

Student 6.

Flushing

What is flushing? - Flushing is a practice of increasing the intake or feeding of the ewe so she is gaining weight and is in prime condition about 2 weeks before mating. Flushing helps to increase the percentage of lambs by increasing the number of eggs that the ewes ovulate [1]. This technique works best on thin ewes but usually has no effect on ewes that are already in good condition. Flushing is also more effective on mature ewes rather than yearlings.

What are the benefits of flushing? - Flushing increases the amount of eggs being shed and causes the ewes to come into heat more promptly therefore giving higher lambing percentages. This technique works well because ovulation rate is increased due to the response of short term increased nutrition [2].