

# Post-mortem worksheet

**Details** (tick the appropriate answers)

<p><b>Estimated age of lamb</b></p> <input type="text"/> days <input type="text"/> hours <p><b>Breed</b> <input type="text"/></p> <p><b>Sex</b> F <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Any intervention at birth?</b></p> <p>Assisted <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Very minor help <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No help <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Any treatments given?</b></p> <p>Stomach tube <input type="checkbox"/> Antibiotics <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Glucose injection <input type="checkbox"/> Castration <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Warming box <input type="checkbox"/> Tailed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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## 1. Weigh the lamb

 kg

If lambs weigh less than 3 kg it suggests undernutrition and lack of body reserves.

If lambs weigh greater than 6 kg there is increased risk of lambing problems.

## 2. Examine coat

Has the lamb been licked? Yes  No

## 3. Examine feet

Has the lamb walked? Yes  No

## 4. Examine navel

Is it dry? Yes  No

Been treated with iodine? Yes  No

Any signs of bleeding? Yes  No

Any enlargement? Yes  No

## 5. Examine head

Any swelling? Yes  No

Any fluid? Yes  No

## 6. Examine body

Any swelling? Yes  No

Any damage? Yes  No

Meconium staining present? Yes  No

Meconium staining is when the coat is yellow, and indicates stress during birth.

## 7. Place the lamb on its back and open up from groin to throat with knife, cut open ribcage to expose the contents of the chest

## 8. Examine the fat deposits near the kidneys and heart

Still present? Yes  No

Brown fat around the kidneys and heart is used up within hours of birth.

## 9. Look for blood clots in the chest or abdomen

Any present? Yes  No

Blot clots in the abdomen suggest birth difficulties.

## 10. Examine the stomach and intestines for milk

Any present? Yes  No

No milk in the stomach or intestines suggests the lamb did not suck.

## 11. Place lungs into a bucket of water

Do they sink? Yes  No

Uninflated lungs sink, which means the lamb never breathed.

## 12. Look at the thyroid glands

Any signs of enlargement? Yes  No

Iodine deficiency will cause the thyroid glands to increase in size.

## 13. Notes: E.g. other abnormalities, comments on coat and wool, joints, palate