Feeding Show Lambs

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Lamb Quiz

- What will your lamb weigh at the fair?
- How many lbs. per day will you lamb gain?
- How much will a 100 lb. lamb eat? How much does it need to eat?
- Can you estimate weight of the lamb with a tape measure?
- Match the following weights with protein req.
  - 60 lbs. 13% of diet
  - 80 lbs. 15% of diet
  - 110 lbs. 12% of diet

Normal Feed Intakes

- Growing Lamb (60 to 80 lbs.: 4% of body weight
  - 80 lbs. x .?? = 3.2 lbs. per day of feed
  - 50% grain = ?? lbs. grain/day

- Finishing Lamb: 3% of body weight
  - 110 lbs. x .03 = 3.3 lbs. feed per day
  - 3.3 lbs. x .?? = 1.98 lbs. grain per day

Rumen Adjustment Period

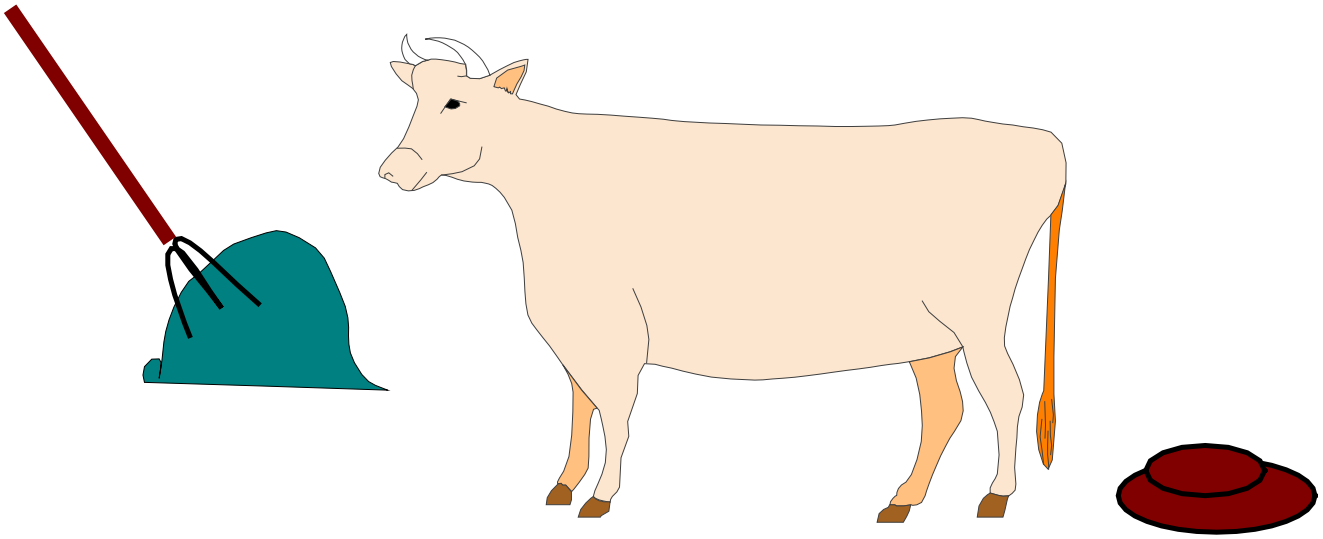
- Grass hay if not used to alfalfa
  - 1st 3 days, all grass hay, then 25% alfalfa
  - 5th day, 50% alfalfa
  - 7th day, 75% alfalfa
  - 9th day, 100% alfalfa

- Grain Step Ups:
  - .25 lbs. grain, 3 days
  - .50 lbs. grain, 3 days
  - 1.0 lbs. grain, 3 days
  - 1.5 lbs. grain, 3 days, then hold
  - If more grain is needed, feed each 10% increase in grain at least 7 days
  - For 4-H lambs, 40 to 50% grain is the norm, never more than 70%

- Grower Ration (50% grain) fed until 65 to 70 lbs. unless lamb is large and many days until show

- Danger signs:
  - Off feed
  - Loose stools

Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN)



10 lbs. hay

4 lbs. manure

10 lbs. fed - 4 lbs. manure = 6 lbs. digested

$$\frac{6}{10} = 60\ \%\ \text{TDN}$$

		orchardgrass hay		alfalfa hay, midbloom		corn		barley		oats			
		% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN		
		9.7%	57.0%	17.1%	58.0%	10.1%	91.0%	12.9%	84.0%	12.2%	76.0%		
Feed Mixtures													
Feeding Rations		orchardgrass/corn		orchardgrass/barley		orchardgrass/oats		alfalfa hay/corn		alfalfa hay/barley		alfalfa hay/oats	
%grain	%forage	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN	% CP	% TDN
	100	9.7	57.0	9.7	57.0	9.7	57.0	17.1	58.0	17.1	58.0	17.1	58.0
20	80	9.8	63.8	10.3	62.4	10.2	60.8	15.7	64.6	16.3	63.2	16.1	61.6
30	70	9.8	67.2	10.7	65.1	10.5	62.7	15.0	67.9	15.8	65.8	15.6	63.4
40	60	9.9	70.6	11.0	67.8	10.7	64.6	14.3	71.2	15.4	68.4	15.1	65.2
50	50	9.9	74.0	11.3	70.5	11.0	66.5	13.6	74.5	15.0	71.0	14.7	67.0
60	40	9.9	77.4	11.6	73.2	11.2	68.4	12.9	77.8	14.6	73.6	14.2	68.8
70	30	10.0	80.8	11.9	75.9	11.5	70.3	12.2	81.1	14.2	76.2	13.7	70.6
80	20	10.0	84.2	12.3	78.6	11.7	72.2	11.5	84.4	13.7	78.8	13.2	72.4
85	15	10.0	85.9	12.4	80.0	11.8	73.2	11.2	86.1	13.5	80.1	12.9	73.3
		Estimated TDN % in feeds containing 2% fat, 13% protein, and different levels of fiber as shown on feed labels*											
% Fiber listed on feed tag			2	Different levels of ash + minerals on feed tag 4	6	8	10	12					
2			86.9	85.1	83.3	81.5	79.7	77.9					
3			86.1	84.3	82.5	80.7	78.9	77.1					
4			85.3	83.5	81.7	79.9	78.1	76.3					
5			84.5	82.7	80.9	79.1	77.3	75.5					
6			83.7	81.9	80.1	78.3	76.5	74.7					
7			82.9	81.1	79.3	77.5	75.7	73.9					
8			82.1	80.3	78.5	76.7	74.9	73.1					
9			81.3	79.5	77.7	75.9	74.1	72.3					
10			80.5	78.7	76.9	75.1	73.3	71.5					
	*For 16% protein,deduct .5% TDN. For example a feed tag with 2% ash, 2% fiber, and 16% protein would be 86.1 % TDN.												
	*For 10% protein,add .5% TDN. For example a feed tag with 2% ash, 2% fiber, and 10% protein would be 87.4 % TDN.												
	*For each 1% added fat, add 2.25% TDN.												

Nutrient Requirements of Lambs (*from NRC, Nutrient Req. of Sheep, 1985*)

		DAILY DRY MATTER		COMPOSITION OF FEED			
Body Weight (lb)	Daily Gain (lb)	Per Animal (lb)	% Live Weight	TDN (%)	Crude Protein (%)	Calcium (%)	Phosphorus (%)
Growing - Lambs finishing - 4 to 7 months old							
66	0.65	2.9	4.4	72.4	14.5	0.50	0.24
88	0.60	3.5	4.0	77.1	11.7	0.42	0.21
110	0.45	3.5	3.2	77.1	10.0	0.35	0.19
Early weaned lambs - Moderate growth potential							
22	0.44	1.1	5.0	81.8	25.5	0.80	0.38
44	0.55	2.2	5.0	81.8	16.8	0.54	0.25
66	0.66	2.9	4.4	75.9	14.5	0.51	0.24
88	0.76	3.3	3.8	78.8	13.3	0.51	0.26
110	0.66	3.3	3.0	78.8	12.1	0.47	0.25
Early weaned lambs - Rapid growth potential							
22	0.55	1.3	5.9	84.6	26.9	0.83	0.37
44	0.66	2.6	5.9	76.9	17.3	0.55	0.25
66	0.72	3.1	4.7	77.4	15.5	0.51	0.24
88	0.88	3.3	3.8	75.8	15.5	0.57	0.29
110	0.94	3.7	3.4	75.7	14.3	0.56	0.29
132	0.77	3.7	2.8	75.7	14.3	0.49	0.27

Minimal Feed Amounts Required for Show Lambs

	Lbs. of dry matter feed required for zero gain				
Sheep weight, lbs.	50% TDN	60% TDN	65% TDN	70% TDN	75% TDN
50	0.71	0.59	0.54	0.51	0.47
60	0.81	0.68	0.62	0.58	0.54
70	0.91	0.76	0.70	0.65	0.61
80	1.01	0.84	0.77	0.72	0.67
90	1.10	0.92	0.85	0.79	0.74
100	1.19	1.00	0.91	0.85	0.80
110	1.28	1.07	0.98	0.91	0.85
120	1.37	1.14	1.05	0.98	0.91
130	1.45	1.22	1.11	1.04	0.97
	Additional lbs. of dry matter feed required above maintenance				
ADG desired, lbs.	50% TDN	60% TDN	65% TDN	70% TDN	75% TDN
0.10	1.11	0.62	0.53	0.45	0.40
0.20	2.21	1.24	1.05	0.89	0.79
0.25	2.76	1.54	1.31	1.12	0.99
0.30	3.32	1.85	1.58	1.34	1.19
0.35	3.87	2.16	1.84	1.56	1.39
0.40	4.42	2.47	2.10	1.79	1.58
0.45	4.97	2.78	2.36	2.01	1.78
0.50	5.53	3.09	2.63	2.23	1.98
0.55	6.08	3.40	2.89	2.46	2.18

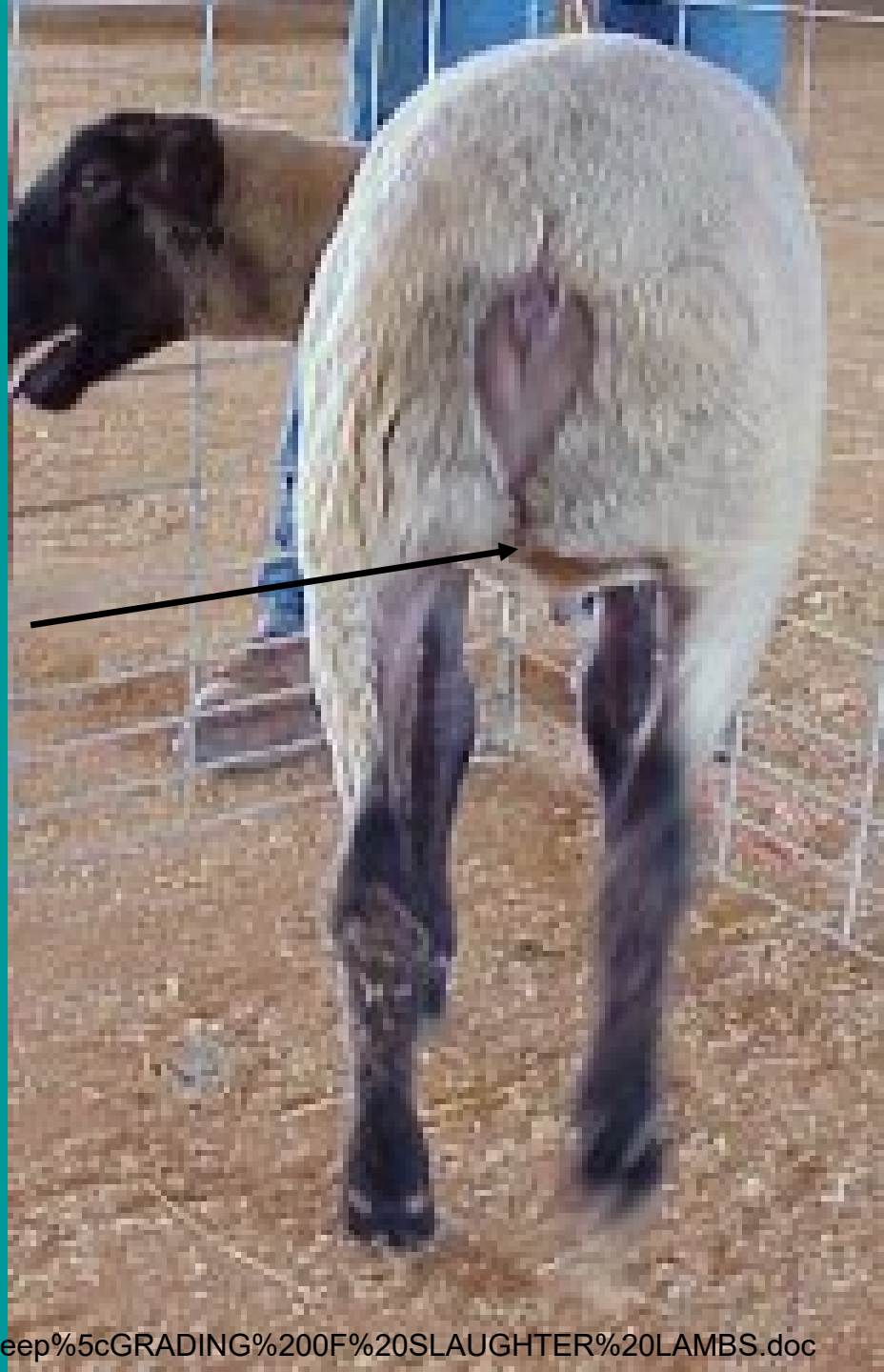
Calculations for Preceding Example*

- 125 lb. at sale – 80 lb. purchase wt. = 45 lbs. gain needed
- 45 lbs. gain needed ÷ 110 days before sale = 0.409 ADG
- Feed for maintenance from table for 70% TDN, 110 lb. lamb
  0.91 lbs. feed ÷ .90 dry matter = 1.01 lbs. feed as fed
- Feed for gain from table for 70% TDN, 110 lb. lamb gaining 0.40 lbs./day
  1.79 ÷ .90 dry matter = 1.99 lbs. feed as fed
- Total feed for maintenance + gain
  1.00 + 2.00 lbs = 3.00 lbs./day (not practical to feed in 1/100 of a lb.)

** Heavy muscled black face lamb, 125 lb. sale weight*

Other Precautions

- Sheep are very sensitive to copper levels in the diet. Do not feed trace mineral products designed for cattle to sheep. Keep copper levels in the diet at 8 ppm.



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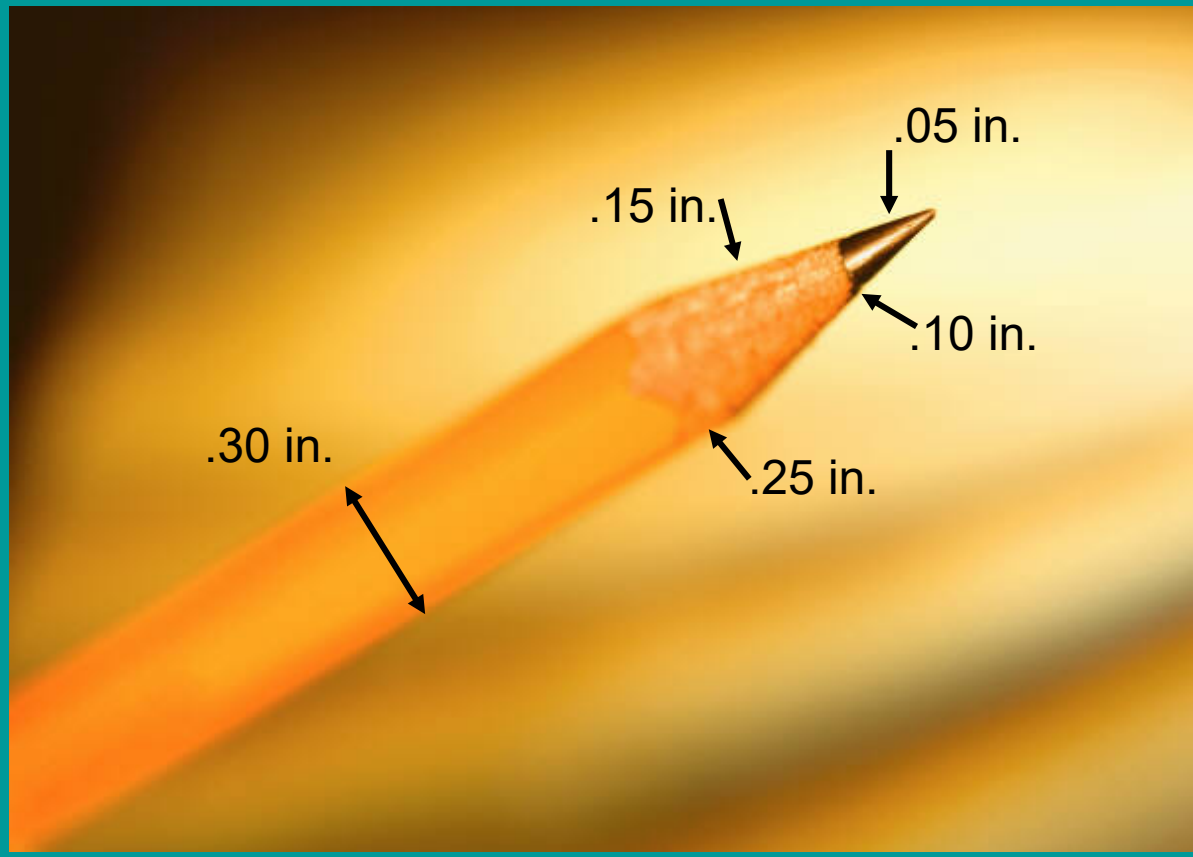
Lamb Yield Grades

Yield Grade = .4 + (10 x Adj. 12th rib fat thickness)

Yield Grade	Fat Thickness Range
1	.00 to .15 inches
2	.16 to .25 inches
3	.26 to .35 inches
4	.36 to .45 inches
5	.46 or greater

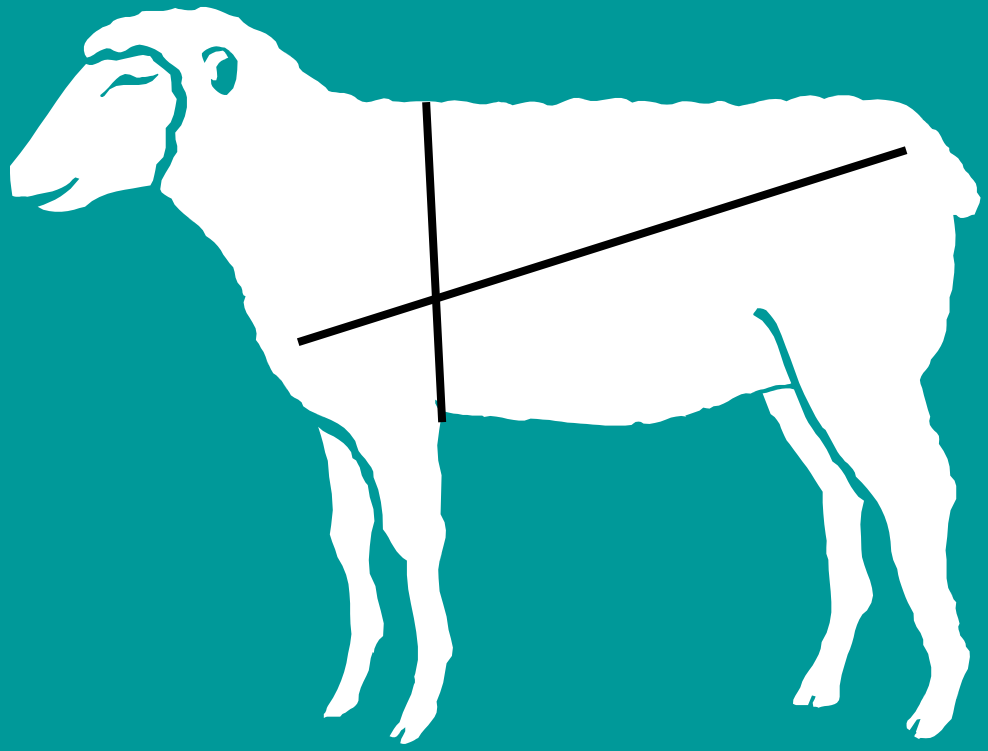
From: Dr. Jessica Gentry, Middle Tennessee State University

Estimating Backfat by Feel



How Much Does the Lamb Weigh?

- Live Wt. = (HG x HG x Length)/300
- Length = 31.75 inches
- Heart Girth = 33 inches



How Much to Feed? HOMEWORK

- Lamb weighs 115 lbs.
- Show is in four weeks
- Proper show weight is 125 to 130 lbs.
- ADG = 130 – 115 = 15 lbs.
- 15 lbs. ÷ 28 days = .54 lbs./day
- Feed is 50% alfalfa hay & 50% commercial feed
- See Table on Slide 6 for TDN percentage.
- See Table “Minimal Feed Amounts Required for Show Lambs” on Slide 8 in this presentation for total lbs. feed.

Lamb Examples

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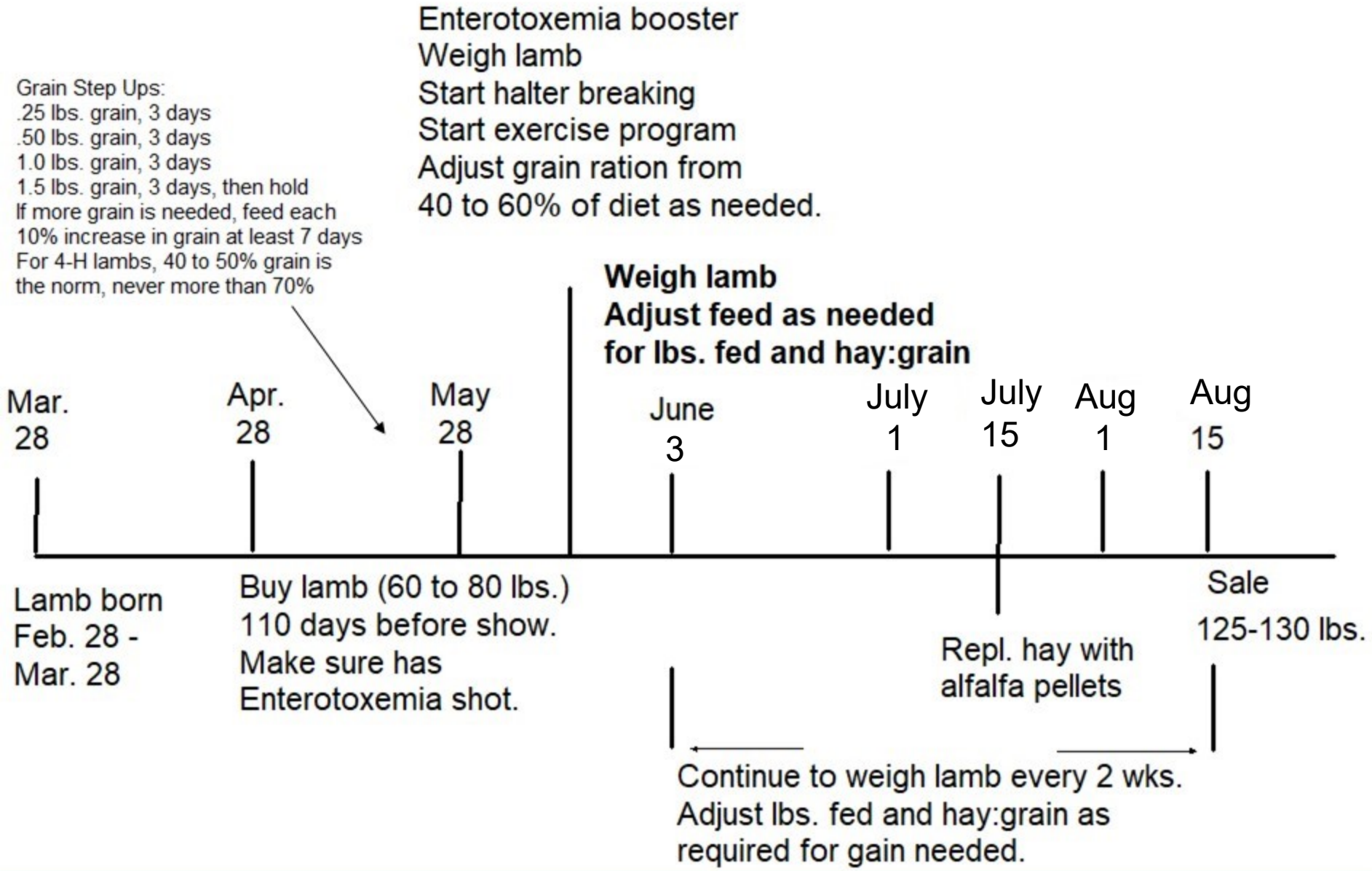
Fall Show Lamb Timeline



Thank You

- **For more information, see http://ag.arizona.edu/pubs/animal/az1053.pdf**