

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Cornell Sheep Flock

ENTROPION

Signs

- Lambs at birth, usually noticed within a few days.
- The margin of the eyelid (usually lower lid) in one or both eyes rolls inward.
- Squinting and tearing, discoloration of wool below eye from discharge.
- Cloudiness of the cornea where irritated by hairs or lashes.
- Corneal ulcers may develop, accompanied by growth of blood vessels across the cornea.

Treatment

- Mild cases can be corrected by manually rolling the lid outward into its normal position several times during the first day of life.
- Apply Michel wound clips, usually 3 perpendicular to the lid margin, to crimp up a fold of skin below the eyelid. The clips can also be placed parallel to lid.
- Alternatively, snip out a thin ellipse of skin below the eyelid with clean sharp scissors or crush the same piece of skin with hemostats.
- If a corneal ulcer is present, apply an antibiotic eye ointment twice a day for several days.
- If the condition can not be corrected with one of these techniques, request veterinary examination - the lateral canthus of the eye may need to be cut to permit correct positioning of the lids.
- If an older, emaciated animal is affected, ask for a veterinary examination to determine cause of wasting and need for culling.

Prevention

- Watch closely for additional lambs with entropion, so they can be treated early.
- Check lambs before releasing them from the jug.
- Record the occurrence of entropion in the lambing book, as the condition is hereditary. The affected lamb should not be kept for breeding.