

January 17, 2010

Peter Stockdale: Record Keeping

Peter Stockdale gave a very informative presentation on Record Keeping. Peter has information on the use of the CSF binder, and recommended that we use it to keep good records. Apparently government inspectors use the info as proof of due diligence.

Peter suggested ways of improving a flock by:

- Keeping first born weight of a lamb
- Look for even distribution in twins – this reflects the ewe's contribution
- Weight at 50 days: an indicator of the ewe's performance
- Mothering and lactation
- Weight at 100 days: measure of lamb's performance
- Good mothering is the #1 essential to good flocks

Further discussion:

- Peter discourages touching lambs before 50 days except in emergencies and delays castrating until then
- Cull ewes whose lambs don't thrive, or continue to have triplets or quads

Peter outlined a health program and importance of keeping accurate records of this:

- Vaccinations: for clostridial diseases, lambs at 6 weeks, ewes 1 month before lambing
- Shearing: at least a month before lambing
- Trimming feet
- Be sure to check expiry dates on drugs