

AN335
Sheep Production Management

3 Credits

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AN335 Version: 19



Sheep Production Management

Calendar Description

This course is a practical study of sheep management including breeding stock selection, marketing, feeding, housing, and predator control. Students gain experience by working with the farm flock. Field trips to sheep producers in the area may be taken if time permits.

Rationale

This is an elective course for Animal Science Technology. Sheep Management gives a concentrated overview of the sheep industry, and supplies some of the practical skills required for the successful management of a sheep operation. In addition, an integrated approach to management and the relationships of sheep to other production enterprises are discussed.

Prerequisites

None

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. perform the basic practical skills of sheep husbandry necessary for the successful management of a sheep production unit.
2. apply essential employability skills in the sheep industry, including handling, processing and lambing.
3. demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical knowledge applicable to the sheep industry.
4. identify key management practices in the production calendar of a sheep herd.
5. discuss current issues affecting sheep producers in Western Canada.
6. research topics of interest to the industry, and present this information to others.

Resource Materials

Required Text:

Simmons, P., & Ekarius, C. (2019). *Storey's guide to raising sheep* (5th ed.). Storey Publishing, LLC.

Reference Text:

Editors of Storey Publishing (Author). (2006). *Storey's barn guide to sheep*. Storey Publishing, LLC.

Conduct of Course

This course contains both lectures and labs. The lecture portion of the course provides information and discussion on various topics related to the industry, including feeding, breeding, lambing, herd health, as well as current issues faced by producers in Western Canada.

In addition to lectures, students actively participate in the management of the college sheep unit and assume supervision of the unit during portions of the lambing period.

Evaluation Procedures

Students play an integral role in lambing out the sheep flock by taking shifts in the sheep barn during lambing. Responsibility, reliability, and independent initiative are considered key prerequisites for the development of a herdsman. For this reason students who miss more than one assigned shift will receive a mark of zero for the lambing practicum component of the course.

Marking Scheme:

Lambing Practicum	20%
Assignments	15%
Lab assignments	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Comprehensive Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Classroom and laboratory attendance is considered vital to the learning process and as significant to the students' evaluation as examinations and reports.

- a. Students having a combination of excused and/or unexcused absence of 20 percent or higher for the scheduled course hours will be required to withdraw and will automatically receive a "RW" (required withdrawal) for the course, regardless of any other evaluation results. (RW is a failing grade.)
- b. An excused absence is one that is verified with your Instructor. Verification should be prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence. Verification of the absence may take the form of a note from your doctor/College nurse regarding illness, or a note from another Instructor regarding a field trip or other activity, or authorization by your Instructor. An unexcused absence is anything NOT verified by the instructor prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence.

NOTE: Any exceptions to the above attendance policy (e.g. timetable conflicts, work-related issues) must be approved in writing by the Department Chair prior to the beginning of the course.

It is the students' responsibility to know their own absentee record.

Normal hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with potential for evening courses, exams or extended field trips. Students are expected to be available for classes during these times.

Course Units/Topics

1. The sheep industry & breed profiles
2. Overview on flock management
3. Pre-parturition ewe management
4. Lambing time management

5. Management in the growing/weaning phase
6. Nutrition and feeding programs
7. Flock health
8. Production Systems
9. Current issues in the Western Canadian sheep industry.



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