

Calendar of events on the Farm

This is a very brief rundown of what needs doing roughly when, to avoid most problems. Your vet will be able to describe/show you the various procedures.

Month	Sheep / Goats	Cattle	Horse	Other
January	Shear lambs, check for flystrike, treat for facial eczema, check ram health.	Treat for facial eczema and fly worry	Treat for fly worry	Make/buy hay 25 bales/cow, 5 bales per sheep, 40 per horse.
February	Check for flystrike, get ewes in good condition, wean lambs if not done.	As January if needed	As January if needed	
March	Put ram with ewes for August lambing	Wean spring born calves if still on cow		Put fertiliser on paddocks (allow rain or 3 weeks before grazing again)
April	Monitor ewe/doe condition, not too fat and not too thin	Use electric fences to control use of grass	As cattle, also treat for worms including bot fly.	Conserve grass so that pregnant animals can have a rising level of feeding in last month of pregnancy (July/August usually)
May	As April			As April
July	Feed extra to pregnant ewes in last month before lambing, get belly and bottoms	Feed well in last month of pregnancy, give magnesium supplement, vaccinate	Feed hay/supplements Tetanus booster if foaling later on	Prepare emergency kit for lambing/calving/kidding etc, buy necessary supplies.

	shorn, vaccinate for tetanus etc.			Grass growth slow most years.
August	Lambing, check 2 x daily, drench ewes/does	Calving, check 2 x daily, continue magnesium	Foaling? Feed supplements	As grass growth doesn't usually speed up until September, continue hay etc this month.
September	Dock lambs/kids by 4 weeks old if possible (rubber rings). De-horn kids by 1 week old.	Feed milking cows well, get bull calves docked and all calves dehorned by 3 weeks old.	May need to control grazing if grass starts to grow quickly.	Avoid sudden food changes for new mothers, Milking animal needs two times what dry animal needs to eat.
October	Drench lambs/kids, vaccinate	Drench calves, vaccinate	Treat for worms	Leave grass for hay? Apply fertiliser
November	Drench lambs/kids, get ewes shorn, lambs crutched. Treat for lice	Drench calves for worms, bull or AI for cows for August calves	Treat for worms. Annual tetanus vaccination	This is usually the best month for grass growth. Check water supplies for summer
December	Drench lambs/kids, Check for flystrike, get all sheep shorn if not already done, treat for lice.	Drench calves, Bull with cows for September calves.	Treat for fly worry if required. Check teeth.	Ensure plenty of water as weather gets hotter, also shade in all paddocks especially for sheep.

NB Individual circumstances will vary, please consult your vet for detailed information.