



# SHEEP SHEET

by **Dr. Lyle G. McNeal, Executive Director, Sheep & Wool Specialist**  
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Help your veterinarian all you can with your sheep problems, they need all the information you can provide about the case.

Practicing medicine over the phone without ever seeing the animal(s) is impossible, impractical and dangerous, not to mention the legal ramifications.

**The three (3) areas that are most frequently compromised are:**

1. **A physical examination.**
2. **Laboratory tests.**
3. **A complete history of the problem and animal.**

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

Try to have as much of the following information available, when you contact your veterinarian about your sheep health problems:

1. Signs or symptoms and duration of problem.
2. Temperature of animal (preferably several times, if possible, will be more helpful).
3. How do you rate their appetite? Are they eating? If so, are they showing any preference for any particular feed type.
4. Are they drinking? What is their usual water supply? Tank, stream or pond?
5. Are there any others in the flock with similar symptoms?
6. Age of animal(s) involved?
7. Vaccination and deworming history?

## Ewe and Your Veterinarian

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### Sheepdex E-4

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8. Medication(s) already tried along with their dosage and treatment schedule?
9. Previous test(s) such as blood tests, fecal exams for internal parasites, necropsy reports have been performed and their results?
10. Length of time animal(s) have been a part of your flock?
11. Have there been any recent additions to your flock?
12. Have there been any stressful events such as transporting or shearing that coincide with the problem?
13. Reproduction; if it is ram rather than a ewe, then there will be additional specific information needed.



### SELECTING A LABORATORY TEST(S):

Selecting a laboratory, test(s), properly collecting and shipping the correct tissue for the tests requested must be done by your veterinarian.

Laboratories cannot return accurate test results without the correct tissue, collected and preserved properly for the test requested.



Some of the animal tissues that may be used for analysis are:

- Blood, serum, spinal fluid.
- Muscle, brain, bone.
- Contents of the digestive tract.
- Waste material (fecal, urine).
- Placenta.
- Carcass.

At times, specific plant material, feed, or water may be requested for analysis if they are suspected as the culprit.

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*For more information write:  
The Navajo Sheep Project;  
Serving People, Preserving Cultures®,  
P.O. Box 4454,  
Logan, UT 84323-4454.  
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