

SCOURING

- * Another cause of death in hand reared lambs is scours. They become dehydrated and die.
- * It is important to stop feeding milk for 24 hours and give instead 40 mls of boiled water (you can add a pinch of glucose for energy to this) cooled to body temperature every two or three hours. After the 24 hour starvation period, feed milk every two to three hours for a day. As the lamb starts to respond increase both the level and times of feeding back to normal. ½ the total amount for 1 day that you were feeding into twice as many feeds i.e. if normal feed was 4 @ 200ml feeds, this becomes 8 @ 50ml feeds, next day 6 @ 100ml and then the 3rd day back to normal.
- * The recipe to feed your lamb is a mixture of 50% milk mix to 50% water – small amounts often, can be fed for a couple of days.

PREPARATION AND CARING

1. Spend as much time as possible with your lamb, make it your pet.
2. Do not brush or comb your lamb as they bruise very easily.
3. Do not bath or wash your lamb. If they are very dirty they can be rinsed with cool water.
4. Keep your lamb's hooves and legs clean. If necessary snip off any dags.
5. Keep lamb under cover when the weather is wet so that it doesn't get too dirty and can keep warm.
6. Practice leading and calling your lamb as often as possible.



Also a good way to keep lambs clean and warm is to put them in an old tee shirt.

JUDGING

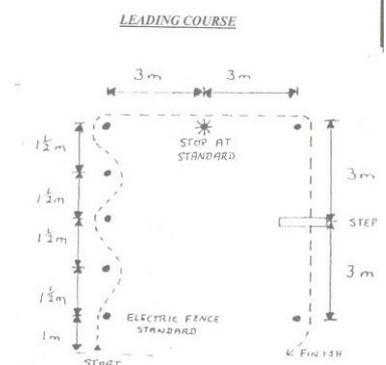
- * The judge will be looking for obvious effort made by you to care for your lamb and to keep it healthy and clean.
- * You will be asked to CALL your lamb across the ring. The lamb is then expected to FOLLOW you back to the other side.
- * You will have to lead your lamb through a weaving section to a peg, stop for the count of 3 or 4, and lead on again stepping over a log of wood. Try not to pull your lamb.
- * Note: *Children are not to hold items of food in their hands when calling the lamb.*

LEADING

- * Use a collar to lead your animal, not a halter.
- * Leading should start at an early age (approximately 3 – 4 weeks), but only when your animal has confidence in you. Use a collar with a lead clipped to it. Do not drag your animal. Your lamb must walk on your right side, in line with your leg.
- * Walk at your animal's pace, but not too fast. Do NOT touch, slap or push your animal while leading.
- * When your lamb or goat will walk beside you at a good pace in a straight line, it is time to try leading it around obstacles and over posts or timber. Be patient, your animal will learn quickly.

You could be penalised for the following actions:

▪ Releasing the grip with the right hand	▪ Touching the animal during leading
▪ Jerking the lead	▪ Pushing the animal with the child's leg.
▪ Slapping or hitting the lamb in anyway	



THE MOST OBVIOUS PET SECTION

This section shows just how well your lamb responds to you and goes way back to when your pet was only a few days old, when you started looking after it.

CALLING AND FOLLOWING

- * You begin by feeding it, and as it becomes used to this it will respond to your call.
- * You might have to begin by standing with a bottle of milk behind your back (about 9 metres away) and call it by name. As it responds you reward it with a gentle pat and feed it. Do not use biscuits as a reward. Lambs should not eat biscuits as they are bad for their teeth.
- * Your relationship, based on trust and firm but gentle handling, will grow day by day as you get to know each other extremely well.
- * As it grows you will have to supply it with fresh water and pasture each day. On Calf Club day your lamb will be ready to repay you for your good efforts.
- * By now it will follow you anywhere, come when you call, whether or not you have a bottle. Practise also walking your lamb, not too fast, but at an even steady pace. The next stage is running with your lamb following behind. When you stop quietly but firmly catch it.
- * On Calf Club Day act as naturally as possible so as not to upset your lamb. Try to relax and enjoy the day. Call in a loud clear voice.

Male lambs can be dangerous when older and should be rung when they are about 7 – 10 days old. It is a lot more painful if they are older than this, and the animals are also harder to control.

An ideal shelter is a simple a frame structure made of lightweight materials and set on skids ~ ideas can be found on the internet.

Oblong or square houses seem to be the best.

After Calf Club:

Try to represent your school at Agricultural Group Day with your animal, if you wish. This is usually held on the Wednesday after our Calf Club day. The winning school receives a trophy and you have the chance to win more ribbons. **This year animals have to be entered for Group Day before our Calf Club Day so if interested please make sure you get your entries in early as they will NOT be accepting late entries.** If returning your lamb, please ring the breeder and check when it is all right to take the lamb back. If you are keeping your lamb at home for a pet, don't forget it still likes the care and attention you have already been giving it.