



Essentials for Lambing Time

When lambing time draws near, it is time to get a lambing kit in order. Let's cover the basic lambing kit and then look at what extras you could have on hand. The items marked with **, are not for a basic kit, but you might want to add these over time.

Supplies

The following table lists supplies you should have on hand for lambing.

Rubber gloves, protective	For assisting with difficult births and handling newborns
OB lubrication	For assisting with difficult births (J-lube, or other)
Nylon rope, snare, or leg	For assisting with difficult births
Disinfectant	For assisting with difficult births
Bearing retainor, ewe spoon, or prolapse harness **	
For holding vaginal prolapse in	
Heat lamp or warming box	
For warming chilled lambs	
Arnica montana and Rescue Remedy homeopathics	
To give to ewes whose births you assist	
Needles and syringes **	
For giving shots	
Thermometer	For diagnosing problems
Gentle iodine, Triiodine	

For dipping navel cords
Esophageal feeding tube
For feeding lambs
Frozen colostrum **
For feeding lambs
Colostrum supplement **
To supplement colostrum

Lamb milk replacer For feeding orphan lambs
Lamb nipples (teats) and bottle
For hand feeding orphan lambs

For treating pregnancy toxemia

For treating milk fever

For weak lambs
Oral dosing syringe **
For giving oral medications
OB S-curved needle **
For suturing
Ear tags and an applicator

For identifying lambs

Hanging scale For weighing feed and lambs
Weigh sling To weigh newborn lambs
Pocket record keeping book For recording lambing data

Books: These are some of my favorites.

Natural Sheep Care - Pat Coleby

Storey's Guide to Raising Sheep - Paula Simmons and Carol Ekarius

Managing Your Ewe - Laura Lawson

The Sheep Book - Ron Parker

Living with Sheep - Chuck Wooster

The Complete Herbal Handbook for Farm and Stable - Juliette de Bairacli Levy

Lamb Problems - Laura Lawson