

Post Mortem Worksheet



Details:

circle appropriate answers

Estimated age of lamb _____ hours or days

Sex Female Male

Breed _____

Any intervention at birth?	Assisted	Very minor help	No help
Any treatments given?	Stomach tube	Glucose injection	Warming box
	Antibiotics	Castration	Tailed

1) Weigh the lamb

_____ Kg

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

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

2) Examine coat Has the lamb been licked?

Yes	No
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3) Examine feet Has the lamb walked?

Yes	No
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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
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6) Examine body Any swelling?

Yes	No
-----	----

 Any damage?

Yes	No
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 Meconium staining present?

Yes	No
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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
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 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
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 Blot clots in the abdomen suggest birth difficulties. Umbilical vein

10) Examine the stomach and intestines for milk Any present?

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

11) Place lungs into bucket of water Do they sink?

Yes	No
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 Uninflated lungs sink, which means the lamb never breathed

12) Look at the thyroid glands Any signs of enlargement?

Yes	No
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 Iodine deficiency will cause the thyroid glands to increase in size

13) Notes, eg other abnormalities, comments on coat and wool, joints, palate _____