Individual feeding behaviour

- Main factors affecting individual feeding behaviour were the age and the sex of the lamb.

- The number of meals per day, the time spent feeding per day decreased with age while the milk quantity per meal and per day increased.

- Females made more visits to the teat per meal and more meals per day but consumed less milk per meal than males. The quantity of milk consumed per day is not significantly different between the 2 sexes.

Group feeding behaviour

- We observed feeding synchrony.
- The mean group-meal relative size =54%
- The quantity of milk consumed per visit tended to increase with the rank of a lamb in a group-meal

CONCLUSION

Results obtained showed that the electronic self-milk feeder is an interesting tool to study the feeding behaviour of lambs. In a near future we will evaluate the impact of the stimulation of the lambs on their milk consumption.