



Management practices

for late summer

→ BY NWGA PRODUCTION ADVISORY SERVICES

Every second month, the production advisory service publishes a list of management practices that are deemed important to assist producers in managing their flock. The following practices should be finalised in the summer rainfall areas by **April/May**.



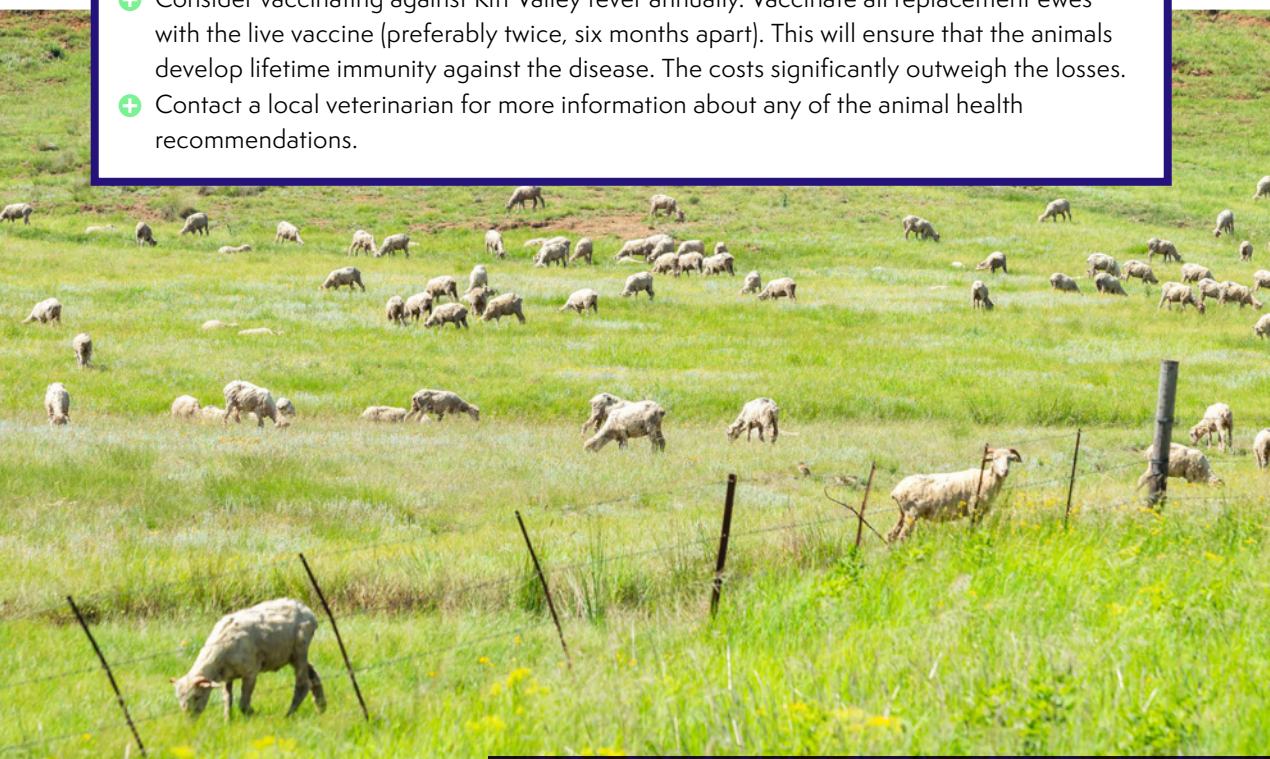
Ewes and lambs (ewes mated during spring of previous year)

- + Wet and dry the ewes.
- + Mark ewes with dirty teats since it indicates that they do not have lambs with them. These ewes lamb, but they do not raise lambs. Faulty teats or ulcers in the udders can be a contributing factor and if this reoccurs in the next wet and dry period, the ewes should be culled.
- + If the lambs are growing adequately, it is not necessary to provide creep feeding. The hay component in any creep feed should not exceed 10% of the mixture as young lambs have difficulty digesting roughage.
- + When the ewes' milk begins to decrease, the lambs will have to start grazing. Relocate ewes and lambs to fresh grazing so that the lambs can get quality feed, or else their growth will come to a standstill.
- + Should feed become scarce, consider weaning the lambs early, provided they weigh approximately 22 kg and are at least 60 days old. Offer these lambs a good production lick containing a high quantity of bypass protein.

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Animal health

- + As soon as the water starts drying and receding, expect problems with conical fluke. The surest symptom of conical fluke infestation is severe diarrhoea (normally black in colour). Act swiftly when typical symptoms are noticed as animals, especially lambs, lose condition very quickly.
- + Liver fluke can also become a problem, so watch out for symptoms such as bottle jaw. Wireworm also causes bottle jaw, but since it is primarily a summer parasite, bottle jaw in winter is most likely to be caused by liver fluke.
- + Consider vaccinating against Rift Valley fever annually. Vaccinate all replacement ewes with the live vaccine (preferably twice, six months apart). This will ensure that the animals develop lifetime immunity against the disease. The costs significantly outweigh the losses.
- + Contact a local veterinarian for more information about any of the animal health recommendations.



Skandeer hierdie QR-kode vir die Afrikaanse bestuurskalender.



The NWGA offers a production advisory service to all wool producers on contract with Cape Wools SA (CWSA), funded by the Wool Trust. Should you require more information, please contact your nearest NWGA office. 



CAPE WOOLS SA

