

years it has been often found in the North Island also. Extrusion of the vagina is still far more common in the North than in the South Island. Both can be prevented by suitable management, and even after either has made its appearance a change to short pasture combined with a sufficiency of daily exercise is the most effectual means of stopping the trouble. The change of feed most desirable, if it be available, is to place the ewes on a paddock of short fresh-growing grass or one of young green oats, the laxative effect of this feed no doubt assisting nature in restoring the balance of the system and enabling the ewe to return to a condition of normal health. I had an interesting practical experience of this some years since. A number of stud ewes in high condition were on exceptionally good feed, and deaths began to occur. In a few days the mortality reached an average of seven or eight daily, and the owner naturally became alarmed. At his request a visit was made to the farm, and after a careful examination the cause of the trouble was determined. A change on to short pasture was advised, together with the ensuring of daily exercise by a man going into the paddock twice daily and keeping the animals on the move for an hour or so each time. The result was that after two days the mortality ceased entirely. Similar treatment has generally been found equally successful in other cases of the kind when the owner has been able to properly carry it out—not always an easy matter when a man's time is involved; but the change of pasture alone does a lot of good.

Extrusion of the vagina rarely affects ewes other than those carrying twin lambs; and with this, care in preventing the ewes coming to their lambing in too high condition, at the same time ensuring that they get a sufficiency of exercise, is of the highest value as a preventive measure, as is pointed out in the leaflet on the subject, referred to above. It is a mistake to suppose that the higher the condition of the ewe the stronger and healthier will be her lamb or lambs. The ewe most likely to produce the best and strongest progeny is the ewe in good healthy, strong condition. A ewe which is too fat is neither healthy nor strong. The time to provide an abundance of good feed for breeding-ewes is not before they lamb, but after, when they are suckling their young. Before lambing all they need is a sufficiency to keep them in good sound health and condition, but not an excess, such as would be liable to induce laziness and an accumulation of fat in the system. An instance of the efficacy of this practical and common-sense treatment came under my notice recently. A large sheepowner who had been troubled with extrusion of the vagina among his stud ewes year after year decided to try it. He brought his ewes to their lambing in a paddock of short sweet grass, and put on an old man to go among them daily, stir them up, and keep them moving round.