

4-H

Sheep Project Proficiency Program

A Member's Guide

OVERVIEW

The 4-H **Sheep Proficiency program** helps you learn what you need to know about your 4-H sheep project. Your project leader will assist you in setting and achieving your goals. Through your project, you will learn animal care basics, good management practices and record keeping. You will also learn about the size and scope of the animal industry as it relates to your project.

There are many resources to help you learn more about your project:

- ◆ The *4-H Publications Catalog* lists a variety of project materials and resources recommended for use in your project.
- ◆ The *North Region 4-H Educational Resources Lending Library* at your county 4-H office includes other books, videos and reference materials that can be checked out by members and leaders.
- ◆ Check to see if there any local sheep groups, breeders or other organizations in your community that conduct educational activities and sheep shows. Local breeders are excellent sources of help and information.

There are five levels in the Project Proficiency Program. You may choose how many levels you wish to complete:

- **Level I – “Explorer”**, you begin to learn about many different aspects of raising sheep.
- **Level II – “Producer”**, you practice and refine the many skills involved in learning about and raising sheep.
- **Level III – “Consumer”**, you become an experienced animal raiser.
- **Level IV – “Leader”**, allows you to show your own leadership potential.
- **Level V – “Researcher”**, you carry out a demonstration or experiment on some aspect of sheep husbandry, and prepare a paper or portfolio.

As you work through the proficiency program, your leader will date each skill item as you complete it. When all items in a proficiency level are completed, your leader will sign the Certificate of Achievement and notify your 4-H office.

Sheep Project Proficiency

Level I - Explorer

Date _____
Completed _____

- _____1. Name and describe a Meat Breed of Sheep.
- _____2. Name and describe a Wool Breed of Sheep.
- _____3. Identify these parts of sheep from a diagram or live animal:
Shoulder, Twist, Loin, Thigh, Hock, Poll
- _____4. Show the proper way to lead a sheep, without using a halter.
- _____5. Describe what you need to provide your sheep with the proper housing?
- _____6. Explain these terms: buck, ewe, wether, ovine, wean, ruminant.
- _____7. Explain the 4 types of nutritional requirements that all sheep should have.
- _____8. Describe a symptom of illness and what you would do for it.
- _____9. State the desired weight for a market lamb and what determines this.
- _____10. Name 2 vaccines that a market lambs get.
- _____11. Explain why it is important to weigh your market lamb often.
- _____12. Show or describe how to trim a sheep's hoof.
- _____13. Explain what it means to "dock" a tail and one way it can be done.
- _____14. Show how to show a sheep's teeth.
- _____15. Describe the terms: Market Ready; Not Market Ready
- _____16. Explain what "gestation period" means and how long it is for sheep.
- _____17. Describe 3 pieces of equipment you will need to raise a market lamb.
- _____18. Tell the normal body temperature for sheep.
- _____19. Describe or show how to slick shear a market lamb.
- _____20. Name a by-product of sheep.

Member's Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK WITH YOUR PROJECT RECORDS.

*Approved by Lake County 4-H Council, June 2003
Developed by Leslie Murgatroyd, Lake County 4-H Sheep Leader*

Sheep Project Proficiency

Level II - Producer

Date _____
Completed _____

- _____1. Name four breeds of sheep and describe their purpose.
- _____2. Tell how many teeth are on the front, top pad of the mouth of sheep.
- _____3. Tell how many teeth are on the bottom front jaw at 2 years of age.
- _____4. Describe desirable conformation in a market lamb.
- _____5. Visit a sheep breeder's facility during lambing season and describe it.
- _____6. Explain these terms: gummer, filler, ration, creep, ram, cryptorchid
- _____7. Describe how to fit a purebred ewe for show.
- _____8. Name two diseases sheep get and the control measures you can use.
- _____9. Explain Scrapie and why it is so important to know about this.
- _____10. Demonstrate competent showmanship.
- _____11. Explain rate of gain.
- _____12. Participate in a sheep show and tell what you did.
- _____13. Explain two methods to castrate a male lamb.
- _____14. List two products you should have on hand to treat sickness or injury.
- _____15. Tell what the fat range is for a Market Ready lamb.
- _____16. Explain the term "cutability".
- _____17. Tell the minimum weight for fair entry and the maximum pay weight.
- _____18. Write a one page report about your breed and share it with the project.
- _____19. Tell how you can haul your sheep to the vet or to a show.
- _____20. Name two ways to give injections.

Member's Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Sheep Project Proficiency

Level III - Consumer

Date _____
Completed _____

- _____ 1. Tell three different methods for de-worming sheep.
- _____ 2. Name at least one de-worming product you use.
- _____ 3. Tell how to set a market lamb up for the a judge.
- _____ 4. Explain what an inverted eyelid is and the treatment for it.
- _____ 5. Explain what you would do to keep good management records.
- _____ 6. Name two external parasites and how to treat for them.
- _____ 7. Tell what the feed conversion rate is for lambs?
- _____ 8. Tell what the dressing percentage is on a market lamb.
- _____ 9. Name two ways to check for Spider Syndrome.
- _____ 10. Tell what ASI stands for.
- _____ 11. Name two ways to check for Scrapie.
- _____ 12. Participate in a sheep judging contest. (at the project level or above)
- _____ 13. Describe the digestive system anatomy and physiology for sheep.
- _____ 14. Keep a personal reference library and tell what is in it.
- _____ 15. Demonstrate two methods for administering medications.
- _____ 16. Explain the terms: QQ, AA QR, AV QR and RR.
- _____ 17. Contact a state or national breed association and tell the group what it has to offer.
- _____ 18. State the normal vital signs (temperature, respiration, heart rate) for sheep.
- _____ 19. Explain how you market your animal.
- _____ 20. Teach something to the younger members in your group.

Member's Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Sheep Project Proficiency

Level IV - Leader

Date _____
Completed _____

- _____1. Serve as a Junior or Teen Leader for this project for a year.
- _____2. Assist younger members in designing and constructing needed equipment.
- _____3. Prepare teaching materials for use at project meetings.
- _____4. Develop and put on a demonstration or judging event to train a junior team for such an event.
- _____5. Speak on a project-based subject before an organization other than your 4-H project group.
- _____6. Assist at a show as a clerk, secretary, recorder, assistant to the judge, ring master or with set-up, registration, etc.
- _____7. Assist younger members in learning a specific topic in the project.
- _____8. Develop your own special project related activity. Chart your progress, plan the activities, analyze success and problems and report to the club.

Member's Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Sheep Project Proficiency

Level V - Researcher

Date _____
Completed _____

- _____ 1. Report on the results of an experiment comparing measurable differences in management procedure.

- _____ 2. Prepare a paper of 300 words or more on one of the following topics:
 - Management of animal
 - Feeds, feeding, and nutrition
 - Diseases, prevention and control, and general sanitation
 - Markets and methods of marketing
 - Reproduction, breeding, and genetics
 - By-product preparation for market, how marketed, and used
 - Keeping and using records as a basis for improving your animal project
 - Other

Member's Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Certificate of Achievement

This certifies that

has completed the _____ Proficiency

in _____ County.

Explorer

Producer

Consumer

Leader

Researcher

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

Leader's Signature

Leader's Signature

Leader's Signature

Leader's Signature

Leader's Signature

NOTES

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