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# ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION PROGRAMME

**Owner:**…… Semen.....

Date:……. No. of Ewes/does:…… No of Maiden Ewes.....

1. Nutrition
   2 months before A.I increase diet to 1.3 maintenance.
   Wean at least 6 weeks prior to A.I.
   Apply maintenance diet from 6 days before to 21 days after AI.
   Increase diet to 1.3-1.5 maintenance during mid pregnancy and lactation.
   Changes in nutrition should be gradual.

2. Insert CIDRS on……
   Good hygiene is essential, be careful inserting CIDRS and wash the applicator in disinfectant between ewes/does.

3. Inject with PMSG (Pregnecol) in muscle at CIDR removal. Dose:…….ml ( i.u.)
   Inject diluent into the PMSG vial and mix thoroughly before withdrawing contents and mixing with the remaining diluent. Repeat twice.

4. CIDR Removal
   Finish by ……am .Date:……..... –wethers in if used (I advise this, see below)
   Identify all ewes with lost CIDRS.

5. Yard ewes/does on…….....Remove all food and water 24 hours before A.I. if temp is over 32$^{o}$ leave on water until 4pm. Identify marked ewes/does.
   Ewes/does will be inseminated approximately 48-56 hours after CIDR removal with maidens inseminated first then ewes in order of coming on heat if recorded.

6. Artificial insemination of ewes/does. At least 2 strong assistants are needed to load ewes into AI cradles.
   Date:…….Time:……..

7. Leave ewes/does undisturbed for 3 hours after A.I IF THE DAY IS HOT THEN SHADE IS NEEDED. It is important that the ewes/does are not stressed over the next few weeks as this can result in abortion. Handle quietly. Take back up rams to the ewes ie don't draft the ewes for your back up rams.

8. Just prior to the time of lambing have the ewes/does in a well-sheltered paddock with good feed. The ewes/does will lamb over a period of up to 10 days.

Time of year can adversely affect the success of AI/ET particularly in seasonal breeds.
Avoid trying too early in the season to breed. It is important to monitor the onset and pattern of heat.

Teasers
These are useful for inducing ovulation, producing better synchrony and monitoring the level of heat. At least 1% are required to induce ovulation and 10% are needed to record all ewes on heat. Use spray on raddle or branding fluid on the brisket. Ideally 24-30 hours after CIDR removal mounts start, if 10% wethers are used then 50-60% or more should be marked by 48 hours. Wethers are given a 4ml testosterone injection starting 4 weeks before use then 2ml after 2 weeks and 2ml when they go in. If unavoidable they can be given 6ml as a single injection when they go in.