

<b>Title</b>	<b>Describe lambing, and the procedures for assisting ewes having difficulty lambing</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to describe: the stages of lambing, diseases and disorders of lambing, and factors which affect achieving optimum numbers of live births; and the procedures for assisting ewes having difficulty with lambing, and after-delivery procedures.
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<b>Classification</b>	Agriculture > Sheep Farming
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
  - Animal Welfare Act 1999;
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
  - and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with on-farm procedures and Code of Welfare: Sheep and Beef Cattle.
- 3 Code of Welfare: Sheep and Beef Cattle is available from [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz).
- 4 Definition  
*On-farm procedures* refer to the verbal or written instructions to staff on procedures for animal health, welfare, and management.

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### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Describe the stages of lambing, diseases and disorders of lambing, and factors which affect achieving optimum numbers of live births.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Describe stages of lambing in terms of their sequence, physical changes, and behavioural signs.

1.2 Describe diseases and reproductive health disorders in terms of the symptoms, causes, and treatments.

Range diseases and reproductive health disorders include but are not limited to –  
 metabolic – pregnancy toxæmia (sleepy sickness), hypocalcemia (milk fever);  
 reproductive disorders – prolapsed uterus (bearings), campylobacter (abortion), retained afterbirth, salmonella, toxoplasmosis, dystocia.

1.3 Describe optimal lambing performance in terms of feeding requirements.

1.4 Describe the factors which affect achieving optimum numbers of live births in terms of their importance.

Range factors include but are not limited to – foetal size, infectious diseases, abnormal presentations;  
 lambing paddock allocation – shelter, topography.

## Outcome 2

Describe the procedures for assisting ewes having difficulty with lambing, and after-delivery procedures.

### Performance criteria

2.1 Describe procedures for catching and restraining the ewe having difficulty lambing in terms of those which cause minimum stress to the ewe.

2.2 Describe potential delivery problems in terms of their signs and assistance required for the ewe.

2.3 Describe after-delivery procedures for the ewe and lamb in terms of management, treatment, and recording.

Range procedures include but are not limited to –  
 ewe procedures – antibiotics, bonding, milk supply and udder, bearings as required;  
 lamb procedures – clear airways, assist breathing.

2.4 Describe responsibilities at lambing in terms of the Code of Welfare: Sheep and Beef Cattle.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2027
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	25 June 2002	31 December 2024
Review	2	23 April 2008	31 December 2024
Review	3	29 September 2022	N/A

**Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference**

0052

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact Muka Tangata - People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council [qualifications@mukatangata.nz](mailto:qualifications@mukatangata.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.