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About Pinnacle Feeds Ltd.

Pinnacle Feeds Ltd. was formed as the result of a merger between Roberts Manufacturing company Ltd. and Archer Daniel Midlands (ADM) Barbados Feeds Ltd. in November 2000.

Pinnacle Feeds Ltd. is the sole manufacturer of livestock and poultry feeds in Barbados, however other business enterprises import other brands of livestock and poultry feed from the United States, Jamaica, Trinidad and St. Vincent.

Sheep Feeding Programme



FEED	USAGE
Lamb Ration	5 weeks to market
Sheep and Goat Feed	Gestation and Lactation

STAGE	FEED	MOLASSES (per day)
Pregnant Ewes	Sheep and Goat Feed	
Early gestation	0.5 lb/day	
Late gestation	> 1 lb/day	1.5 lbs
Lactating Ewes	Sheep and Goat Feed	
	3.0 lbs/day	1.5 lbs
Weaning - 35 lbs		
6 - 9 wks for rams	Lamb Ration 1 lb/day	0.25 lbs
6 - 10 wks for ewes	Lamb Ration 1 lb/day	0.25 lbs
35 - 55 lbs		
9 - 14 wks for rams	Lamb Ration 1.5 lbs/day	0.5 lbs
10 - 16 wks for ewes	Lamb Ration 1.5 lbs/day	0.5 lbs
55 - 70 lbs		
14 - 17 wks for rams	Lamb Ration 1 lb/day	0.6 lbs
16 - 21 wks for ewes	Lamb Ration 1.5 lbs/day	0.6 lbs
70 - 105 lbs		
17 - 26 wks for rams	Lamb Ration 2.5 lbs/day	0.6 lbs
70 - 85 lbs		
21 - 27 wks for ewes	Lamb Ration 2.5 lbs/day	0.6 lbs



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The PEAK
Of Animal Nutrition

Most sheep are fed poor quality forage; a sample of analyses done on local hay by the ADM laboratory in Quincy Illinois is shown below.

TEST	AS FED	DRY MATTER
MOISTURE	5.8900	%
NIR MOISTURE	5.8900	.0%
NIR DRY MATTER	94.1100	100.0%
NIR PROTEIN	4.8700	5.17%
NIR ADF	38.0100	40.39%
CALCIUM	.4900	.5207%
PHOSPHOROUS	.2200	.2338%
MAGNESIUM	.1200	.1275%
POTASSIUM	.4300	.4569%
COPPER	18.5000	19.6578 PPM
ZINC	34.0000	36.1279 PPM

The poor quality of our forages affects the performance of these ruminants. Management becomes vital, if good results are to be obtained. Provided is a checklist of procedures to be carried out on your farm:

Before Mating

Evaluate all rams, take stool samples, check hooves, check body condition and ask your veterinarian to have a swab of the prepuce evaluated by the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Trim hooves.

At Mating Time

Breed ewes in groups
Leave the ram with the group for 35 days
One ram can be used for 20 ewes.
Record the date of service.

During Early Pregnancy

Separate thin ewes from the herd and feed according to body condition
Ensure that ewes are not losing weight. Weight loss at this time increase4s the chances of embryo mortality and reduces litter sizes.

During Late Pregnancy

Treat for internal parasites (worms and coccidia) make sure the medication used is recommended for use during pregnancy.
Give vitamin E and selenium if white muscle disease is a problem.
Feed well to ensure good lamb birth weight and survival.
Be vigilant; look out for pregnancy toxemia and hypocalcaemia, especially if ewes are in poor condition. Call your veterinarian if a problem exists.

At Lambing Time

Be prepared for lambs from 142 days after the ram was introduced to the herd.
Monitor ewes for signs of lambing.
Disturb the ewe as little as possible.
If the ewe has difficulty lambing call your veterinarian immediately.

Clear the lamb’s nostrils immediately after birth, this can be done by inserting a piece of hay into the nostril or by holding the lamb by its hind legs and gently swinging the lamb.

Disinfect the navel cords of all lambs at birth, iodine or “violet spray” can be used.

Check the ewes to ensure that both teats are functional; strip some milk from the udder to ensure that the ewe does not have mastitis.

Ensure all lambs get colostrums within the first two hours of birth.

Allow the ewe to clean the lamb and establish a mother – lamb relationship.

The placenta (after birth) should be expelled by twenty-four hours after birth, if this has not occurred call your veterinarian at once.

Never place ewes into lambing pens before lambing.

Ewes should remain in the lambing pen for three days.

Once the ewe has been removed from the lambing pen, you should group ewes and their lambs in small manageable numbers (8 to 10 ewes).

Check lambs regularly for signs of pneumonia (coughing), diarrhea and starvation.

Artificially rearing lambs

This may be necessary if the ewe gives birth to triplets, quadruplets or quintuplets. It will be necessary if the ewe dies and no other ewe is available to foster the lamb. The following should be done:
Be prepared, have colostrum stored in your freezer before the lambing period.
Identify the weakest lamb in the litter for artificial rearing.
Ensure that the lambs have received colostrum within the first two hours of life.

If the ewe died during lambing and no ewes are available to provide colostrum, then colostrum from a CAE negative goat is the best alternative. If none of these is available cow’s colostrum may be used.

Feed the lamb(s) many small meals each day. The lamb will nurse the ewe 25 to 40 times per day; artificial rearing is an attempt to mimic what the lamb experiences. It is essential not to attempt to feed the lamb its requirement of milk in one feeding.

Encourage lambs to eat Lamb Starter from 10 days of age.

Provide lambs with access to clean, cool water at all times.

During Lactation

Ewes should be offered good quality hay or grass during lactation. The requirements of milk production and body maintenance are high and the ewe needs to have adequate concentrate feed and good quality forage.
Feed ewes according to the number of lambs that they are nursing. It is very important to group ewes by litter size.
At 10 days of age provide the lambs with a creep feed. Lamb Starter can be used.

At Weaning Time

Remove the ewe from the lambs and not the lambs from the ewes.
One week before weaning the lambs, stop the concentrate feeding of the ewe (this makes it important to have a creep area for the lambs). This removal of concentrate feed assist in the prevention of mastitis in the ewes.

After Weaning

The ewe should be handled as little as possible within the first week of weaning since she is susceptible to udder damage.
Treat the lambs for internal parasites.
Monitor the ewe’s body condition and feed to maintain the ewe in good body condition.



Prized sheep at Agrofest 2012