Plan for Lambing Success

**Fit & Well Fed**
- Good body condition
- Quality balanced diet
- Fully vaccinated
- Sound in foot
- Dagged & clean

**Colostrum**
- Quality
- Quantity
- Timing

**Protect**
- Analyse forage & arrange quality diet
- Sort care of new-borns
  - Maximise colostrum
  - Minimise stress
- Monitor colostrum quality & transfer
- Keep good records

**Plan**
- Sufficient shelter outside
- Clean, dry, draught-free inside
- Plenty of fresh bedding
- Turn-out as soon as possible
- Good hygiene
- Clean & disinfect equipment

**Prevent**
- Maximise colostrum
- Minimise stress
- Keep good records

**Colostrum Quality Quantity Timing**

**Hygienic Appropriate**

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Colostrum - two vital parts -

1. Immunoglobulins - IgG
   Ewe colostrum is 50g IgG/litre at lambing
   But it declines rapidly & by 24-36 hours old, a lamb cannot absorb more IgG
   A 4kg lamb requires 20g IgG as quickly as possible for adequate passive transfer

2. Energy
   Ewe colostrum is 15% fat
   At birth lambs have a store of energy in their brown fat but this diminishes after 5 hours so they require 200ml/kg colostrum in the first 24 hours simply to keep warm

All lambs should receive 50ml/kg colostrum as soon as possible & a total of 200ml/kg before end of 24 hours
Prevent

Fit & Well fed

Plan

Protect

Hygienic

Appropriate

Lambing Success

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**Joint III**
caused by *Strep dysgalactiae* (SD)

### Sources
- Carrier ewes
- Birth canal
- On teats & in milk
- Stomach tubes, & bottle teats
- Dirty hands
- SD survives well on dry straw

### Routes for entry
- Ear tagging
- Docked tail
- Navel
- Castration wound
- Nose, mouth, tonsils

### What to do –

1. **Plan-Protect-Prevent**
   - Consider all practices

2. **Stringent hygiene**
   - Wear gloves
   - Wash hands
   - Sterilise ALL equipment

3. **Use targeted antibiotics**
   - where necessary
   - risk-based
   - active vet involvement
   - review regularly

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