

Washington County 4-H Master Showmanship Sheep Fact Sheet

Types & Breeds of Sheep

*Fine Wool Type- Produce desirable fleece

- > Merino
- > Rambouillet

*Medium Wool Type- Breeds of sheep in this group emphasize meat production.

- > Dorset
- > Hampshire
- > Montadale
- > Shropshire
- > Suffolk
- > Columbia

*Long Wool Type- These breeds we developed in England under moist, cool conditions.

- > Cotswold
- > Lincoln
- > Border Leicester
- > Romney

* Crossbreeds- The offspring of mating two different pure breeds, or animals that are not straightbred.

Terms

- Buck or Ram.....Male sheep
- Dam.....A mother sheep
- Ewe.....Female sheep
- Lambing.....Giving birth to a lamb
- Wether.....A male sheep that has had his testicles removed when a lamb

Information

- The purpose of sheep are for both meat and wool.
- Keeping Sheep Healthy
 - ✓ Trim feet to prevent hoof rot
 - ✓ Dock your lambs when they are 7 to 14 days old.
 - ✓ Castrate rams
 - ✓ Control for external & internal parasites
 - ✓ Vaccinate for CD/Tetanus and White Muscle Disease (BO-SE)
- Gestation Period- 145-150 days
- Ewe lambs may be bred at 8 to 10 months old, but prefer over 12 months.
- Sheep eat 1 to 3 pounds of grain per day.