



# SHEEP SHEET

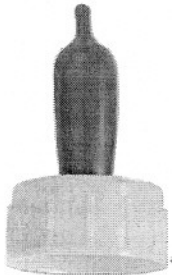
by **Dr. Lyle G. McNeal**, Executive Director,  
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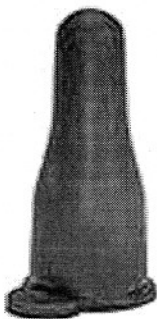
New teats (nipples) are supplied with no hole in the end and thus must be cut before use. There are two different techniques to cut the teat. The common, older technique is to use a sharp scissors and snip it off cross-ways. Thus, the more you snip off, the bigger the hole, so do not overdo it.

Another technique is to carefully slit the end into two (2) halves with scissors. The two halves snap back together when not in use thus "self-sealing" the end of the teat. Most important, this self sealing method of cutting the teat allows the bottle of milk to be left in an inverted position from which the lambs can suck at their leisure. Many shepherds today prefer the "Pritchard" teats over the larger old fashioned teat models still on the market. Others have found the same preference applies to goat kids.

## New method



## Old method



## Using the "Pritchard" Teats in Feeding Orphan Lambs

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### Sheepdex L-3

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Be sure not to lose the tiny ball that rattles when you shake the teat. If you do the teat will leak. This happens rarely, and primarily only from washing the teats too aggressively.

Don't leave teats sitting in the sunlight or overheated areas. Especially do not leave them sitting on a window ledge or the dashboard of a vehicle. Sunlight from this "greenhouse" situation has been know the heat up the latex until it melts into a gooey blob. As all areas of high heat are bad for this type of latex, it's best not to leave them close to an active wood stove or furnace.

### Latex inner ring



Don't use them without the latex inner ring. This ring, included free only on "Pritchard" teats enables an easy seal to all bottles. If you use the teat without the latex ring, the teat will make a very poor seal on the new tamper proof bottle tops and will thus either leak or split the yellow portion of the teat.

Don't clean the teats in boiling water. Use warm water with a little diswashing detergent and nothing more.

Don't use Chlorox to disinfect them. The strong chemical reacts with the latex and can cause rapid disintegration.

Don't use the teats beyond two years or three years. Latex tends to become sticky with use and prolonged exposure. We replace ours every year.

### Bottles to use

Pop bottles of various sizes work fine. Now that the latex washer is included, the teats may be used with plastic bottles as well as glass. Glass bottles disinfect better, however, for new-born lambs using a plastic maple syrup bottle (the kind with a handle) works well.



The shape allows the shepherd to squeeze the bottle as needed. In doing so we can actually push the milk into the lamb's or kid's mouth. Because the bottle is clear you can easily see how much milk remains in the container.

To obtain "Pritchard" teats, we suggest you contact the following outlet:

Premeir Sheep Supplies, Co.  
Box 89,  
Washington, IA 52353  
(319) 653-6631 or  
(319) 653-6634

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*For more information write The Navajo Sheep Project, Inc. PO Box 4454, Logan, UT 84323-4454. The Navajo Sheep Project is a registered non-profit Utah corporation.*