UTILIZING YOUR VETERINARIAN AND DEVELOPING QUALITY HEALTH PROGRAMS

Bear River Veterinary Clinic
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INTRODUCTION

- Family
- Southern Utah University
- Washington State University
- Bear River Veterinary Clinic
INTEREST AND NEED

- Identified Interest Growing Up in Delta
- Identified Interest Again in Vet School
- Identified the Need in South Dakota and at Bear River Vet
DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Utilization of Veterinarians
- Quality Health Programs
  - Customized
HISTORY

- Self-Sufficient Producers
- Negative Stigmatism
  - Sometimes True
- Paradigm Shift
IMPORTANCE

- Why Keep a Veterinarian Involved?
  - Knowledge
  - General Health
  - Biosecurity
  - Consultation

- Combine Knowledge
  - Symbiotic Relationship
GOALS AS A VETERINARIAN

- Profitability
- Herd Health
- Reduce Fire Engine Problems
- Integrate New Technology and Research
INTEGRATION

- Identify the Production Animal Cycle
- Critical Control Points
  - Breeding Cycle
  - Lamb Processing
  - Ram Management
- Optimize Production
PARADIGM SHIFT

- How can we change our relationship?
  - Technical Services
  - Professional Services

- Educational Outreach and Communication
- Availability
- Confidence

- Your Help and Opportunity to Serve

"Sometimes you need to look at Life from a different perspective."
SERVICES

▶ Utilization of Services
  ▶ Reproductive Ultrasonography
    ▶ Commercial and Seedstock
  ▶ Health Program Development
    ▶ Vaccinations,
  ▶ Ram Management
  ▶ Advanced Reproductive Techniques

▶ Potential Services
IMPORTANCE OF SERVICES

- Integrated at Critical Control Points (CCP)
  - Affect Change (Proactive instead of Reactive)

- Discussion of three services
  - Reproductive Ultrasonography
  - Vaccination Protocol Development
    - Integral Part of the Herd Health Plan
  - Ram Management

“Don’t wait until you are ready to take action. Instead, take action to be ready.”

Jensen Siaw
1 Mar 2013 4:39 pm
REPRODUCTIVE ULTRASONOGRAPHY

- Progression of Ultrasonography
- Transabdominal VS Transrectal
- Does it make Financial Sense?
  - Partial Budgeting
Provide some means of equipment cleanup.

With good setup, a throughput of more than 75 ewes or does per hour is possible.

What is the Cost-Benefit of Pregnancy Scanning?

To demonstrate the cost-benefit of scanning, consider the example of a group of 200 ewes, with a typical open rate of 5%. Those that are determined open at scanning can be culled immediately, taking advantage of seasonally strong cull prices, or moved into the next breeding group and exposed again for breeding. For the purposes of this example, cost of scanning is assumed to be $2.00 per animal. In many instances, the cost will be less than this, depending on travel distance and whether other flocks in the same area are being scanned at the same time.

Cost: 200 ewes at $2.00 each = $400

Income from sale of culls:
5% open = 10 ewes at 145 lb/average weight and $0.60/lb = $870

Feed Savings can be calculated using the following formulas:
Number of open ewes x number of days to lambing x pounds hay / ewe / day.
Number of open ewes x number days on grain x pounds grain / ewe / day.

Feed saved compared to normal culling time.

Hay:
10 ewes x 60 days x 5 lb/day = 3,000 lb
(1.36 metric tonnes) at $80/tonne = $109

Grain:
10 ewes x 45 days x 1.5 lb/day = 675 lb
(0.31 metric tonnes) at $165/tonne = $51

Savings in Lamb Mortality:

Through better feeding management, singles will be smaller and multiple lambs will be larger. If lamb mortality is reduced to 10%, from 12%, this will result in an extra 6 lambs in this sample flock. At today’s market prices, this reflects an extra $600 to $720 in gross income.
VACCINATION PROTOCOLS

- Customized
  - Region
  - Operation
  - Handling
  - Changes

- Autogenous Vaccines

- Importance?
RAM MANAGEMENT

- What is Included?
  - Semen Collection and Evaluation
  - Surveillance for b. ovis
  - Physical Examination
  - Nutritional Considerations

- Importance
  - Maintenance, Competition, Profitability
SYMBIOTIC

- Cost of these Services VS Benefit

- Veterinarians want to be involved
  - More opportunity = More Learning = Better Services

- Partial Budgeting
  - Like NSIP use the numbers to help your decision
IMPLEMENTATION OF SERVICES

- Individualistic
  - Handling
  - Facilities
  - Help

- Unless you view one of these services as a priority you probably won’t make time for it in your operation.

- Ask us to help figure out how and when to implement services
COMMENTS ABOUT SERVICES

- Are they adequate?
- Consistent with your thoughts?
- Do they meet your needs?
- Do they meet your desires?
- What can we do to become one of the most important “Tools” for the success of your operation?
- Inform your veterinarian and ask for their help!

- Almost Done
WHEN TO CALL A VETERINARIAN?

- Disclaimer:
  - Depends on Level of Expertise
  - Veterinarian Recommendations

- Do you need a vet for every problem?
  - Keep your common sense, it is extremely valuable

- Prioritize some health issues and concerns
Important and Urgent:
  - Disease Outbreak
    - Affecting greater than 3%
    - No response to treatment (within 2 days)
    - Death loss greater than 1%
    - Signs never experienced before
  - Adverse event after processing (vaccination, docking, castrating)
  - Abortions (Greater than 1% or numerous within a couple days)

Important and Not Urgent
  - Health Certificates (Some are most aren’t)
  - Nutrition Consultation
  - Herd Health Planning

Not Important
QUALITY HEALTH PROGRAM

- Why involve your veterinarian?
  - VCPR

- Extra Label Drug Use (Also VFD Problem)
  - Risk Losing their License

- Negative reactions and Upset clients
  - About restrictions
QUALITY HEALTH PROGRAM

- Combine knowledge and expertise
- Guide production based decisions to follow your goals and mission statement
- Financially Feasible
- Progressive
- Easy to implement
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS