Right From the Start

Sheep
Characteristics

- Gregarious
- Good jumpers
- Head butters
- Flee verses fight
- Sure-footed
- Good sense of hearing
- Easily startled
- Wide field of vision
- Good sense of smell
- Strong for their size
Equipment

- Rope halter
- Clippers
- Blower
Flight Zone

- Safety zone
- Varies among animals
- Increases when an animal is excited or approached from the front
Flight Zone

Diagram courtesy of Dr. Temple Grandin
Common Injuries

- Slips/trips
- Muscle strain
- Back strain
- Bruises, cuts, scrapes
- Blisters
- Burns
Injury Prevention

- Wear closed-toe shoes or boots with non-slip soles
- Wear gloves to protect your hands from rope burn or electrical burns (grooming tools)
- Keep the practice area clear of debris to reduce tripping/slipping hazards
- Work with your sheep often to reduce their flight zone
- Handle sheep quietly and calmly
The Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education

www.swagcenter.org
903-877-5998
agcenter@uthct.edu

Support for this resource was provided by NIOSH/CDC Cooperative Agreement #U54-OH07541 and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™