 days before the show. Use warm water and any good shampoo to clean the wool. Since the fleece contains much lanolin (grease), washing takes quite some time. Always spray water downward on the head so that ears and eyes are protected. Work in the shampoo and thoroughly scrub all the wool. In rinsing, be sure that soap is removed from under the flanks, chest, and belly regions. A curry comb with serrated (toothed) edges is useful in removing stubborn materials and knots from the wool and also for removing some of the excess water the wool will retain. The lamb may also be towel dried.

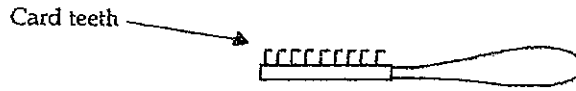
## INITIAL CARDING

The rear legs still have significant amounts of wool on them. After the lamb is almost dry, there will be enough dampness in the wool for carding. A card is a tool that has the same use as a brush in grooming human hair—it pulls the fibers in one direction. If you are carding a dry sheep, lightly spray some water from a bottle or use a damp cloth to wet the wool a little. For carding and clipping, you may want to build a fitting stand that restricts the animal's movement.

In carding, try to pull all the wool fibers out straight from the body so the wool will look and feel firm and dense. Also, by pulling the fibers outward, you can begin to trim and shape the leg area into whatever shape you desire. Carding followed by hand shearing will soon turn your fuzzy-looking lamb into a more show-worthy lamb. To use the card properly, it should be held as shown below:

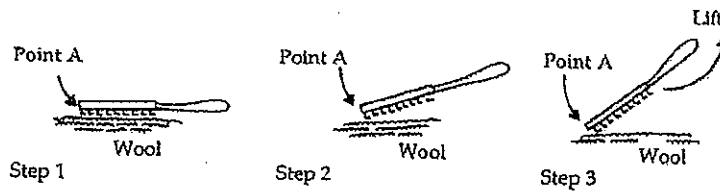


Always remember to hold the card with your hand flat against the back side of the card and your thumb around the handle. The movement of the card is important.



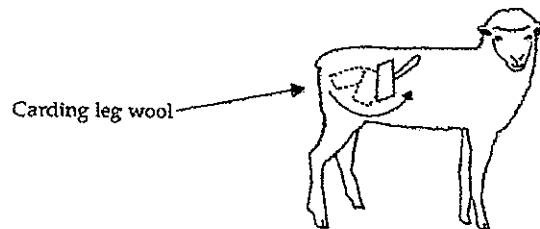
Card lying flat, side view

The teeth of the card are sharp little wires with a hook on the end. These teeth hook the wool and pull it outward. The teeth points are angled toward the handle, so when the handle of the card is lifted, fibers are straightened.

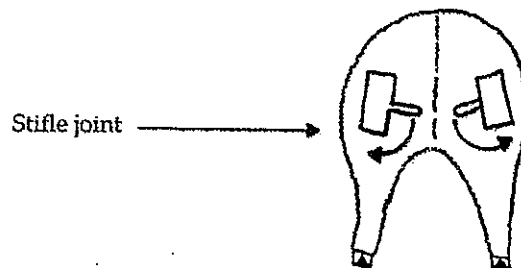


This series of steps shows how a card is used. In Step 1, the wool is hooked; Step 2, the handle is raised but Point A does not move; and Step 3, the handle is pulled upright, all teeth are now out of the wool, but Point A still has not moved. These steps are repeated over and over.

The direction you card depends on what you want the wool to do for you. Since you want the leg to look thicker, card the wool on the side of the leg upward.



On the rear, card the wool outward from the center of the rump to make the lamb look wider. When the rear is hand sheared, the widest point on the fitted lamb should be through the stifle. Be careful with the card—it can hurt if used where wool is too short.



The wool can be "packed" to make it firmer. After it has been carded and hand sheared smooth, use the back of the card to gently pat the wool down. This will make the lamb feel firmer where more wool was left on the body.

## HAND SHEARING

Hand shearing is a safer final shearing technique than shearing with electrically powered shears because you are less likely to cut "gaps" in the wool. If the wool is too wet, be very careful with hand shears, too, because they can cut more than desired.

When cutting with hand shears, let one blade rest flatly on the wool surface. As you squeeze the handles together on the shears, the blade resting on the wool should stay still while the other blade moves back and forth doing the very slight amount of cutting desired. This takes practice, but it is best to learn the proper way. Once learned, you have greater control than you would have with both blades of the shears moving simultaneously.

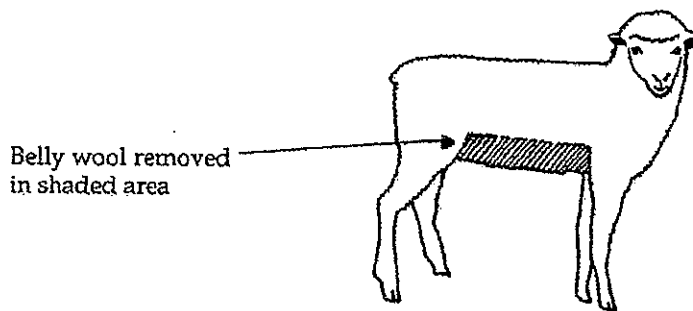
Remember that you are trying to make the legs of your lamb appear thick. Work slowly, trimming only small amounts of wool. Leave your final trim to show day. Be sure that the wool blends in from one spot on the body to the next. You want to create the illusion of a sheep that is beautifully proportioned in body shape and whose wool looks the same all over. Practice makes perfect. You must be very careful in trimming near show day because the wool will not grow back if you mess up somewhere.

## FINAL WASH AND TRIM

On show day, there is a lot to do. Re-washing is first, followed by drying. Use cold or lukewarm water but no heated blow dryers—heat will make the wool feel sharp and abrasive. Remember that wool takes 4 to 6 hours to dry, so start early.

After washing, you will spend the rest of your time on show day on final trimming. Until now you have largely ignored the middle of the lamb and concentrated on legs, neck, and face. Today, finish these areas and put the final carding and trim on the rear legs.

Trim the belly very close to the skin. Small animal clippers or human hair clippers will remove the short wool right down to the skin. This makes the body depth look shallower, which helps give a longer appearance to your lamb. Closely trim an imaginary area below a line drawn from flank to flank.



Trim the head so that it looks like it has a minimum of 2 weeks of wool growth. Two weeks of wool growth looks like the amount of wool left on by shearing with a 9- or 10-tooth comb on electrical shears. In other words, wool on the head should not be too short. Cutting too much wool off the neck and head makes them look narrow or more like a goat. This is not the appearance you want.

Use your own judgment as to whether the chest and neck need to look wider or thicker. If so, leave extra wool in these places to provide that thickness. Since different breeds treat the head and facial wool differently, look at pictures of animals winning other shows so you will know what your animal should look like.

The back and loin areas are next. Showmen want their sheep to have thick muscling down the back. Also, they want the back to be as flat as possible from the top of the shoulders all the way to the rear of the rump (from a side view). With electrical shears, apply a crew cut down the back. Remember to keep flatness front to rear but keep the loin as pronounced as possible. Do not cut too much at a time or you might cut away the wool necessary to widen the loin. How should you shape the loin? Viewed from the animal's rear, the top of the back should be rounded.



Correct shape of back

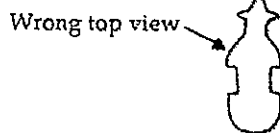


Wrong shape of back



Wrong shape of back

You will also need to blend the wool on the rump and shoulder with that remaining on the loin. If the shoulders are naturally thick, shorten the wool cover to a shorter length to get the right body shape.



Wrong top view



Correct top view  
—shoulders and  
rump blended  
with loin

If the lamb is narrow down the back, shear from the center outward to provide a wider appearance.

Shear from  
centerline  
outward to  
widen loin



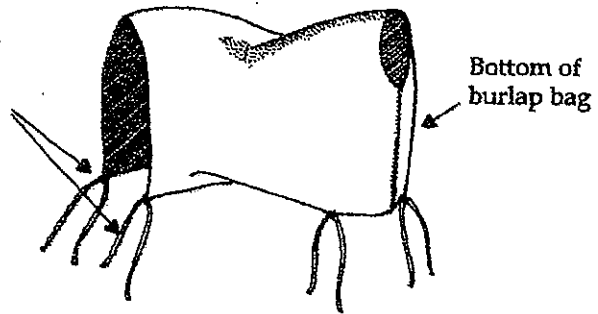
Blend legs with the rest of the body. You do not want black toothpicks under your muscular lamb; neither do you want patches of 2-inch hair here and there. Trim so that the legs will look balanced with the rest of the body.

## BLANKET

After you have done your best, you can hardly wait to get your lamb into the showing. Since you may have to wait some time before your class begins, it is a good idea to put a sheep blanket over the lamb to keep it clean. The blanket can be tied to the legs or it can be pinned beneath the flanks to keep it from falling off. Leave the rear of the blanket open so that the lamb will not soil it.

You can make a blanket from a clean burlap bag. First, split one of the long edges. Next, cut out the corner of the sack's bottom opposite the side you split for the lamb's head to fit through. Now you have a sheep blanket that will keep straw, sawdust, and dirt away until show time.

Burlap bag, split down one side, one corner of bottom cut away. Ties to tie around legs



## FEEDING

The last day or two before the contest, take away hay and grass and keep the lamb on the same amount of grain that he has been receiving. Hay and grass will make the belly bulge, which you do not want on show day. Do not increase the grain to offset the hay — this can kill the lamb.

## SUMMARY

The rest is fun. Relax, do your best in the showing, and be proud of what you accomplish. If you do not win this year, then next year you will be a veteran and will have an edge over the competition.

See you at the fair!

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# Showmanship

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# Market Lamb Showmanship

A good showman is prepared for the proper presentation of an animal. Showmanship is the one area of livestock showing where the exhibitor has control. In showmanship, you are judged on your ability to control and present the lamb at its best.

Advanced planning, practice, and hard work are keys to becoming a good showman. Lamb showmanship teaches many valuable lessons that are used in day-to-day life. These life skills include responsibility, learning about work and determination to reach a goal, succeeding graciously, and accepting setbacks with dignity. Winning takes practice at home and can become a reality by working with the lamb and having someone handle the lamb as a judge will at the show.

## Appropriate Dress

Always practice good personal hygiene and dress neatly. Leather boots are preferred for safety and appearance. Wear clean jeans or slacks and a neat dress shirt or sport shirt; do not wear a T-shirt. Tuck in your shirt, and wear a belt for added neatness. Keep jewelry to a minimum.

Leave caps and grooming equipment in the grooming area. (Make your final grooming touches on the lamb before the class is called.) Caps distract the judge's concentration; do not wear caps in showmanship. A neat appearance helps make a positive impression.

## Show Time

Before a show, walk over the arena to find any low spots. Always set the lamb facing uphill if forced to stop in any low area. This will give the appearance of more extension through the front end of the lamb.

Promptly enter the showing, leading the lamb from the left-hand side. Small exhibitors may use a halter. Advanced exhibitors lead the lamb with the left hand under the chin and the right hand behind the ears. Keep the ears in an alert or forward position while on the move.

Position the lamb straight in the side-by-side lineup. Quickly, yet smoothly, set the lamb so that all four feet are squared with the rear legs slightly back. Do not get down on your knees to set up a lamb; this causes you to have less control of the lamb. Small exhibitors may use a knee or feet to set the lamb's legs. By bumping the breastplate with the knee, smaller exhibitors can move the animal's rear legs back.

Larger exhibitors can lift the front end of the lamb with a leg to move the lamb into proper position. Larger exhibitors can also use their hands to help set up the lamb. Set the rear legs first, and allow the lamb to push into your leg, then lift and set the front legs.

Once the lamb is set up, keep its head held high, and locate the judge. Remain standing in front of your lamb when the judge is viewing the lambs from the rear. Push

into the lamb so that muscle expression will appear in the rear leg. Never place your hand on the lamb's back or the base of its neck. This will obstruct the judge's view of the lamb's top. As the judge moves around to the right of the lamb, stay on the left and in front of the lamb.

As the judge views the front of the lamb, move to the lamb's left side and face the judge. Hold the lamb's head erect with ears forward. Be sure to keep the lamb's head high and in line with its body. As the judge moves to the left of the lamb, move back to the front to give the judge a full view of the entire animal.

### Handling the Lamb

Always be ready for the judge to handle the lamb. Train the lamb to brace or push against your leg; this is known as "driving" the lamb. By driving into your leg, the lamb's muscles tighten up, feel firmer, and appear large and pronounced. Train the lamb to respond to pressure when asked to drive as opposed to standing squarely in line. When driving the lamb, stand in front and hold its head securely with the lamb's nose tilted upward (Figure 1). Gently push back on the lamb with the inside of your leg placed on the lamb's breast and shoulder area.

While driving the lamb, make sure all four feet remain on the ground. Never pick up your lamb so that its front feet are lifted off the ground while driving. This does not give you an advantage.

A firm top is a must when driving the lamb. Exhibitors who fail to produce a firm handle on the lamb will place down the line. A judge expects an exhibitor to be able to drive and maintain proper positioning of the lamb.



Figure 1. Drive your lamb by pushing back on its shoulder area with your knee or leg.

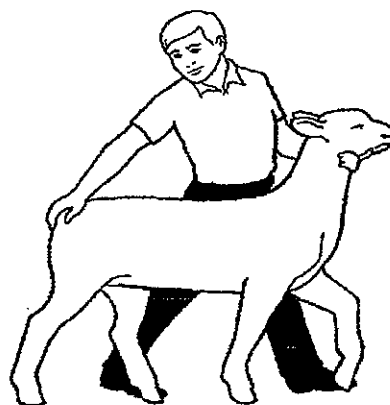


Figure 2. Lift the lamb's dock to encourage your lamb to walk.

### Moving the Lamb

After handling all the lambs, the judge will want you to walk your lamb. Be sure your lamb is under control and between you and the judge. If the lamb will not move, gently reach back and lift up on the lamb's dock (Figure 2).

When the judge requests, stop the lamb for a side view. Set up the lamb as discussed earlier. Allow plenty of room between you and the lamb in front. This gives extra room to work around the front of the lamb and keeps the lamb behind from crowding you on the profile.

Stand in front and to the lamb's left side to maintain the profile position. Drive the lamb with your leg, applying enough pressure to maintain a level top. Extend the head and neck upward while keeping the ears erect. Keep the lamb's head in line with the rest of its body.

**Stay alert.** The judge may handle the lamb again or motion for you and your lamb to move to another line. As lambs are pulled from the profile line, move forward to fill any resulting space. Reset your lamb, and watch the judge with each move forward. Once you are pulled to the placing line, remember the class is not over. Be sure to keep the lamb set up and looking its best.

The judge may decide to place the lambs differently after one final look. Study [Figure 3](#) to learn how to change positions if the judge asks you to move in the line. Be sure to set your lamb in a straight line from the first lamb set up (illustrated in [Figure 3](#)). Always turn your lamb to the right (clockwise) unless you are instructed to do otherwise.

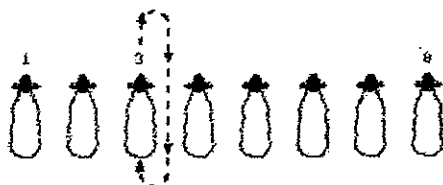
When the judge starts giving reasons, the class is over. Continue to work hard and display good sportsmanship. Congratulate the class winners and those who stood ahead of you. Offer encouragement to those that stand below, and by all means, remain a gracious and humble winner.

Finally, remember this is a learning experience. Leave the showing with your head held high, knowing that you gave your best effort. Learn from mistakes, watch other showmen, and improve your skills for the next show.

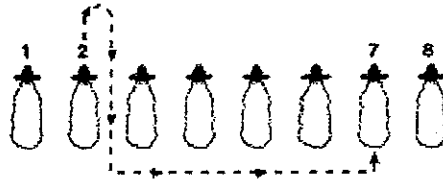
Figure 3



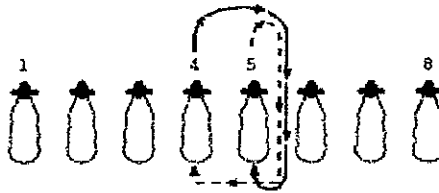
1. How to switch from position 4 to position 2.



2. How to reset in the same position using position 3.



3. How to switch from position 2 to position 7.



4. How to switch from positions 4 and 5; 5 moves out first.

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By R. Kipp Brown, Area Livestock Specialist. Adapted from Publication ANS 95-002B, North Carolina Extension Service.

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# Appendix

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## Sheep Wrap-Up Questions

1. What is the name of the ShowMaker textured lamb feed?  
a. Lamb Slam                      b. Total Lamb                      c. Top Lamb                      d. Complete lamb
2. What type of exercise should you use?  
a. Sprints                      b. Walking                      c. Treadmill                      d. None
3. What ShowMaker supplement should be used when holding a lamb?  
a. Opti-lean                      b. Showdown                      c. Bloom                      d. Soybean meal
4. What mineral can be toxic to sheep?  
a. Zinc                      b. Iron                      c. Calcium                      d. Copper
5. What three things are needed to get you to the winner's circle?  
a. Good Genetics, Good Management and Good Feed  
b. Expensive Genetics, Good Management and a Good Fit Job  
c. Out of state genetics, Good Feed and Water  
d. Good Genetics, Good Showmanship and Good Feed
6. What ShowMaker product contains 99% fat?  
a. Bloom                      b. Power-up                      c. Lamb slam                      d. Showdown
7. Which of the following is important when evaluating market lambs?  
a. Capacity                      b. Feminity                      c. muscle                      d. breed
8. Which of these terms is associated with market lamb?  
a. Rack                      b. Ham                      c. Round                      d. Flank.
9. Which of these fitting tools is used on sheep?  
a. Scotch comb                      b. Cane                      c. Card                      d. adhesive
10. What does it mean to drive your lamb?  
a. Guide the lamb around the ring  
b. Ride the lamb  
c. Brace the lamb  
d. Turn the lamb loose in the ring

# associated feed

## Feed Identification

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

### Grains

Crimped Oats  
Whole Cottonseed  
Beet Pulp  
Rolled Corn  
Rolled Barley  
Soyhull Pellets  
Whole Oats  
Wheat Millrun  
Soybean Meal  
Distillers Grain  
Alfalfa Pellets  
Canola Pellets  
Whole Corn  
Salt  
Rice Bran  
Almond Hulls  
Dried fat  
Whole Oats  
Fish Meal

## Hay Identification

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Alfalfa  
Oat  
Timothy  
Grass  
Fescue  
Bermuda grass  
Orchard grass  
Alfalfa grass mix  
Oat and Pea



# ShowMaker Math Lesson

## Sheep

You bought a project lamb that weighed 65 lbs. You weighed the lamb 50 days later and it weighed 110 lbs. You used 200 lbs of ShowMaker Lamb Slam. It cost you 10.75 per 50 lb sack.

1. What was the Average daily gain?
2. What was the average daily feed intake?
3. How many pounds of feed did it take per pound of gain?
4. What is your cost of feed per pound?
5. What is your feed cost per day?
6. What is your total feed cost for the project?



