

## **Heat Stress**

By: Jillian Craig

In the hot summer month's sheep may be susceptible to heat stress. Heat stress can weaken the immune system, reduce productivity, lower birth weights and semen quality may be reduced. With a few simple management strategies it is easy to eliminate this issue from the flock. By providing shade and cool, clean water sheep should not suffer from heat exhaustion or stress. Newly shorn sheep should have access to shelter to reduce the risk of sunburn. On extremely hot days the flock may have a reduced feed intake so it is important to provide good quality feed. Providing a barn or trees for the flock to rest during the hottest part of the day will maximize production and prevent losses.



Photo By: Debra Garner

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