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9-1918

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Recommended Citation

Larsen, C., "Boys' and Girls' Club Work: Sheep Club" (1918). *Cooperative Extension Circulars: 1917-1950*. Paper 13.
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BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK

Sheep Club



EXTENSION DIVISION

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND MECHANIC ARTS AND U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATING

C. LARSEN, DIRECTOR

JUNIOR EXTENSION WORK

Paul J. ScarbroState Club Leader
Irene DunneAssistant State Club Leader
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Brookings, S. D.

THE PROJECT

Not until the last two years has the sheep raiser come into his own. With the present high prices of mutton and wool there can be no better opportunity offered boys and girls of South Dakota than to get into the production of these commodities. There is a serious shortage.

The raising of sheep requires less time, expense, and room than does that of any other kind of stock.

"A small flock on every farm" is the slogan for South Dakota club members. This will be the result of good club work, and we hope to see one or more sheep clubs in every county this year.

It is surprising to note the great amount of feed that goes to waste on every farm where sheep are not kept. Feed that cannot be saved except by pasturing sheep on it. Orchards, fence-rows, unused lots, and driveways are all kept clear and in perfect condition by sheep.

They are weed destroyers. Even in the stock pastures they eat weeds and bitter grasses that other stock leave.

Ewes will be clipped in June and the wool can be shipped as a club shipment or it can be pooled with the county wool growers.

Packers pay the highest prices for lambs up to 80 to 85 pounds. By keeping the lambs until they clean up the fields in the fall, they will reach this weight. They can be kept until November 1st on good gains with no grain feed.

REGULATIONS

1. Any junior 10 to 18 years inclusive, may enter.
2. Enrollments close November 1st.
3. Each member must have not less than two or more than ten head of breeding ewes, to enter.
4. A club shall consist of not less than five members.
5. Pure bred ewes should be adhered to where possible. Each club shall conform to a uniform breed.
6. A fund may be created by the club thru taxing a given amount per ewe for the purpose of purchasing a club ram.
7. Ram may be disposed of by club after breeding season closes. In case he is held over the club member keeping and caring for him is entitled to his clip, in pay for same.
8. Periodical reports are to be made when called for by the Assistant State Club Leader.
9. Instructions relative to care and feed of ewe during the winter months and to care of lambs, will be sent to each member.
10. Each member does his work, follows instructions, keeps a good record, makes reports, and writes a story of his work.
11. A sale will be held in each county or for each club about October 15th to dispose of surplus stock.
12. Each member is entitled with the same lamb to compete for community, county, state, and inter-state honors.

BASIS OF AWARD

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Per cent increase in value of flock | 30 % |
| 2. Type, uniformity, condition | 30 % |
| 3. Best reports and written story | 40 % |
| | 100 % |

SELECTING THE EWES

Choose large frame, motherly ewes, having a dense wool, length of staple, fine crimp; a fleece that your hand won't sink into when you place it on the sheep's back.

CARE OF EWES

1. Keep them in a dry, well ventilated place, free from drafts.
2. Keep them gaining in flesh during the severe winter weather.
3. Keep fresh water and salt before them at all times.
4. See that they have access to a pasture in winter for exercise.
5. They must have clean, bright hay, and fresh, clean feed. Avoid feeding spoiled roots, mouldy silage, or sour grain.
6. Watch your ewes carefully at lambing time. Keep them in separate pens for a week to be sure they will own their lambs.
7. Avoid handling the new born lambs. See that they get milk as soon as possible.
8. Feed your ewes grain a few weeks prior and just following the lambing season.
9. Shear your ewes about June 15.