Sheep Shearing

Veterinary Assisting 2: Veterinary assisting 2: 14.02 identifies ovine breeds and their characteristics and husbandry practices.

Background:

this week we are going to begin ovine management, so I felt the best way to begin that would be to watch a video on competitive sheep shearing! It is a common belief with animal rights activists that sheep shearing is unnecessary and harmful to the sheep. Through this activity, I want you to discuss the health benefits that sheep get from being shorn, specifically the reasons that are given by Sandi Brock.

Here are a few reasons that sheep are shorn.

* Prevent the buildup of manure and urine that can lead to parasitic infection.
* Allow adequate wool regrowth to improve the sheep’s ability to control its body temperature during extreme heat and cold conditions.
* And to create a clean environment for newborn lambs.

Instructions:

I want you to watch the first video on competitive sheep shearing. It is interesting to see how quickly they shear sheep and the process that they go through. The second video is a vlog by a woman named Sandi Brock. She is a sheep farmer that lives in Canada. Mrs. Sandi has a vlog that documents her everyday life as a sheep farmer, and in the video, I have attached, she discusses how they shear their sheep and why she shears sheep on her farm. After you watch these videos, you need to answer the questions on this sheet.

Expected progress:

This assignment should take you one day to complete! So you should start it on Monday and be finished with it by then as well! It is not due until Friday, but I would suggest starting it before Friday.

Activity:

Competition video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0KHhdYVcIo>

Sandi Brock Sheep farmer vlog: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrK9TNZ9T7w>

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| What parts of the Sandi Brock video you need to watch | How she shears her sheep: 0:45-5:00  Why she shears her sheep: 12:50-15:45 |

Questions

1. Who won the searing sheep contest, senior division?
2. What are the judges looking for when they examine the sheep after their shearing?
3. What position do the shearers put the sheep in to shear them?
   1. Are they in a squeeze chute?
4. How are they restrained during the shearing?
5. What occasionally happens to the skin during shearing?
   1. Why does this happen?
6. What are the reasons that Sandi Brock gave for shearing her sheep?
7. How much does a pound of wool earn at the market right now?