

Sheep Ireland data to be captured at Lambing

Lambing Difficulty

1. No assistance	Ewe lambed down totally unassisted
2. Voluntary assistance	The lamb was pulled for convenience purposes, if the lambs chances of survival were increased due to human intervention then this would be a score 3
3. Slight assistance	There was no adverse impact on the ewe or lamb but the lambs chances of survival was increased due to human intervention – (reverse presentation/leg back etc).
4. Significant assistance	A prolonged intervention by farmer and/or vet. Without human intervention a dead ewe and/or lamb would have been the most likely outcome.

Ewe Milk

1. Very Poor	Ewe has no milk at lambing time
2. Poor	Ewe has very little milk and not a sufficient amount to feed her lambs adequately.
3. Average	Ewe has just enough milk to feed her lambs at lambing.
4. Good	Ewe has an adequate amount of milk to feed her lambs very well.
5. Very Good	Ewe has an abundance of milk, more than her lambs can consume.

Mothering-Ability

1. Very Poor	Ewe has no interest in her lamb.
2. Poor	Ewe stands well away and is slow to lick the lamb.
3. Average	Ewe licks the lamb and follows the lamb to the lambing pen.
4. Good	Ewe licks the lamb, is protective and follows closely to lambing pen.
5. Excellent	Ewe is very protective, licks lamb immediately, follows lamb very close.

Lamb Vigour

1. Very Poor	Still not standing after 60 minutes.
2. Poor	Standing within 60 minutes.
3. Average	Standing within 30 minutes.
4. Good	Standing within 10 minutes.
5. Very Good	Standing within 5 minutes.