## Sheep Farming Terminology

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| Abattoirs | Licensed for domestic market |
| Cast-for age (CFA) | Ewes culled due to old age. Often sold and mated with terminal sires |
| Crutching | Removal of wool from around the belly, teats and tail |
| Cryptorchid | Castrated male – testes pushed up inside body |
| Cull | Animals selected for sale or slaughter because they have undesirable characteristics |
| Dag | Clumps of faeces that stick to wool around the tail |
| Dagging  | Removal of dirty wool from around the tail |
| Dipping  | Chemical applied to skin to kill external parasites |
| Docking | Tailing (removal of tails) |
| Draft | Sorting animals into groups |
| Drenching | Chemical given to animals to kill internal parasites |
| Dry ewe | A ewe that fails to get pregnant |
| Dual Purpose | A breed of sheep that is used for both wool and meat production |
| Ewe | Female breeding sheep |
| Extensive farming | Large areas of steep country with low pasture growth. Inputs low and outputs low |
| Finishing | Growing animals from store to prime |
| Flock | A number of sheep usually a breeding group |
| Flushing | Extra feed fed to ewes 3 weeks prior to and during tupping |
| Gestation | Length of pregnancy |
| Hogget | Young weaned sheep 4 – 16 months old |
| Intensive farming | High value land producing a large quantity of high value products. High output per hectare  |
| Lamb | 0 – 6 months old |
| Meat processing unit | Licensed to export overseas |
| Mixed aged | Mix of ages in a flock |
| Prime lamb | A lamb at a saleable weight, and adequate covering of fat required by the market i.e. finished |
| Ram | Male breeding sheep |
| Semi-extensive farming | Hilly country with some flats producing less output per hectare |
| Shearing  | Removal of fleece |
| Staple | Lock or tuft of wool fibres |
| Store | A lamb that has not yet reached a saleable weight or fat covering required by the market. Sold to a finishing farm |
| Teaser Ram | A ram that is not fertile by vasectomy |
| Two-tooth | A sheep that has its first pair of adult teeth (generally 12 – 27 months) |
| Tupping | Mating |
| Vaccinating | Injection given to increase immunity against disease |
| Weaning | Taking the lamb off the ewe, pasture is the sole diet of the lamb |
| Wet ewe | A ewe that has lambed and reared the lamb to docking or weaning |
| Wet-dry ewe | A ewe that has lambed but whose lamb has died before docking or weaning |
| Wether | Castrated male – testes removed |