

Emergency Plan for Staff Outdoor Lambing Management

Management practise:

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

Typical stock surveillance rounds:

e.g. *Time of day you go round lambing fields, route and equipment you take with you.*

Intervention rules:

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

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*

Tip: a white board with a plan of the lambing paddocks, specific farm names/codes and staff roles will help with communication. Notes alongside fields, e.g. those prone to foxes, are also valuable.

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 calves.

Visit www.fas.scot for further information or contact the helpline on 0300 323 0161 or by email at advice@fas.scot

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?*

Feeding:

e.g. *Hay/silage management?
If grass is short?
Troughs or snacker feeding in field, when, what and how much?*

Marking procedure:

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

Efficient management tips

- Utilise a supercreek or other means to immobilise the ewe to improve handling
- A fishing net will help immobilise lambs if required
- Keep a tub with a measure of powdered colostrum and a flask of warm water to mix up colostrum when required
- Carry regular used items in a tool box on the quad e.g. ringers, bands, spray, antibiotic, needles, etc
- A drone to survey stock efficiently

Useful Contact Details:

Feed Merchant:

Number:

Company:

Vet:

Number:

Practice: