



GENSTOCK PTY LTD
ANIMAL BREEDING SERVICES

ABN 87 122 583 920
P.O. Box 21, Kojonup
Western Australia 6395
Phone: (08) 9834 1038
Fax: (08) 9834 1062
Email: info@genstock.com.au
Website: www.genstock.com.au

USING TEASER WETHERS FOR EARLY BREEDING

Ewes are referred to as short day breeders. That is, they cycle (come into oestrus) with decreasing daylengths (January to June). They tend to cycle every 15-17 days. If ewes have been away from sight, sound and smell of rams for 6 weeks then they can be stimulated to display heat and ovulate by being brought into contact with rams. Generally the first heat of the season is a non-fertile heat.

Wethers treated with testosterone are equally as effective as rams at stimulating sexual activity in ewes. The advantages of using teaser wethers in early joined ewe flocks are:

- Most ewes are cycling when the entire rams are joined
- The lamb drop is concentrated
- The mating period can be reduced to 6 weeks without decreasing lambing percentage
- The efficiency of management practices such as lamb marking and mulesing is increased

GENSTOCK recommends 1 injection of 5mls given subcutaneously 7 days before introducing teasers to ewes. In an AI programme it is recommended to inject at sponge insertion and use a higher percent of teasers.

Plan for using teasers in a natural mating programme only.

DAY 1: Inject selected wethers with 5mls testosterone subcutaneously.

DAY 8: Join teasers with ewes at 0.5 – 1.0%.

DAY 22: Join rams with ewes at 2%. (Teasers can remain with the ewe flock as the ram-like behaviour only lasts 3-4 weeks.

DAY 64: All ewes should have been mated and conceived.

PLEASE NOTE DO NOT SELL TREATED WETHERS FOR SALE. THEY MUST BE SLAUGHTERED ON FARM OR KEPT FOR TEASING IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS.