

AGRICULTURAL DAY

*INFORMATION BOOKLET
for children*



Global
Veterinary
Services

Essential List

1: TIME

You will need to look after your lamb, kid or calf before and after school and spend at least 30 minutes with it.

2: FOOD AND CLEAN WATER

Calves

For the first 4 days of its life your animal should drink colostrum, the early milk. If too weak to suckle these calves will need stomach tubing.

From the start a calf needs feeding twice daily. Either milk off the farm or calf milk formula can be used. Follow instructions and clean all equipment thoroughly.

Generally the volume per calf is 10% of its bodyweight and feed till the calf looks full and is content. Feed at the same time each day. Allow your calf to nibble grass and at two weeks introduce calf meal and hay. Meal is best fed after the morning milk feed.

Between two and three weeks old you can reduce to once a day milk feeding, preferably in the morning and continue until calf day. Careful with any garden plants as some are poisonous - see list over the page.

Ensure fresh water is available at all times.

Lambs and kids

Most of the lambs for calf club are orphans and the farmer will have nursed them first. Ensure that it has had colostrum in the first few hours of life. Often lambs and kids need help learning to suck from an artificial teat on a bottle. If you use milk formula follow instructions closely and clean all equipment thoroughly. Feed at the same time each day. If too weak to suckle these animals will need stomach tubing.

After feeding the lamb or kid it will look full and very happy.

They will nibble grass but be careful that they don't eat in your garden as many plants can be poisonous - see list over page. Wean by slowly decreasing the number of feeds and remain on once daily feeding until calf club.



Poisonous plants

Deadly nightshade	Goats Rue
Tutu	Daffodils
Bracken fern	Macrocarpa
Rhododendron/Azalea	Acorns
Foxglove	Ngaio
Ragwort	Alligator weed
Kowhai	Oleander
Poroporo	Avocado
Hemlock	Yew
Rhubarb	Arum Lillies
Blue Borage	Monkshood
Redroot	Box
Karaka	Delphinium
Spindle Tree	Iris
Laburnum	Lantana
Privet	Poppies
Castor Island Plant	Cherry Laurel
Robinia	Strathmore Weed

03. SHELTER

Calves, kids and lambs need safe, well fenced paddocks with shelter, especially for very young lambs and kids.

04. DIARY/CHECKLIST

Remember to keep a record, we can provide a checklist or one can be picked up from school.

05. LEADING, FITTING A HALTER/COLLAR AND LEAD AND COVERS.

Calves

Fit a halter as soon as you can and leave it on for no more than one hour daily. It should be firm if the calf pulls and you should be able to fit two fingers between the halter and calf's skin.



A calf cover will keep the calf warm and protect its coat. An ideal cover should spread over its shoulders to its rear, be made of a breathable material, ensure warmth, have velcro straps and be big enough to enable the calf to grow and not cause rubbing.

Lamb / kid

The collar should be fitted as to allow two fingers between the collar and the animal's skin and it should not pull off. The collar can stay on but check it regularly. Covers will provide protection from adverse weather.

06. GROOMING

Start getting your animal used to grooming early on.

Calves

Clean and thoroughly brush out the coat and tail so there are no loose hairs and dust. Clean ears, feet, face and under the tail.

Lamb / kid

Clean wool and clip away any dags under its tail. Clean feet especially inbetween hooves, under legs, ears and face.

Health Checks & Vet Care

If anything changes with your pet get your parents to check.

Scours

To avoid scours and ill health make sure all feeding implements and bedding are clean. Scouring animals need assistance. Scours can be caused by nutritional problems or infectious bugs. Treatments to reduce dehydration are most important and may need to be continued for up to three days.

- Over feeding, cold milk, sudden changes, starvation and poisons can usually be corrected by electrolyte solutions alone. The scour is usually white or bright yellow and the temperature of the animal is normal: calf 38.6°C, kid and lamb 39.1°C.

- When the animals have fevers or very low temperatures and the scours are watery brown or have blood and mucus; infections are probably the cause.
- Isolate these animals and administer electrolyte solutions and contact your vet for advice.

Vaccination

Calves and kids

2 Injections 4 weeks apart- a Multi Clostridial vaccine 5 in1, 7 in1 or 10 in1.

Lambs

Lamb vaccine at docking/ castrating for immediate protection then 2 injections 4 weeks apart- of a Multiclostridial vaccine.

Dehorning

When the calf or kid is very young they will develop small stubs or horn buds between the ears and these need to be removed at 2 weeks age. Ask your vet or the farmer who supplied the animal to do this.

Docking/ Castrating

Lambs

Rubber elastrator rings can be used. Ideally after 24 hours old and less than 1 week but if after 6 weeks a vet must do it. Ensure vaccination is done. The length of the tail must be long enough to “wag” - see our lamb book.

Calves

For castrating rings can be used up to 6 months old and ensure the correct ring size.

Parasites

Internal “worms” can cause problems in calves, lambs and kids.

Drenches can be used, see your vet for the safest product.

External parasites include ticks and lice. Call your vet for safe products to use.

Zoonoses

These are diseases passed between animals and humans. Below is a brief summary of the diseases you should be aware of. The best way to prevent these is excellent hygiene.

Ringworm-These crusty skin lesions can be found on animals and can spread to humans.

Cryptosporidium- diarrhoea and weight loss-spread by contact with sick animals and faeces.....*continued*

Salmonella- diarrhoea and weight losses, plus vomiting in humans- spread by contact with contaminated faeces, handling sick animals or ingestion of undercooked food.

Campylobacter- same as for Salmonella

Leptosporosis- flu like in humans, spread by infected urine.

Clostridial disease- variety of symptoms often caused by infected wounds.

Scabby Mouth- Orf Extremely contagious, viral skin disease affecting sheep & goats causing Scabby lesions around mouth & nostrils. Contagious to humans

In all cases of illness call a veterinarian and discuss with a vet if you are worried.

Training

The friendlier you are with your pet the better they will perform for you. When your pet accepts the halter/collar you can teach it to lead and train it to walk forward alongside you, turn when required and to stop. Start a few minutes each day and increase the time gradually. It should always be fun and after each session always praise your pet and offer a small drink or calf meal as a treat. Ensure you know what circuit you have to perform for your animal, and practice this. If you are left handed you are allowed to perform the circuit in reverse.

Leading

Preferably you want your pet to walk on your right with its head beside you. Your right hand holds the lead close to the collar/ halter, with the rest of the lead in your left hand to ensure it is not on the ground. Never wrap the lead around your hand. Never use a chain for leading.

Turning

You will be on the outside of your pet when it turns so you need to push its head towards the new direction as you begin to make it turn.

Stopping

This is achieved by giving it a gentle tug on the lead and then a long, gentle pull with your feet fixed on the ground. Don't give any hard sudden pulls as this will hurt the neck. Remain still for at least one minute.

Calf Club Competition

See the website www.ras.org.nz for the rules and regulations set out by the Royal NZ Show which apply to all competitions.

Calf types

Know your breeding. If any queries please contact the school.

Heavy, light, cross breds, and beef.

note: bull calves to be entered in the beef section bull calves can be entered for school club day and group day but not for the A&P show.

Leading

The judge will be watching to see how obedient the calf is. Never walk in front of it. Remember what you have to do in the ring and take your time.



Rearing

The judge will be looking to see how well the calf has been fed, groomed and cared for. It needs to be spotless as well as all equipment. The calf needs to stand still for the judge to examine it and the judge will ask you questions so ensure you know what's written on your diary.

Lambs and kids

Rams, Cryptorchid lambs and entire bucks may be entered for all competitions.

Leading

The judge will be watching to see how obedient it is. Remember what to do in the ring. Take as long as you need to, there is no time limit.

Rearing

The judge will be looking to see how well it has been fed, groomed and cared for. Your pet and equipment needs to be in spotless condition and it needs to stand still to be examined. The judge will ask questions about your pet so remember what you write in your diary.

Most obvious pet

The judge will be looking to see how well your pet responds to your call and how easily you can reattach your lead.



On the day

You will need to safely transport your pet to calf club. Know what time to arrive and where to go.

HAVE A CHECK LIST OF GEAR TO TAKE

- Your own clean warm clothes and enclosed footwear.
- Water bucket and bottle.
- Meal/pellets or milk as a reward.
- Grooming gear- cloth and brushes.
- Clean halter, collar, lead and cover.
- An electric fence standard to use as a tether pole.
- Your diary/checklist
- Register and remember to return your number to the desk at the end of the day:
remember to register for Group Day and the A&P Show aswell.



Training

Date Started *Date Achieved*

- Accepts collar/
halter/cover _____
- Can be led _____
- Can walk beside you
on right _____
- Can turn _____
- Can stop _____
- Comes when called _____
- Can complete circuit _____

Animal Health checklist

Date

- Ear tagging _____
- Disbudding _____
- Castration/Docking _____
- Lamb vaccination _____
- Vaccination
(2 injections 4 weeks apart) _____/_____
- Worm drench _____
- Lice treatment _____
- Learn animal diseases _____
- Learn poisonous plants _____

On the Day

- Water bucket
- Clean halter, lead, collar and cover
- Cleaning and grooming equipment
- Tethering standard
- Bottle of milk/meal/ pellets- for reward
- Check list
- Clean warm clothes and gumboots

Hey Kids

**GLOBAL VETS
HAS YOUR
GROUP DAY
NEEDS
COVERED**



**Global
Veterinary
Services**

OPEN WEEK DAYS 8.00AM - 5.00PM

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