

Emergency Plan for Staff Indoor Lambing Management

Management practice:

e.g. *Identification marks– singles, twins, triplets, raddle colours, lean ewes, gimmers
Management areas & associated notes (e.g. problems go in old stables for X days)
Location of lambing aids, gloves, lubricant, etc.*

Intervention rules:

e.g. *When obviously backwards, head showing but no legs*

Post birth management:

e.g. *Dip naval with iodine
Veterinary treatments (antibiotics should not be given to all lambs)
Ewe checks (enough milk, body condition) and associated actions
Movement to individual pen when?*

Tip: a white board with a plan of the lambing shed, specific farm names/codes and staff roles will help with communication.

Colostrum management:

Rules and actions

*e.g. All triplet lambs get additional colostrum
Check ewe udders and strip the waxy plug
Check lamb belly and watch for suckling behaviour, what if not suckled within 1 hour?*

Colostrum tip

Colostrum from a ewe with a single lamb can be milked and stored in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours and frozen for up to 12 months. This colostrum is a better supplement than powdered colostrum due to flock specific antibodies.

Colostrum feeding:

Feed colostrum to the newborn lamb ASAP after birth and ideally within four hours.

Size of colostrum supplement: _____ millilitres (should be 50ml/kg bodyweight within four hours and 200ml/kg bodyweight within 24 hours)

Record that colostrum has been administered and by whom

Bottles/teats/stomach tubes used for feeding colostrum to lambs must be cleaned and disinfected between lambs

Further instructions:

*e.g. Powdered colostrum location and mixing instructions
Thawing stored colostrum from freezer – what temperature and for how long?
Administration – bottle feed by teat or stomach tube?*

Water, bedding, disinfecting and feeding:

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e.g. *Ewes should have access to clean water
Bedding and disinfection protocol for pens
Ensuring access to fresh good forage
Feeding individual pens*

Hard Feed

Ewe group (e.g. twins/triplets)	Feed ingredient	Mixing order (1 is first)	kg/ewe/feed

Feeding out times (should be same time each day):

The number of ewes in a pen/field will change, count before each feed and multiple the kg/ewe/feed to quantify amount needed per pen/field.

Marking procedure:

e.g. *Castration, numbering system, lamb checks (belly, watery mouth, eyes)*

Movements out the shed:

e.g. *Typical management, e.g. after 1 day old, they go to back paddock and then to Windmill field until stocked with x ewes and lambs*

Useful Contact Details:

Feed Merchant:

Number:

Company:

Vet:

Number:

Practice: