Commitment to Animal Health

Dedication to animal welfare at the Sheep Center involves continuous water monitoring, bucket cleaning, and ensuring the well-being and safety of the animals.

Understanding Sheep Health

Comprehensive sheep health management extends beyond daily check-ups, necessitating collaboration among herdsmen, shearers, and veterinarians for tasks. These include vaccinations, castrations, tail docking, ultrasound pregnancy checks, hoof trimming, shearing, and other essential procedures.

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Pasture Management

OSU has implemented more efficient pasture utilization at the Sheep Center to reduce hay expenses, involving continuous pasture rotation to prevent overgrazing. This process entails relocating movable electric fencing and water buckets to maintain proper enclosures and meet the sheep’s requirements.

Proper Feeding

Despite implementing pasture grazing for feeding, supplementation is necessary to meet the nutritional requirements of the sheep. Lambs may require alfalfa, while ewes may need either alfalfa or grain, with additional mineral supplementation if their needs are not adequately met.

Maintenance of Facilities

Identifying invasive plants in your pasture and monitoring the consumption patterns of your animals is crucial. Thistle is a persistent issue at the OSU campus, as the sheep avoid it unless there are no alternatives, necessitating extensive efforts to remove it from our pastures this Summer.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the ER Jackman Fund for their generous support, which has made this scholarship opportunity possible, enabling me to engage in an exceptional hands-on learning experience.

Savannah Rodriguez