BODY CONDITION SCORING

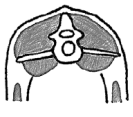
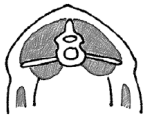
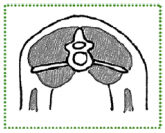
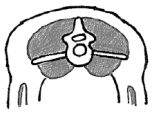
Operation name: _____

Flock/Group ID: _____ Date of BCS assessment: _____

GUIDANCE

Protocol:

Use the following chart to assess the body condition score (BCS) of breeding all sheep
This assessment should be done at least once a year, ideally after sheep have been shorn
Record the BCS of each breeding sheep in the table below

BCS1	BCS2	BCS3	BCS4	BCS5
Emaciated	Thin	Ideal	Fat	Obsese
				
The spinous and transverse processes are sharp and prominent. Loin muscle is shallow with no fat cover. Ribs are clearly visible	Spinous processes are sharp and prominent. Muscles are full but have little fat cover. The ends of the transverse processes are smooth and slightly rounded. Some ribs can be seen. There is a small amount of fat cover. Ribs are still felt.	Spinous processes are smooth and round. Muscles are full with moderate fat cover. The transverse processes can be felt by applying firm pressure. Ribs are barely seen; an even layer of fat covers them. Spaces between ribs are felt using pressure. the loin.	Pressure is needed to find the spinous processes. Muscles are full and fat cover is thick. The transverse processes cannot be felt. Ribs are not seen.	The spine and transverse processes cannot be felt but a dimple can be seen over the spine. The muscles are very full with dense fat cover. Ribs are not visible and are covered with excessive fat.

Sheep with a BCS of less than 2 must be receiving additional management to increase their body condition score.
Any animal not responding to management, where their body condition has deteriorated further, must be euthanized.

Animal ID	BCS	If the BCS is less than 2	
		Treatment / Action taken	Outcome

This template was created by Global Animal Partnership to provide a free record keeping resource for operations seeking GAP certification.
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