



# WOOL.

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## ADVICE AS TO PREPARATION, &c.

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THE following information is suggested for the purpose of enabling Farmers to secure the maximum prices for their Clips :—

### THE VALUE OF PREPARATION.

Wool that is **well prepared** will certainly realize more than that which has been neglected, and there is no doubt that some Farmers have lost money in the past because they have not troubled to market their Clip in its best possible condition. If possible keep the various grades of Wool separate and distinct.

### CLIPPING.

The sheep should be **quite dry** before clipping, as damp injures the Wool after it is shorn.

### DIRT, STRAW, &c.

Don't clip the sheep on a floor that is littered with straw or loose dirt.

Every care should be taken to keep the Wool free from grass, straw, or chaff, or bits of vegetable matter.

Wool containing any foreign matter is sure to be reduced in price.

If shearing in a field, select a place where the grass is short, and do not cut the grass first. It is a good thing to select a fresh site for each day's shearing, and to spread clean covers over the grass.

### SHEEP DIP.

Care should be taken not to employ Sheep Dip which stains the wool yellow, as this depreciates the value considerably.

### WINDING THE FLEECES.

Each fleece should be neatly rolled **separately** and fastened by twisting the neck end into a band and wrapping it tightly round.

If more than one fleece is made into a bundle the Wool will be classed down to the quality of the lowest fleece.

**No string or twine must be used to tie up fleeces.**

Locks and broken wool **must not be stuffed into the fleeces** but must be kept separate. If fleeces are stuffed in this manner or greasy Wool is put inside washed fleeces, the price is certain to be reduced.

**Stuffing fleeces is an offence punishable by Law.**

Daggings should be taken off and kept apart.

#### STORING.

Store your Wool in a clean dry place, and on a wooden floor if possible. If the outside walls are thin and not damp-proof, the Wool should be kept away from them. It is unwise to store it near grain, as vermin will carry the grain into the Wool.

Damage to Wool by rats and mice frequently causes considerable loss in value. Stored Wool should always be covered to keep it clean.

#### BRANDING.

All markings should be done with a mixture that will dissolve in hot water ; or it should be put on the head or ears, so as not to come on the fleece.

Marking on the fleece with Tar, or anything which will not dissolve in hot water, **has all to be clipped off before the Wool is used**, and this means loss of value to the Farmer.

#### PACKING WOOL.

Great care should be taken to see that the place where the Wool is packed is clean, and free from straw or dirt, as this is liable to get into the sheets. **No Sheets should be sewn up with binder twine, nor should this twine be used for tying up fleeces**, as the fibres of this twine get into the Wool and are difficult to detect and cause considerable damage to the woven fabric.

By Order,

B. E. SARGEAUNT,

Government Secretary.

Government Office,

Isle of Man,

June, 1940.