

Clover Safe #33

SHEEP SHEARING SAFETY



Photograph Courtesy of the
University of California 4-H Archives

Available information indicates sheep shearing injuries typically affect the arms, back, and knees of the shearers. Types of injuries include strains/sprains, lacerations, and contusions due to the physical stress required to manipulate sheep and the inherent hazards associated with the sharp edges of a wool clipper.

Sheep can be also injured during the shearing process. Injuries to sheep often include cuts due to inattentive shearing practices or physical trauma due to sheep panicking and running into objects when they are being captured or released by shearers.

Many of the injuries to shearers and /or sheep are caused by shearers being careless or inattentive and could be prevented by taking several simple precautions. For additional information about sheep shearing safety, go to the Clover Safe note at: <http://ucanr.org/cloversafe>.

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