

Flushing Factfile

- ★ Fertility of the ewes is greatly influenced by her diet and nutritional state.
- ★ The ewe should be gaining weight up to and during mating and should maintain this condition while the ram is with the flock (six to eight weeks)
- ★ This is achieved by **Flushing**.
- ★ Flushing constitutes moving the sheep onto rich pasture two weeks prior to mating. Good after - grass is very suitable for this.
- ★ If good grass is not available then concentrates will be required.
- ★ **Flushing** affects fertility in a number of ways:
 - A.* It increases ovary activity to result in more heat periods.
 - B.* It causes multiple ovulations (twins and triplets)
- ★ Ewes that had lambs the previous year should be “slimmed down” after weaning (Put on poor pasture or densely stocked) Why?
- ★ If they are not reduced in this way then they may be too fat at mating time or may not be able to put on the weight during the critical period.