

**Class:-7th**

**Geography, Case Study:3**

**Sheep Rearing in Australia**

**A. Choose the correct answers:-**

1. Australia is famous for the fine wool of its.....sheep.

**b. Merino**

2. ....is a sheep farm in Australia.

**a. sheep station**

3. Sydney and .....became the world's largest wool selling centres.

**c. Melbourne**

4. ....is the world's largest producer and exporter of wool.

**a. Australia**

5. A.....is a trainee who looks after the sheep.

**c. jackaroo**

**B. State whether the sentences are true or false:-**

1. Australia controls 50 per cent of the world's wool production. **(False)**

2. Most of the sheep are bred in Western Australia and New South Wales. **(True)**

3. King George III presented Merino sheep to Marsden to expand the wool enterprise in Canada. **(False)**

4. Sheep are vaccinated when they are new-born lambs. **(True)**

5. Australia is the exporter of sheep meat. **(True)**

**C. Fill in the blanks with suitable words.**

1. Sheep rearing is the **breeding** and **raising** of domestic sheep.

2. Sheep are raised principally for their **meat**.

3. Merino sheep are known for their **long-fibred** fleece.

4. **John Macarthur** and **Samuel Marsden** introduced Merino sheep to the British.

5. Sheep are fed a special grass called alfalfa to ensure their good health.

**D. Answer the following questions:-**

1. Sheep farmers work to ensure that their sheep have the best quality wool. How do they keep sheep free from pests?

Ans.1 To ensure that the wool is free of any pests, before the shearing starts in early spring, the sheep are bathed or sprayed with chemicals.

2. Why are central and western Australia suitable for sheep farming?

Ans.2 Central and western Australia have very little rainfall where the natural vegetation is shrubs and thorny bushes and these are very well suited to the requirements of sheep.

3. How are the farmers in Australia trying to overcome the problems in the wool industry?

Ans.3 Farmers are trying to solve these problems of soil erosion, salting, loss of native plants by avoiding overgrazing, fencing off damaged areas and caring for them, using fewer chemicals, replanting more bushes and trees and irrigating pastures efficiently so that the underground water does not build up as the sheep require drier conditions for growth.

4. What are some of the environmental issues caused by the wool industry?

Ans.4 According to some environmentalists, sheep farming has led to soil erosion because of overgrazing and also because of the damage caused to the soil due to the trampling by hard hooves. The sheep have to be protected from diseases and natural enemies like the dingoes. The size and genetic diversity of the flock must be carefully controlled to maintain quality and under-or over-breeding has to be monitored.

5. Write a short note on sheep farming.

Ans.5 Sheep farming is done for the purpose of breeding lambs for meat and raising sheep for wool and milk. In the sheep stations, trained helping hands known as 'Jackaroos' tend to the sheep. Some of them also have large dogs to assist them to keep a track of the sheep. The sheep are also fed special grasses like alfalfa to ensure that they are healthy. Sheep are vaccinated when they are new-born lambs.