



## SHEEP

### THE BASICS:

- RAM : male sheep
- WETHER : castrated male
- EWE : female sheep
- LAMB : baby sheep
- GESTATION PERIOD : 5 months
- AVERAGE LITTER SIZE : up to 3 lambs
- ADULT SIZE : 150 – 250 lbs
- There are over 300 breeds of sheep.
- Sheep are cud chewing animals or RUMINANTS with a 4-chambered stomach and a 'split' hoof.

### THE EXTRAS:

- Sheep have a gland between their toes that secretes an odor that “talks” to other sheep.
- Sheep are timid and defenseless animals, except for the mature rams which are fierce butters.
- Columbus brought sheep to America on his second voyage.
- Sheep are raised mainly for meat and wool. One sheep gives an average of 8 pounds of wool per year but can give as few as 3 pounds or as many as 11 pounds of wool.
- Sheared fleece is called “grease wool.” Once sheared it is washed to remove the oil, called lanolin (which is widely used in cosmetics manufacturing).

### OUR SHEEP:

- Jacob Sheep: White with black/brown spots. Meat sheep. Only breed with 2, 4 or occasionally 6 horns. Originates in Middle East.
- Rambouillet Sheep: All White. Wool and meat sheep. Originates in France.