Sheep Project

Market Sheep

Breeding Sheep

Why Sheep?
This project teaches you to care for live animals by learning about animal health, nutrition, selection and breeding.

Starting Out
Beginner
- Learn about sheep
- How to produce a safe, wholesome product
- Identify the parts of a sheep
- Different types of feed
- Evaluating sheep
- Learn about nutritional requirements for sheep
- Learn about a sheep’s digestive system
- Identifying common sheep diseases
- Learn how to keep records
- Learn how to assume responsibility

Learning More
Intermediate
- Investigate technology’s impact on sheep production
- Learn how to show and exhibit your animal
- Purchase, feed and care for animals
- Evaluate project with leader
- Gain knowledge of sound management practices
- Develop sportsmanship
- Develop public speaking skills

Exploring Depth
Advanced
- How to deal with current issues relating to raising sheep
- Gain leadership skills by helping others learn about sheep
- Explore career opportunities in the sheep industry
- Build lifelong friendship

Resources
- Sheep Resource Handbook
- Recommended that one book per family is used
- Livestock e-Record
- Breeding Sheep Supplement
- 4-H Livestock e-Record Judging Guide
- Meat Quality Assurance

Tips
- Barn or shed should have 20 square feet per animal
- Fence should be minimum of 42 inches tall
- Fresh and clean water should be available at all times
- Lambs should be vaccinated for CDT before going on full feed
- Market lambs should gain .5-.8 pounds per day
- Market lambs should be born between Jan. 1st and March 1st depending on fair dates
- Feed should contain 16-18% protein
- Exercise a minimum of walking 15 min. every day
- The average cost per lamb is $600-$700. This includes the purchase of the animal, feed for 4 months and show supplies
- Sore mouth and ringworm are two common health concerns in sheep
- Ask for Help: 4-H agent, Leaders or other members in the 4-H Sheep Project.