



Saskatchewan
Sheep Development Board

Sheep: Environment Friendly

- Sheep **convert carbon** from the atmosphere into **biogenic carbon** (energy) and use the biogenic carbon to produce meat and wool.
- Sheep are natural weed eaters, converting undesirable plant species into saleable meat and wool products.
- Sheep provide a method for noxious and invasive **species control** without using chemicals or mechanical practices.
- Sheep work well in a multispecies grazing operation due to a difference in forage preference capturing value and maximizing the use of available feed stuffs.





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Sheep: Quickfacts

- Adult male sheep are called **rams**
- Adult female sheep are called **ewes**
- Young sheep under 12 months of age are called **lambs**
- Sheep are ruminants, which means they have a four-chamber stomach
- Sheep need to eat daily approximately **3%** of their body weight
- Ready for breeding at approximately 8 months of age
- Gestation of 5 months allows for various lambing and marketing options



Sheep are prolific, often giving birth to **up to 4 lambs** before their first birthday



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Sheep: Shepherding & Care

Housing & Handling

Sheep equipment does not need to be elaborate or expensive to provide proper care.

Sheep Movement

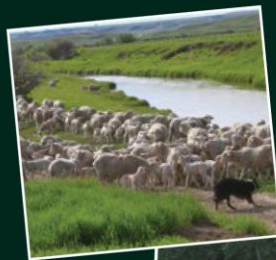
Herding dogs are used to help make moving sheep easier.

Sheep Protection

Guardian animals protect sheep from predators.



The **Code of Practice** for the care and handling of sheep is the industry standard for good production practices.





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Wool: A Natural Renewable Fibre

Wool is a **quality packed, sustainable** fibre grown worldwide. Wool fibre is diverse and can be used several different ways from industrial products to clothing and artisan crafts. Genetics, nutrition and animal care determine wool quality, quantity of the wool and its final use.



Wool Properties

- Cool in summer and warm in winter
- Resists odour, bacteria and mold
- Fire resistant
- Naturally hypoallergenic
- UV, stain and wrinkle resistant
- Wicks moisture and breathes while it insulates
- Biodegradable
- Long lasting, resilient and elastic

Sheep are shorn once a year!

Shearing is important for the health of the animal.



The main steps to utilizing wool are **shearing, cleaning, sorting, combing, processing** and finishing products.



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Lamb: An Excellent Protein Source

Lamb is a tasty, easy to prepare, healthy choice. Not only is lamb a rich source of **high-quality protein**, it is also an outstanding source of **amino acids, vitamins** and **minerals** including iron, zinc and Vitamin B12.

- Lamb meat is from a young sheep under 12 months of age
- Lamb is lean, containing less than 100 mg of cholesterol per 3.5 oz serving
- Lamb can be part of a **healthy diet**



Look for the label indicating a lamb product from Canada to ensure you're **buying fresh** and **supporting the local economy**.