

How many lambs and rams have to die before we quit using sheep mineral?

*There is no justification for feeding phosphorus to sheep.

*Consumption of sheep mineral is controlled by salt and flavoring agents, not by need.

*Sheep generally need salt, iodine and selenium in addition to their ordinary diet intake.

*Feedlot lambs need 20 lbs. of salt and 30 lbs. of limestone per ton of concentrate ration. Ammonium chloride can be added to further control urinary calculi.

Se Premix (#8770 in our catalog) now contains iodine as well as selenium. Sodium molybdate is included to help ward off excess copper.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Mix 1 lb. of premix with 50 lbs. of salt.

Offer salt free choice.

#8770—Se Premix 5 lbs. — \$5.85

SHEEP FOR PROFIT SCHOOL

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool program will conduct a Sheep for Profit School July 6-9, 2011 in Pipestone, Minnesota.

The Sheep for Profit School is a professional management and business school for the sheep industry. The purpose of the school is to help producers improve their sheep management skills; increase the profitability of their sheep operation and form business relationships. The school will be intense and combine lecture, group discussion and visit two outstanding Pipestone area sheep operations. Expert instructors with diverse and practical sheep experience will help you define your vision and build a practical plan to achieve your goals. This is a three and a half day investment that will change your sheep operation and how you view the sheep industry.

Enrollment in the school is limited to a maximum of 20 students to create an ideal learning environment and allow for one-on-one advising. Visit our website www.pipestonesheep.com for registration information and a course schedule. For more information, contact the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Management Program, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, PO Box 250, Pipestone, MN 56164. 1-800-658-2330 or email: jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu

Rep. Young Refuses HSUS Award

Congressman Don Young (Alaska) refused an award from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the Humane Legislative Fund that would have honored his work for animals in 2010. While capitalizing on the good work of local humane societies that shelter, spay and neuter animals, the HSUS does not own, operate or directly control a single shelter in our country, despite a budget of well over \$100 million.

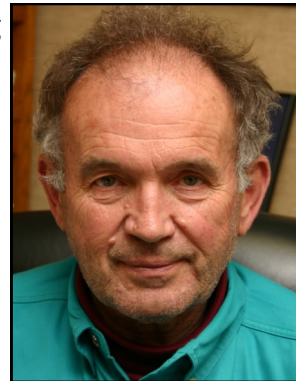
“HSUS are hypocrites, plain and simple, and I will not join them by accepting this award,” said Young. “Local animal shelters and humane societies do excellent work by caring for neglected and homeless animals and through their spaying and neutering programs. This organization, however, has absolutely nothing to do with animal welfare. Instead, they prey on the emotions of big-hearted Americans. They flash images of abused animals on our television screens to raise money that will eventually go to pay their salaries and pensions, not to helping better the lives of these animals. They run anti-hunting and anti-trapping campaigns and are of the same cloth as the People of the Ethical Treatment and Animals and other extremist organizations. I can only guess that I was to receive this award due to my support of the Wildlife Without Borders Program, which develops wildlife management and conservation efforts to maintain global species diversity. That program is true conservation; what this group wants is preservation. To accept this award would be supporting their manipulative ways and misguided agenda, and I want no part of that.”

Reprinted from Rep. Young's Website

Questions with Doc Kennedy

Dr. G.F. Kennedy

Question: I weaned my lambs this morning and I always worry about my ewes getting mastitis after weaning. These are Katahdin ewes and I took grain away from them for two weeks and the lambs weighed 50-75 pounds and are eating creep feed good. The lambs are about 70 days old. I take the ewes to another pasture on the backside of my farm. I have 25 ewes on about a one and a half acre lot. There is plenty of grass in the field with a jug waterer which I can limit water to them. Would it help if I gave the ewes an injection of penicillin or LA-200 before they dry up. I also have Banamine. Would this help with the process? This is the only place I have to put the ewes. I guess there is no sure way to remove the chance of mastitis but this is a good bunch of regular ewes and I needed to know.



Kennedy: Removal of grain prior to wean and switching to low quality alfalfa hay or grass is ok. After wean should be dry lot same poor quality hay, don't restrict water. New pasture is a bad idea. Drug therapy is unnecessary and ineffective.

Question: Tonight I came home to a lamb swelled up in the hind quarters and testicle area. The local vet said the urethra is plugged and swollen so much she would have to do surgery to reroute his plumbing to the back end. He may or may not live, but is there something I am doing wrong here with feed or something else? They are getting prairie grass with some alfalfa in it, corn screenings, some oats and some sheep pellets from the local feed store and free choice sheep mineral. Am I missing something?

Kennedy: Yes, take away the mineral. Sheep require no added phosphorus in their rations. Need free choice loose salt. Grain ration should contain 30 pounds of limestone, 20 pounds of salt, and five to ten pounds of ammonium chloride. Alfalfa hay is better than grass.

Question: I have a yearling wether who was recently treated for urinary calculi at UC Davis in California. They said that I need to give him ammonium chloride daily to acidify his urine. I've read that it's bitter tasting and unpalatable. Since I was told that grain is off my goats menu forever, can you suggest some other feeds or methods that will disguise that taste? I read peanut butter works for some goats. I tested the ph of the drinking water and it's about 7.6. Is there any way to acidify the water that my goats drink?

Kennedy: You can feed grain as long as the mixture contains 20 pounds of salt, 30 pounds of limestone and ten pounds of ammonium chloride per ton. NO ADDED PHOSPOROUS. Be sure to offer salt free choice. NO macro minerals containing phosphorus. You can mix ammonium chloride with a small portion of water and use as a drench.

Question: I recently purchased some CIDRS/PG600. The directions on the PG600 reads that the injection should be given behind the ear. Is this in the muscle or under the skin? Is there another area this could be given?

Kennedy: That's a swine direction. In sheep give it in any location you would normally use. Some say it should be intramuscular, I prefer under the skin, sub q.

Question: If sanitation is the place to start, and it may be, please let me know what you recommend. Should we for example let pens stand after being cleaned? Should we spray with disinfectant, etc? I have only lost one to ecoli and it was a triplet, but I have had ecoli losses in the past, so I would like to nip this in the bud if possible before we lamb again in the fall.

Kennedy: I think if you let the pens stand for a couple weeks after cleaning, you will be fine.

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Veterinary services, procedures, biologicals, and drugs mentioned in this publication represent the personal opinions and clinical observations of the contributing author. They are in no way intended to be interpreted as recommendations without the consent of the producers own practicing Veterinarian. We strongly urge that producers establish a patient-client-veterinarian relationship that allows extra-label use when there are no drugs approved for treatment or if approved drugs are not effective. This procedure allows veterinarians to go beyond label directions when "prudent use" is necessary. The limited availability of drugs and biologics in this country is a major factor in restricting the growth of the sheep industry and allowing producers to compete in the world Market place.

?’s with Doc Kennedy

QUESTION: I recently dewormed approximately 30 head of lactating Katahdin ewes on Saturday with Cydectin pour-on, orally, approximately 10cc per animal. Ewes on average weigh 135 pound per head. However, I had a couple of thinner pulled down ewes that are suffering side effects from the deworming. One is down, some salivation from the mouth with no interest in feed or water. Eyes appear very bloodshot. The other one is still upright and nibbling on some grass, but has somewhat of a staggering gate. I treated the down ewe with some electrolytes and Pen G/Banamine. Anything I can do to reverse the symptoms? What is taking as a result of the deworming?

Doc Kennedy’s March newsletter mentioned the use of CIDRS. We have not had any experience on this end. Considering usage for a group of February/March lambing ewes, Katahdin based genetics, for late May breeding. Weaning off soon for 3-4 weeks of conditioning on spring pasture. Based on your experiences, with Katahdins having a natural tendency to breed out of season, is there enough increased potential in conception rate from use of the process in comparison to natural conception to outweigh the costs and labor?

KENNEDY: I have one question, why would you do this? Ten ml of pour-on contains 50mg of product, the correct sheep dose of the oral sheep drench is 12mg. You have a five fold overdose. Your treatment is ok, but I would treat both ewes. There are some things we have to do in the sheep and goat business due to the lack of available product but we clearly have to observe rules and apply common sense when we go off label. Response to CIDRS will depend directly on whether animals have naturally occurring genes for fall lambing. I do believe CIDRS enhance the situation. The other thought is the farther away from the Equator the more difficult it is.

REPLY from CUSTOMER: Ok—so you made your point. I overdosed the poor SOB’s—guess I should have asked some old fart on his black-berry first! LOL!! Doing much better today. I appreciate all the help!!

KENNEDY: Thanks, I take your response as a compliment. That’s what makes this job fun!!

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