



NSA EVENT GUIDE

This is a National Sheep Association publication

National Sheep Association

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Front cover photograph of the sheepdog sale at NSA Sheep 2014, where sheep were put through their paces by each





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A WARM WELCOME TO

NSA SHEEP 2016

BY SAMUEL WHARRY NSA CHAIRMAN

On behalf of everyone at NSA, I am delighted to welcome you to NSA Sheep 2016. NSA events have now become an integral part of the sheep farming calendar and we are delighted at the success of these, both UK wide and particularly this, our flagship biennial event at Malvern, Worcestershire.



A huge amount of time and effort has gone into making NSA Sheep 2016 a success and we are deeply indebted to Helen Davies, NSA Sheep Event Organiser, and her team of willing helpers who put so much into organising the day. Their enthusiasm and energy knows no bounds.

Finally thank you all for coming, I hope you find it both useful and informative, and above all, enjoy the day. Please feel free to call at the NSA stand for a chat too, we really want to hear the issues that are important to you and I look forward to seeing you there.



BUILDING ON THE PAST

TO ENSURE A POSITIVE FUTURE

BY PHIL STOCKER NSA CHIEF EXECUTIVE

NSA Sheep 2016 promises to be everything it has always been, as well as continuing its evolution to provide even more. And provide more it must, because our sheep industry is facing a huge amount of potential opportunity that it is struggling to capitalise on, and for too long we have been facing success tomorrow yet dealing with continual difficulties today.

Despite being a small and heavily populated this island, we are a major global player in the world of sheep farming. We are the sixth largest producer of sheep meat globally, eating 60% here in the UK and selling the other 40% overseas to make us the third largest exporter in the world. We import similar volumes to that which we export, mainly from New Zealand – and while this may sound crazy, it's all part of balancing volumes, seasonality and carcase parts.

Of course New Zealand lamb on our shelves is never as common sense would dictate and creates much frustration among sheep farmers, particularly when justifications used by retailers are untrue (such as claims no British lamb is available). But the potential to increase lamb consumption both here and overseas is massive – if we put the effort into product development, image promotion and market development.

Not only do our production and trade indicators look good and show promise, but this is achieved while adhering to some of the highest welfare standards in the world. We meet good environmental standards, and produce landscape, biodiversity and a whole range of public benefits as a result of our farming and grazing practices. Our upland and lowland sheep systems are highly integrated to make the most of the breeds and crosses and their suitability to climate and conditions. We are naturally free range and predominantly grass based

Yet sheep farming, as with most other farming sectors, struggles to maintain profitability and cope with the volatility of the market, the supply chain and, of course, the weather. We also have an unfinished fight against the direction that many policy and decision makers, strategists and even market players seem to want sheep farming to go. I can't count the times I hear people suggest the sheep industry needs to 'grow up' and get more bio-secure. more efficient, more vertically integrated and produce a more consistent product – joints and cuts like peas in a pod.

The NSA is a progressive organisation. We are pro research and pro innovation. But we believe we can make further advances in efficiency and product quality, and reduce losses and waste, and make a success of our market within the structure of the system that, for very good reason, has evolved to where we are today. Different individuals will take different approaches, such as moving to closed flocks or adopting new composite breeds, but it has always been this way and just demonstrates the innovation and interest amonast farmers and stock breeders. NSA Sheep 2016 will provide a platform for all these issues and many more – and I look forward to welcoming you there.

NSA SHEEP EVENTS: DELIVERING FOR THE SHEEP SECTOR

Delivering events like NSA Sheep 2016 is one of the NSA's specialisms, and the biennial programme of national and regional events provides an unrivalled programme of activities to bring sheep farmers together, with each other, the trade, support industries, researchers and many others. Phil Stocker, NSA Chief Executive, says: "Last year, a year when our national event didn't take place, in the region of 24,000 people attend NSA regional events across the country – and you can bet each and every one would have taken something of value away with them. They are uniquely delivered through a balance of much volunteering and solid professional support and organisation, and because of this they hit the mark and deliver exactly what the industry wants.

Samuel Wharry

CHECK OUT WHAT'S ON AT NSA SHEEP 2016

9:00am Gates open

- ASDA cookery demonstrations begin, taking place every 45 minutes through the day (Avon Hall stand 159)
- NSA Young Shepherd of the Year and European Team finals begin (Avon Hall). Sponsored by Crystalyx
- Judging of best exhibitor trade stands begins

10:00am

- Cotswold Seeds demonstrations begin, taking place every 45 minutes through the day (In the outside area below Avon Hall)
- BWMB shearing demonstrations begin, running through to 3pm (Shearing shed)
- National Lamb Carcase Selection competition with AHDB Beef & Lamb opens, sponsored by ABP (Avon Hall Stand 148)
- Judging of BWMB fleece competition begins (Wye Hall Stand 128)

10:30am

- Opening ceremony: Followed by presentations (NSA Stand 178)
- Workshop 1: Branching out: How trees on sheep farms can increase productivity and profit (Workshop area in Avon Hall; details on page 7)
- Working sheepdog sale begins, selling through to 4pm (Main Ring)
- Tornado Wire Fencer of the Year competition begins (Alongside Avenue F)

10:45am Ready Steady Cook Competition – Heat 1 (Avon Hall Stand 159)

11:00am

- Presentation of stand competition winners on respective stands
- **Seminar 1**: Adding value by understanding the role of sheep in upland and hill areas (Seminar area between Avon and Wye halls; details on pages 5)

11:15am Workshop 2: Protect your payments: Keeping on top of sheep identification. reporting and recording rules (Workshop area in Avon Hall; details on page 7)

11:45am Ready Steady Cook Competition – Heat 2 (Avon Hall Stand 159)

12:00noon Workshop 3: Great grass: The role of over-seeding in grassland management (Workshop area in Avon Hall; details on page 7)

12:15pm Seminar 2: The Basic Payment Scheme: Adding value or undermining our industry? (Seminar area between Avon and Wye halls; details on page 5)

1:15pm Seminar 3: Adding value by maximising the marketplace (Seminar area between Avon and Wye halls; details on pages 6)

1:30pm Workshop 1: Branching out: How trees on sheep farms can increase productivity and profit (Workshop area in Avon Hall; details on page 7)

2:00pm

- Ready Steady Cook competition The final (Avon Hall Stand 159)
- Speed shear competition (Shearing shed). Sponsored by Agri Lloyd

CELEBRATE IN STYLE Why not join us the evening before NSA Sheep 2016 at the pre-event dinner to celebrate the sheep sector. This fantastic night includes a three-course meal and entertainment on Tuesday 26th July in the Severn Hall at the event venue. The lamb will be kindly supplied by Randall Parker Foods and the wine sponsored by ABP. **Book tickets** for £30+VAT in the "Attractions" section at www.sheepevent.org.uk.

EVENT

MAP ON PAGES

2:15pm Workshop 2: Protect your payments: Keeping on top of sheep identification, reporting and recording rules (Workshop area in Avon Hall; details on page 7)

2:30pm Seminar 4: Adding value and maximising output by optimising flock health (Seminar area between Avon and Wye halls; details on pages 6). Sponsored by MSD Animal Health

3:00pm

- Tornado Wire Fencer of the Year award presentations (Stand 181)
- Workshop 3: Great grass: The role of over-seeding in grassland management (Workshop area in Avon Hall; details on page 7)

3:30pm

- BWMB Fleece Competition awards presentation (Wye Hall Stand 128)
- National Lamb Carcase Selection awards presentation (Avon Hall Stand 148)

4:00pm

- NSA Young Shepherd of the Year award presentations (NSA stand 178)
- Speed shear competition presentations (Shearing shed)









Trade stand prizes

(NSI) SHEEPEVENT

Demonstrations

SEMINARS

SEMINAR ONE: 11:00AM

Adding value by understanding the role of sheep in upland and hill areas

NSA will launch a reviewed version of its 'Complementary role of sheep in upland and hill areas' report, raising awareness of the importance of maintaining a viable sheep industry and highlighting the many unvalued benefits sheep production and grazing

deliver. Phil Stocker, NSA Chief Executive, comments: "Much of the evidence needed to support the value of upland sheep farming is available, yet we have still struggled to combat opposing views and defend it against those who are constantly calling for its demise. With the launch of our revised report we will have the evidence and arguments to make a compelling case for sheep farming in the uplands and we will use this to take a refreshed and appealing argument to the policy makers and the wider public. Launching the report at NSA Sheep 2016 will enable visitors to debate the value of upland farming and better equip us all to talk positively about this sector of our industry." The seminar will be chaired by Phil, with four speakers talking about their upland/hill farming experiences, ahead of an opportunity for the audience to ask questions and air their views.

SEMINAR SPEAKERS

- Representing England: Robert Helliwell, Derbyshire sheep farmer and NSA Central Region committee member.
- Representing Wales: Jeff Gwillim, Powys sheep farmer involved in the NSA-supported Black Mountain Land Use Partnership.
- Representing Scotland: Jennifer Craig, Lanarkshire sheep farmer and NSA Next Generation Ambassador.
- Representing Northern Ireland: John Blaney, County Antrim sheep farmer and NSA NI Region committee member.

SEMINAR TWO: 12:15PM The Basic Payment Scheme: Adding value or undermining our industry?

With NSA Sheep 2016 falling just a month after the EU referendum, the organising committee was set the challenge of inviting speakers on a seminar topic that would be relevant regardless of the decision made at the polls in June. With budgets under pressure and the tax-paying public far removed from the intricacies of food production, the future of the Basic Payment Scheme in the event of an 'in' or 'out' result was the clear choice. The debate will ask if the industry would fall to pieces without direct payments or flourish as businesses stop 'farming the subsidy'. Joanne Briggs, NSA Communications Manager, says: "The referendum has put the EU direct

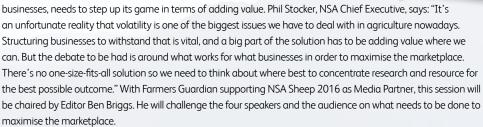
'farming the subsidy'. Joanne Briggs, NSA Communications Manager, says: "The referendum has put the EU direct payment system front and centre of people's minds and, while we had no way of knowing the result of the June vote when we decided the topic, there is guaranteed to be lively debate to either discuss the existing regime or a new future outside the EU." The session will be chaired by Dan Phipps, a sheep farmer from Suffolk, NSA UK Policy & Technical Committee Chairman and NSA Eastern Region Chairman. He will invite views from four speakers and the audience.

SEMINAR SPEAKERS

- One the role of direct payment for family farms: John Yeomans, Powys farmer.
- On the role of direct payments in the tenanted sector: James Gray, Hampshire farmer and Tenant Farmers Association Vice Chairman.
- On farming without receiving direct payments: Ewan Cumming, Norfolk farmer and NSA Next Generation Ambassador
- On safeguarding against a subsidy-free future: Richard Sparey, Herefordshire farmer.



Whether we're selling prime lamb or breeding genetics, marketing a standard sheep fleece or niche red meat products, finding efficiencies and maximising value is a sure way to guard against the increasing volatility of the market. This seminar will ask some pertinent questions about whether the sheep sector as a whole, as well as individual



SEMINAR SPEAKERS

- On adding value to prime lamb: John Richards, HCC Industry Information Executive
- On adding value to genetics: Liz Genever, AHDB Beef & Lamb Senior Beef and Sheep Scientist
- On adding value to native breeds and mutton: Bob Kennard, NSA Make More of Mutton project manager
- On adding value to wool: Ian Buchannan, BWMB Chairman

SEMINAR FOUR: 2:30PM Adding value and maximising output by optimising flock health

Truth or myth? Vets think sheep farmers don't earn them money, and sheep farmers think vets have no interest or knowledge about sheep! In an effort to resolve this catch-22 situation, the final seminar of the day will highlight the positive outcomes for farmers who enjoy a close working relationship with their vet.

Joanne Briggs, NSA Communications Manager, explains: "NSA and the Sheep Veterinary
Society have been supporting each other over the last 12 months to showcase examples in Sheep Farmer
magazine of where enthusiastic and knowledgeable vets are working with farmer clients. Within a wide range of
systems we have found examples of meaningful flock health plans, positive steps to reduce losses and clear
outcomes in terms of maximising output. A booklet will be available at NSA Sheep 2016 featuring all the farmers
and vets to appear in Sheep Farmer, and we are delighted that two duos will also join us on the day to share their
experiences." Seminar chairman Bryan Griffiths, a sheep farmer from Devon and NSA English Committee Chairman,
will work with the audience to draw lessons from the two farmer-vet duos that other sheep farming businesses
might benefit from. This seminar is sponsored by MSD Animal Health.

SEMINAR SPEAKERS

- First farmer-vet team: Cumbrian farm manager Adam Dyer and Eva De Vries of Coomara Vets.
- Second farmer-vet team: Gloucestershire sheep farmer Pauhla Whitaker and Phillipa Page of the Wood Veterinary Group.







WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP ONE: 10:30AM, REPEATED AT 1:30PM Branching out... How trees on sheep farms can increase productivity and profit

Hear from a vet, a woodland creation advisor and a researcher on how trees can help make your sheep systems more sustainable. Sheep vet Emily Gascoigne will consider key threats to lamb survival and growth and the effects of trees on drainage, changes

of conditions underfoot and provision of shelter. It will look at the role of trees in limiting threats such as neonatal lamb mortality, infectious lameness, mastitis and liver fluke. Woodland creation advisor Hamish Thomson will give an overview of the practical considerations when designing a tree planting scheme, such as location and species choice, as well as describing the advice and support that is available to farmers. PhD student Pip Jones will discuss the Multi-land research programme, in which data is being gathered about how adverse weather

is experienced on a 'sheep-scale' and the influence of trees, hedgerows and shelterbelts.



With NSA receiving more enquiries from members on this topic than any other, this workshop with Ian Cairns of the Farming Advice Service will offer a useful reminder of the rules for sheep keepers in England. Ian says: "The focus will be protecting your payments.

It's your money; you don't want to lose it, so we'll look at ways to help you be prepared. This will include being aware of what the main breaches are and ways to reduce your risk." Ian will also look at the new CPH system currently coming in, which will benefit many keepers but mean more recording for those unable or unwilling to merge different CPHs. There will be time for questions and Ian has generously offered to be on the NSA stand between the two sessions to deal with additional queries. Keeping sheep in Wales? The new EID Cymru system is

now in operation. For information contact 01970 636959 or www.eidcymru.org.

WORKSHOP THREE: 12:00NOON, REPEATED AT 3:00PM Great grass... The role of over-seeding in grassland management

To complement live over-seeding demonstrations throughout the day, Cotswold Seeds will also lead a workshop on improving grassland. This will provide an opportunity for visitors to ask questions and gain a more technical insight into what will be shown by the demonstration. Focusing on permanent pasture and non-rotational grassland, the

workshop will look at the key messages around this approach and the checklist to go through beforehand to ensure soil compaction and pH are perfect. The speaker leading the workshop will be Ian Wilkinson, Cotswold Seeds Managing Director. Ian says: "Over-seeding is a valuable method of rejuvenating existing pastures or adding in different species beneficial to sheep farmers. We are often asked for advice from our customers on how to get the most from it so are glad to have this opportunity to share techniques and offer advice."

A grassland demonstration area can be found below Avon Hall, running every 45 minutes from 10am.



Keep your flock in fine fettle

A well sheltered field is a valuable tool in helping to improve the productivity of your flock - not least in helping to reduce the risk of hypothermia in new born lambs. Trees and hedgerows will provide shade and shelter for your flock and help improve land drainage

Emily Gascoigne MA Vet MB MRCVS.

If you are interested in planting trees as hedgerows, shelterbelts or copses, the Woodland Trust offers independent advice and support, including subsidised trees to help you keep your flock in fine fettle all year round.



Visit us at NSA Sheep 2016 at stand 154

Apply for your subsidised trees today Email plant@woodlandtrust.org.uk or call 0330 333 5303

Find out more at woodlandtrust.org.uk/farming

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DROP-IN CLINICS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

NEW: GRASSLAND DEMO Cotswold Seeds are bringing a new dimension to NSA Sheep 2016 with a grassland rejuvenation demonstration plot. Working to the event theme of 'Adding value' the demonstration will run throughout the day to show how to maximise permanent pasture and non-rotational grassland by over-seeding. The demonstrations will be complemented by a technical workshop (details on page 7). Find the grassland demonstration below Avon Hall.



MAXIMISING LAMB GROWTH RATES As a keen supporter of SCOPS, NSA is providing a large demonstration area in Avon Hall to provide best practice information on controlling worms to ensure lambs keep growing through high risk periods.

LAMBTASTIC! Asda's support for NSA Sheep 2016 will ensure a fantastic cookery theatre in Avon Hall, hosting the Ready Steady Cook competition and fabulous cookery demonstrations throughout the day showcasing lamb dishes.



FLEECE MAXIMISATION Twice the information from BWMB this year with shearing demonstrations in the Shearing Shed and fleece presentation talks on the stand. Both will run throughout the day. Visit stand 128.



FROM OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

- Find a fully interactive AHDB Beef & Lamb area in the Avon Hall, including a live demo of body condition scoring for ewes and a cutting-edge butchery area. Visit stand 148; more details on page 25.
- The focus for **Elanco Animal Health** this year will be blowfly control. Take advantage of the resident experts to talk about protecting sheep this summer. Visit stand 177; more details on page 25.
- MSD Animal Health will be running a drop-in clinic for lameness. Go along for help in developing a bespoke lameness plan for your farm. Visit stand 151; more details on page 27.
- Wanting to talk about farm assurance? You won't be able to miss the SAI Global stand, where the Red Tractor logo will be brought alive by a huge Massey Ferguson. Visit stand 160; more details on page 29.
- With a new automated drench gun connected to a weigh scale and high-spec handling system, the demonstrations on the Shearwell Data stand will be well worth a look. Visit stand 127; more details on page 23.



Elanco







INTERNATIONAL FEEL A flurry of interest from international exhibitors will see Australian company Proway demonstrating its sheep handling equipment, Moreda Riviere Trefilerías from Spain showcasing fencing products, and Agrident exhibiting EID readers from Germany. Full details in the exhibitor listings.

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY A wide selection of companies selling sheep handling equipment will have sheep on their stands so you can try out the kit before making a decision.

- Call past the Innovative Farmers stand to find out more about their sheep field labs that help turn on-farm ideas to research projects. Visit stand 132.
- Working Australian Kelpie demonstrations will be ran through the day by Lyndhurst and Devonairs Kelpie studs. Visit stand 242.
- Stickmaker Req Marshall will be showing how he hand-crafts crooks and walking sticks. Visit stand 133.
- Artist Mary Griese will be painting throughout the day, showcasing to visitors how she specialises in watercolour paintings of sheep. Visit stand 126.





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CATCH A SLICE OF THE ACTION

AT NSA SHEEP 2016

COOKING UP A TREAT

Find the action in Avon Hall.

It's a case of every nation for themselves as YFC chairmen from England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland go head to head in NSA's very own version of Ready Steady Cook – using British lamb, of course. Chris Manley (England) and Vicky Hope (Wales) of the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs (NFYFC) will compete first, followed by representatives from the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs (SAYFC) and Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster (YFCU). The first two heats will be kicking off at 10.45am and 11.45am, with the final at 2pm.

SPEEDY SHFARING

New for NSA Sheep 2016 is a speed shear competition. Watch these top shearers push themselves to the limit to combine talent and time. Head to the shearing shed at 2pm.



STRENGTH, STAMINA & SPEED REQUIRED

TORNADO

As competitors gather for the return of the popular Tornado Wire Fencing competition, judges will be keeping an eagle eye on all manner of fencing skills required. Points will be awarded for work carried out above and below ground, and while it will be a race against the clock for those after a win, competitors must also make sure their quality standards don't slip. Points will be awarded for underground work, fence line and tidiness above ground and overall impression. Find the fencing competition alongside avenue F.

SHOWCASE YOUR CHAMPION FLEECE

There is an exciting added dimension to the regular fleece competition at this year's event, as NSA is delighted to have been chosen as one of 12 qualifier events for the British Wool Marketing Board's new Golden Fleece competition. This challenge to find the nation's top fleece will consider the very best entries from the 12 qualifier events and the network of BWMB depots across the UK. The overall winner in the competition, sponsored by JG Animal Health, will receive a trophy along with £500. Visit BWMB at stand 128, where advice will also be on offer for how to maximise returns through better wool presentation, as well as a 'quess the breed' competition.

STOCKJUDGING CHALLENGES



Come and test your stockjudging skills on the Texel Sheep Society stand and be in with the chance of winning a Ritchie Farm Implements lamb weigher. Organised by the Texel Youth Development team, the first correct entry will be drawn from a hat on the stand at 4pm, with a number of prizes on offer to runners up as well. Visit stand 90. Carcase classifications will also be taking place on the AHDB Beef & Lamb stand, testing you on assessing a number of different commercial lamb carcases and if they fit the specification for different markets. Visit stand 148.

SHEEPDOG SALE RETURNS

Set to host its 16th annual sheepdog sale this year, NSA Sheep 2016 is just the place to purchase the perfect working canine. With entries set to include everything from novices to trial dogs registered with the International Sheepdog Society, there is sure to be something to suit everyone on the day. As always, each dog will demonstrate its working skills before the sale commences, giving purchasers that extra piece of mind before deciding which to go for. Find the sheepdog sale in the main ring.

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SHEEP EVENT DEBUT FORNSA NEXT GENERATION AREA

It was the 2012 Sheep Event where NSA announced its continued commitment to young people by launching a dedicated project to help the next generation get ahead in the industry. Just four years later and NSA Next Generation is so central to our work that it has a dedicated area at NSA Sheep 2016.

This brand new area of the event, located in Avon Hall, is the place to head for a whole wealth of information and opportunities. Regardless of whether you're a new entrant or have countless generations of farming blood, there will be something to help you make the best of your career and/or sheep flock. Joanne Briggs, NSA Communications Manager, explains: "NSA Next Generation was born out of a determination of NSA office holders and a number of external supporters to drive the future of the whole sheep industry through the encouragement and empowerment of young people. Thanks to a commitment from NSA Head Office and funding from the NSA regions and ram sales, a huge number of activities are now going on. We're looking forward to NSA Sheep 2016 where we can showcase these and meet more people who could benefit from what we're doing. Just one part of NSA Next Generation is the Ambassador programme for up to 12 people each year to attend personal development, training and skills sessions. We are now in the third year of this hugely successful programme and many of the young people involved will be there on the day to share their experiences. This mix of new entrants, share farmers, family farmers and employed shepherds is an inspiration – not just to other people wanting to work in the sheep sector, but also to the older generation to see what a positive future this industry has."

If you don't get chance to speak to us at NSA Sheep 2016 about NSA Next Generation activity, send your contact details and date of birth (and NSA membership number if you have one) to enquiries@nationalsheep.orq.uk.

NSA NEXT GENERATION

- Dedicated website at www.nsanextgeneration.org.uk
- Bespoke advice to young people, including offer of mentors
- Work experience placements and assistance for job seekers
- Match-making service for employment, rental and share-farming opportunities
- NSA Lambing List placements
- Young Shepherd of the Year competitions
- Annual NSA Next Generation event
- Regional meetings and activities
- Sponsorship from regions to attend events
- NSA Next Generation Ambassador programme



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Northern Irish National

Show & Sale Ballymena 16 - 17 August

Scottish National

Show & Sale Lanark 24 - 25 August

Welsh National Show & Sale

Welshpool 27 August

English National

Show & Sale Worcester 29 - 30 August



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Skills & training

Ambassador groups

FINAL HEAT FOR YOUNG SHEPHERDS

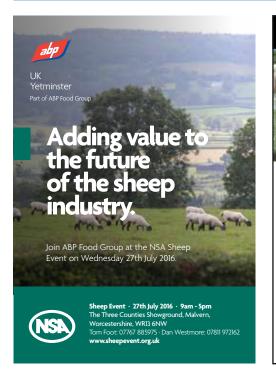
Seven tasks await 18 young hopefuls as they go head to head in the NSA Young Shepherd of the Year competition, having qualified at regional heats **around the UK.** Challenges will include sorting finished lambs, where contestants will be awarded points for giving correct conformation and fat grades in line with the Europe grid. Sheep shearing skills will also be put to the test, with points on offer for those who demonstrate neatness and a clean clip, plus the ability to wrap the fleeces. Several other challenges, including a demonstration of sheep handling skills, ATV handling, demonstration of sheep husbandry skills including vaccinating and dosing, as well as answering questions on flock health and management will also form elements of the competition. Competitors can also expect to complete a mystery challenge, set to be revealed on the day. It's all to play for, as the winner will receive a trophy as well as the majority share of a £2,000 pot of prize money. A £50 prize for the highest placed competitor aged 21 CRYSTA or under will also be awarded on the day.

NSA Central Region: TBC. NSA Cymru/Wales Region: Aled Jones and Bleddyn Pugh. NSA Eastern Region: George Hartley-Webb and Harry Lombardi. NSA Marches Region: Winners from Young Shepherds day on 10th July. NSA Northern Region: Matthew **Emmott and Robert Walker NSA Northern Ireland Region:** Russell Smyth and Iain Wilson. **Winners** NSA Scottish Region: Winners from NSA Scot Sheep on 1st June. **NSA South East Region:** Winners from NSA South Sheep on 7th June. NSA South West Region: Winston

Perry and one TBC.

WELSH HALFBREDS

EUROPEAN FINAL Incorporated into the competition this year will also be the European Young Shepherd of the Year final. Representative teams from France and the Republic of Ireland will be put to the same tasks as the UK competitors (split into English, Welsh, Scottish and NI teams), with the results totted up to find individual and team winners for the European title.





TRADE STAND JUDGES

With more than 60 breed society and 200 trade organisations on display, find out more about the NSA office holders facing the challenge of awarding just a small few with prizes for best exhibitors.

BREED SOCIETY STAND JUDGES



SYBIL MACPHERSON, NSA SCOTTISH REGION CHAIRMAN

Sybil and husband George run 2,000 ewes and 60 suckler cows across 4,000ha (9,885 acres) in Damally, Argyllshirolvement in the farm has

been a life-long commitment for Sybil and, having recently appeared on the BBC 'This Farming Life' series, some may already be familiar with some of the challenges presented by farming this harsh landscape.



LLEW THOMAS, NSA CYMRU/WALES REGION CHAIRMAN

Llew runs a closed flock of 130 pure-bred Lleyns near Whitemill, Carmarthen. The farm sits at 270m (900ft) at its highest point, with lambing taking place from

around mid-March. Ewe lambs are sold at society sales throughout the season, aside from a small number kept back for home use, while whethers are finished and sold deadweight.



TBC. OFFICER HOLDER FROM NSA CENTRAL REGION

BEST SHFFP PFN

In addition to the prize for the best breed society stand, a team of experts put together by the **Livestock Auctioneers** Association will also present prizes to the best pens of sheep found on breed society

$\{$ OUTDOOR TRADE STAND JUDGES



ANDREW BARR, NSA SOUTH EAST REGION CHAIRMAN

Andrew farms on the South Downs in East Sussex. He lambs a 200-ewe early lambing flock and a 500ewe April lambing flock. Around 100 Scotch Mules ewe lambs are bought in each autumn, crossed to the Suffolk to enable 100 Suffolk Mule ewe lambs to be selected for breeding annually. Andrew also runs 40 suckler cows and a few bought-in dairy-bred heifers, as well as drawing lambs for a local lamb producer group.



ALAN DERRYMAN. NSA SOUTH WEST REGION CHAIRMAN

Alan and his partner Gwenan run 900 New Zealand Romney ewes alongside 70 Stabiliser cattle and a small amount of arable over 240ha (600 acres) in Sidbury, Devon. The system on the rented farm is very extensive, inspired by many visits Alan has made to New Zealand, during his time as a professional shearing competitor and, more recently, trainer and international judge.

INDOOR TRADE STAND JUDGES



CAMPBELL TWEED. NSA NORTHERN IRELAND REGION CHAIRMAN

Campbell runs 2,950 breeding ewes across his 650ha (1,600-acre) farm near Ballycally, County Antrim. The sheep are predominately made up of Easycare ewes, but Campbell also breeds Wiltshire Horn

rams from a flock of around 100. Having invested heavily in performance recording over several years, Campbell has a keen eve for high standards.



GREG DALTON. NSA NORTHERN REGION CHAIRMAN

Greg is a fourth generation hill farmer from Upper Weardale, County Durham. He runs a hefted flock of around 600 pure Swaledale and 60 Texdale ewes alongside his father. Spanning across some 700ha

(1,700 acres) of both owned and rented land, the highest point on the farm sits 640m (2,100ft) about sea level and is almost all covered by ELS and HLS environmental agreements.

SHEEPEVENT WWW SHEEPEVENT ORG UK (NSA) SHEEPEVENT **EVENT GUIDE 2016**

IF YOU'RE NOT AN NSA MEMBER, YOU'RE MISSING OUT!

Twelve lucky sheep farmers have already received a £200 voucher each this year, to spend with either Fecpak^{G2}, Cox Agri/Ritchey or JG Animal Health – and there's still time for you to be in with the chance of winning, by becoming a member of NSA today.

Already a member? While new members get automatically entered into the prize draw, existing members can get their name in the hat each and every time you recommend a family member, friend or neighbour to sign up as a new NSA member. With no limit to the number of entries you can earn, the sooner you can recommend someone, the higher your chances are of winning.

Why be an NSA member? A UK-wide organisation, NSA is working tirelessly to provide a voice for the sheep sector. NSA offers a wealth of information to members through publications, online and at events throughout the year. NSA operates a regional structure, meaning members from across the UK can get in contact on any matter, safe in the knowledge that their regional committee will share opinions with national and devolved committees and are there to offer support.

Your voice matters. With the interests of sheep farmers at the heart of everything NSA does, your membership goes a long way in providing this organisation with a stronger mandate to represent the interests of sheep farmers and the sheep industry to governments throughout the UK, while helping NSA fund its activity at every level.

LUXURY BRITISH WOOL BEDDING SETS TO GIVE AWAY

Each and every one of the visitors to NSA Sheep 2016 could be in with the chance of winning a luxury bedding set, courtesy of the

Wool Room. Fancy your chances? Register for free at the NSA stand today. At the end of the event, we'll pull one winner from the hat and arrange delivery of a British wool bedding set to your address. The Wool Room's product ranges use only natural sheep products, with wool fibres working to maintain an optimum body temperature for a restful night's sleep. All are completely machine washable too.

Terms and conditions on the NSA website.

NSA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Sheep Farmer magazine

NSA Weekly Email Update

Free* entry to NSA Sheep Events

Free legal helpline

Members-only area of NSA website

Option to sell at NSA ram sales

Associate membership of Moredun

Regional meetings and farm walks

Use of the NSA Lambing List

*Conditions apply; see www.nationalsheep.org.uk/membership



COULD YOU BE THE LUCKY WINNER OF ALUXURY BEDDING SET TODAY AT NSA SHEEP 2016? MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR NAME IN THE HAT



National Sheep Association

JOIN NSA TODAY

Your membership subscription gives you access to a wide range of benefits and supports NSA's work to provide a voice for the sheep sector.

Sign up before 4th Nov 2016 for a chance to

Win a £200 Voucher

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Contribution to Faecal Egg Count user subscriptions



Premier Sheep Mineral Drench



Leading brands including Heiniger, Prattley, Tru-Test and Sprayline

For more information on becoming a member pick up a leaflet or Sheep Farmer magazine; visit www.nationalsheep.org.uk or call 01684 892661



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Individual Subscription £50 Under 27's Subscription £25 (UKONLY) Eire, Europe and Overseas £60 (UKE)

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NSA OFFICE LISE

pay by cheque (made payable to NSA) or call NSA H	CASH / CHEQUE / CARD	
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Tel:	Email:	
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No of commercial breeding females?

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Please use Gift Aid to make your subscription worth more to NSA. For every pound you give us, we could earn an extra 25p from the Inland Revenue. NSA will not claim Gift Aid on a new member's first membership subscription payment.

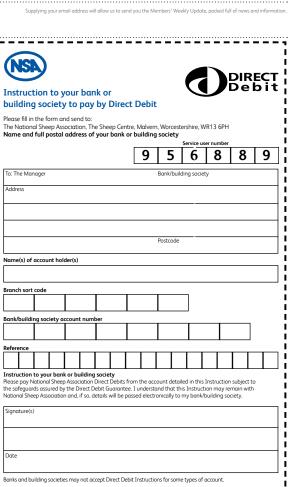
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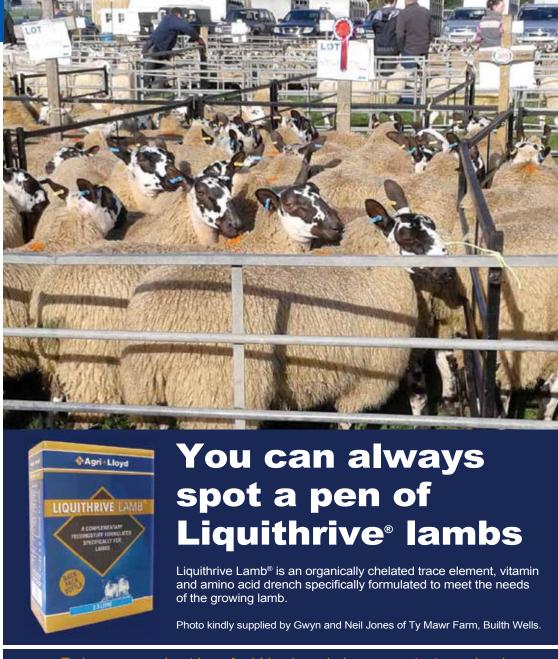


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PRE-EVENT FARM TOURS A NEW FEATURE FOR NSA SHEEP 2016

In an industry where uncertain farm gate prices are leading many producers to ask themselves what they can to add value to the products they produce, two pre-event farm tours will focus on individuals doing just that.

FARM TOUR ONE: COLIN AND GARETH PUGH ADDING VALUE THROUGH MIXED FARMING

Improving efficiencies and productivity is often a case of trial and improvement and, with three enterprises to juggle, this is certainly the case at Cwmwhitton in Knighton, Powys. Run as a partnership by Colin Pugh, his wife Phyllis and son Gareth, the farm has been in the family for four generations and runs sheep, beef and arable enterprises, managed largely in cohesion. Around half of the 400ha (1,000) acres farmed is owned, and with topography ranging from 200m (650ft) to 400m (1,300ft) above sea level, it lends itself to three enterprises to utilise varying ground availability.

Mixed enterprise

A large percentage of the farm consists of permanent and temporary grass. Around 56ha (140 acres) of cereals are grown annually for the livestock enterprises, with around half being crimped or wholecropped. 10ha (25 acres) of root crops are also grown annually, consisting mainly of fodder beat and stubble turnips and 30ha (70 acres) of seed potatoes are contract grown for Asda and Puffin Produce in Pembrokeshire.

With pursuit of efficiencies never far off the agenda for Colin and Gareth, improving the performance of their 850 Texel cross Welsh Mule breeding ewes has been the focus for the sheep side of the business for the past five years. Gareth says: "We've been using the Texel cross for several years and, now it's established in the flock, we've been able to see the improvements it's created. Ewes hold their condition well on some of the farm's harsher

SHEEPEVENT

ground, but it's also led to a drop off in overall lambing percentage. With conditions on the farm being predominately dry during September, this causes the grass to burn off and has meant ewes just haven't been flushing hard enough as a result. We started using Aberdale genetics about five years ago. Bringing in the Aberdale was ultimately about cutting costs while producing more lambs per number of ewes."

The farm's finished lambs are all sold deadweight at around 42-45kg, which Gareth describes as the best market for the 'export quality' lambs the farm is aiming to produce.

As well as the sheep, there are 150 Saler cross cows, put to either British Blue, Charolais or Saler bulls and calving each spring and autumn. All progeny is finished on farm, with Saler heifers retained for breeding. Gareth concludes: "All of our enterprises work together. If one of them is causing us a rough time with prices or something else, then often this will impact on another – we hope in the right way! But obviously you take that risk."



FARM TOUR TWO: STUART AND HELEN MORRIS MAXIMISING RETURNS FROM CULL EWES

Simplicity is key. That is the ethos by which Stuart and Helen Morris operate their flock of 1,000 registered pedigree Llyens at Hay-On-Wye, Herefordshire.

The family-owned farm has grown to some 120ha (300 acres) since it was taken over by the Morris family in 1970 and, recently, the decision was taken to employ full-time shepherd Tom 'Ernie' Richards. Stuart describes the decision as a 'learning process for both parties', having only ever employed part-time help during busy periods of the year until now. Alongside his new role, Ernie is also an NSA Next Generation Ambassador, having been selected alongside

 $11\ \mbox{other}$ young people to take part in the skills and personal development programme this year.

Mutton sales

In line with the couple's ethos of ensuring the business remains profitable, Stuart and Helen have started working with another couple in the area who market local mutton. Stuart says: "It really has been superb working together doing this so far, and a great working relationship has been formed. We'll be taking over full supply of ewes for the venture next year. I'm hopeful this side of the business will continue to go from strength to strength." Aside from this, Stuart explains he generally attends up to five Llyen Sheep Society sales a year, at which the farm will sell roughly 60 ewe lambs and yearling ewes at each, with the same number again being sold privately. He says: "There is a much higher profit to be made with the

we produce are all rams and sold deadweight and we'll also pull out the bottom end females periodically throughout the year."

Lleyn ewes and lambs

Shepherd Ernie Richards (left) with Stuart and Helen Morris

In addition, Stuart says he is hoping to get back into producing and selling pedigree rams this year, now that Ernie is on board and keen for the challenge. With a clear head for business, the Morris' drive for success is clear to see. Stuart concludes: "Although a pedigree flock through and through, it is fundamentally a commercial business run to make a profit; it is our livelihood and it needs to be viable."

If you're reading this before the day, book a place on the tour in the "Attractions" area at www.sheepevent.org.uk

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ed. Ewes hold their condition ome of the farm's harsher

Colin Pugh (right) with son Gareth

The farm sits at around 400m (1,300ft) at its highest point (1

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NEW: AUTOMATIC DRENCH GUN

WEIGH HEADS, LOAD BARS, CRATES AND THE NEW REVOLUTIONARY AUTOMATIC DRENCH GUN

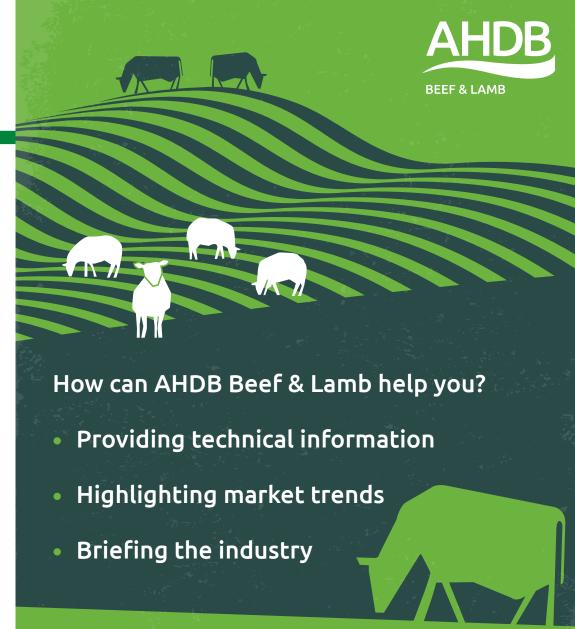
Just like the cordless drill revolutionised the building industry, this gun is set to do the same for the farming industry...

Why do you need a digital drench gun? Because for a tool you're likely to use several times a year, most drench guns have plenty of room for improvement. This has now been addressed by Te Pari with this revolutionary new gun. It wirelessly connects directly to the Te Pari Weigh Scale or the Shearwell Stock Recorder using wi-fi, meaning the precise dosage for each animal is calculated based on its weight and this is transmitted to the gun. The exact dosage, no more and no less, is ready to administer to the animal. It's a superbly ergonomic tool that is not only accurate, it is self-powered to reduce hand strain and it is really easy to use. Additionally there is an option of the gun with manual calibration - simply select the dose rates on its screen manually and use it as a powered applicator.

For further details, visit Shearwell at stand 127







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beefandlamb.ahdb.org.uk

RECOGNISING IMPORTANCE OF FLOCK PERFORMANCE



BEEF & LAMB

AHDB Beef & Lamb look forward to welcoming visitors to the stand to discuss a range of subjects aimed at helping sheep producers improve the performance of their flock, from ultrasound scanning and mastitis, to butchery and marketing activity.

One of the topics that will be addressed is ewe body condition scoring, an effective management tool for assessing whether ewes are receiving adequate nutrition throughout the reproductive cycle. Visitors can see a live demonstration of this technique, which enables farmers to plan nutrient and feed requirements of their flock across the year. The cross-industry RamCompare project, aiming to drive forward genetic improvement in the UK sheep sector, will also have a presence. Several rams involved in this initiative will be on the stand, together with information about the project's progress as the first breeding season comes to a close. Selecting sheep for slaughter will be another key focus, with examples of different types of carcase on display and a competition taking place for anyone who wants to put their selection skills to the test. In our health area, the spotlight will be on lameness and mastitis. AHDB-funded PhD students from Warwick University will be on hand to talk to visitors about their studies and how their findings can help improve the management of these welfare problems on farm. Looking at what happens beyond the farm gate, our butcher will be showcasing his skills in a demonstration of the new cuts developed by AHDB Beef & Lamb to help improve carcase utilisation and add value throughout the supply chain.

Visit AHDB Beef & Lamb at stand 148 and find more online at www.beefandlamb.ahdb.org.uk.

SPONSOR: ELANCO ANIMAL HEALTH

STRIKE FIRST AGAINST BLOWFLIES



Elanco is a global innovation-driven company that develops and markets products to improve animal health, food animal production and companion animal care in nearly 70 countries. A division of leading pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly and Company, Elanco employs approximately 7,000 people worldwide, with offices in more than 40 countries.

Blowfly strike is thought to cost the sheep industry £2.2m per year, in addition to the animal deaths and losses from damaged wool and fleeces, so tackling the problem early in the season with a preventative product, such as an insect growth regulator (IGR) is crucial. An IGR prevents blowfly larvae developing into the harmful second and third stage maggots responsible for flystrike. CLiK and CLiKZiN are the only IGRs with FleeceBind technology, which means the product binds to lanolin in the wool, ensuring your flock has full fleece protection*. Using a preventative product early, and ahead of the season, will limit the build-up of flies and the spread of disease, but also provide peace of mind that a flock is protected irrespective of localised weather conditions. Integrating CLiK and CLiKZiN together is often advisable depending on the individual shepherd calendar. With 16 weeks cover, CLiK provides long-lasting protection while minimising labour requirements and is suitable for ewes and lambs with any length fleece. It can be used directly off shears, avoiding the need to re-gather sheep. With a short, seven-day meat withhold and eight weeks cover, CLiKZiN provides greater flexibility when marketing lambs, avoiding the need to delay drawing stock off for market.

*Spreads to areas covered by fleece, other areas may not be protected, including the fee

FULL FLEECE BLOWFLY PROTECTION WHATEVER THE SEASON wouldn't like to be in a situation where I hadn't prevented early. I need a 7-DAY MEAT treatment that binds and moves with the fleece, offering a good long protection period. David Sellar, Bowldown Farm, Gloucestershire Flock: 700 North Country Mules Only CLiK® & CLiKZiN® with FleeceBind™ technology provide full fleece protection* against blowfly strike.







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Thanks also go to those who've volunteered their time to be part of the Event Management Team or On-site Working Committee.

SPONSOR: MSD ANIMAL HEALTH

REDUCE LAMENESS IN YOUR FLOCK

Concerned about sheep lameness? Visit the Sheep Health People (based on the MSD Animal Health stand) to discuss how vaccination with Footvax, an integral part of the industry-accepted five-point sheep lameness plan, can help you reduce significantly the number of lame sheep in your flock.

Farmer feedback tells us that with a concerted effort you can actually make some quite rapid improvements. Alongside prompt treatment of any affected animals and vaccination, the five-point plan builds a flock's resilience to disease through culling persistently lame animals and reducing the infection challenge on the farm. Developed by the independent research organisation FAI Farms, the five point plan is now delivering substantial improvements in flocks that have implemented it. FAI Farms managed to drive lameness levels down from an average annual prevalence of 7.4% in their own flock of

Large animal vets from MSD Animal Health will be on hand to offer advice for your particular farm situation. They will also discuss the use of the company's practical on-farm

1,200 ewes to only 2.6% within a year of implementing

the plan. Lameness levels were then maintained at less

THE FIVE POINT PLAN

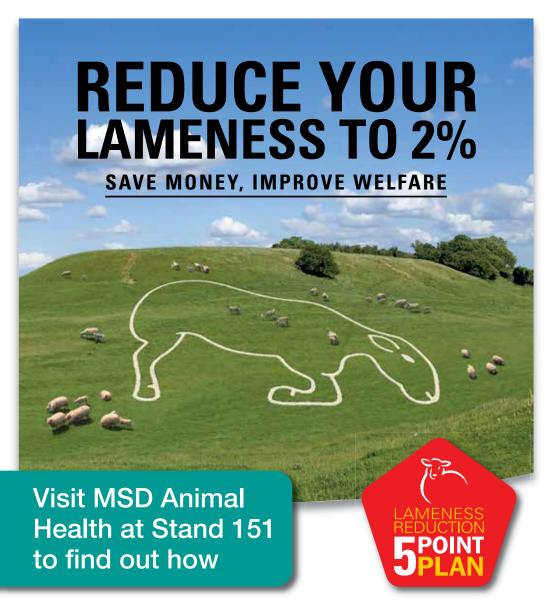
than 1% for the next three years.

- 1. PROMPT TREATMENT OF INFECTED ANIMALS
- 2. CULLING REPEAT OFFENDERS
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sheep lameness control management tool, which gives you a simple way of assessing the effectiveness of your disease management strategy. It can help you identify weakness in your system and whether your lameness management protocol is unbalanced in any way across the five key points

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Visit MSD Animal Health at stand 151 and find more online at www.msd-animal-health.co.uk



FAI Farms reduced flock lameness from an average annual prevalence of 7.4% to only 2.6% within a year of implementing the 5 Point Plan. Lameness levels were then maintained at less than 1% for the next three years.1

The Sheep Health People



References: 1. R.H.Clements, S.C.Stoye. (2014) The Five Point Plan: a successful tool for reducing lameness in sheep. Veterinary Record.

Use medicines responsibly. For more information visit www.noah.co.uk/responsible

Footvax is only available via your animal health prescriber or veterinary surgeon from whom advice should be sought. Footvax contains ten strains of inactivated Dichelobacter nodosus with an oil adjuvant. Legal category. POM-VPSI Footvax is the property of Intervet International B.V. or affiliated companies or licensors and is protected by copyrights, trademark and other intellectual property laws. Copyright © 2016 Intervet International B.V. All rights reserved. Further information is available from: MSD Animal Health, Walton Manor, Walton. Milton Kevnes MK7 7AJ Tel: 01908 685 685 • vet-support.uk@merck.com • www.msd-animal-health.co.uk



QUALITY FARM ASSURANCE

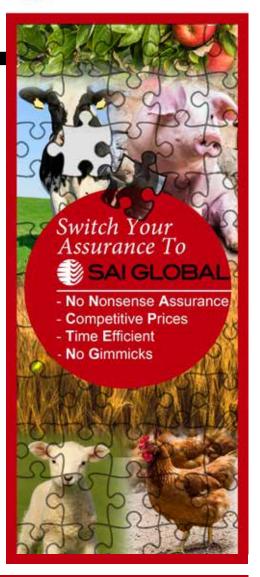
🌓 SAI GLOBAL

SAI Global is the premier assurance company in agriculture and food supply chain auditing, providing farmers, retailers, manufacturers and allied industries, throughout the world, with expert farm assurance to ensure the highest standards are maintained.

Membership of the farm assurance schemes inspected and certified by SAI Global enables farmers to assure customers, retailers and consumers of the high quality of agriculture produce from their farms. It all helps secure markets, as the standards are designed to meet retailer requirements.

The Red Tractor Beef and Lamb scheme allows farmers to demonstrate that standards of animal husbandry and animal welfare on their farm meet nationally agreed levels of best practice and gives an assurance to the consumers that the product is safe and traceable. Abattoirs and retailers are increasingly specifying beef and lamb must be from an assured farm. The standard also covers environmental protection, medicine use and feed. Assurance now covers the whole food chain and SAI Global are proud to be one of the approved Red Tractor certification bodies.

Our customers choose us because they know we are a partner they can depend on and trust. Registration is more than a certificate; it is an opportunity to give your business independent recognition and improve it for the better. SAI Global works with stakeholders such as NSA, which represents the views and interests of sheep producers throughout the UK. Partnerships like this provide us with invaluable industry feedback and information, giving us the opportunity to react or respond to industry specific needs.



SAI GLOBAL FARM ASSURANCE BENEFITS

- A portfolio of Red Tractor assurance schemes to enable farmers to consolidate all their farm assurance needs in a single visit, reducing time and overall costs.
- Farm inspectors that understand farmer's circumstances, through experience and training, to help the audit run smoothly.
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National farming charity helping with short-term financial aid, should an emergency situation create the need for unforeseen expenditure.

T: 01926 620135

E: events@addingtonfund.org.uk www.addingtonfund.org.uk

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E: stephen.murphy@agrihealth.co.uk

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E: apha.corporatecommunications@apha.gsi.gov.uk www.gov.uk/apha

Animal Breeding Europe Stand 29

AB Europe specialise in providing AI, ET and IVP services throughout the UK, along with domestic and export semen freezing.

T: 01531 651210

E: jayne@abreeds.co.uk

www.abreeds.co.uk

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Pioneering solutions in animal health, specialists in trace element boluses for cattle and sheep.

T: 01359 252181

E: miles@animax-vet.com

www.animax-vet.com

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E: a.petch742@btinternet.com

www.apfarmsupplies.co.uk

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Bagshaws Stand 218

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Barclays Stand 70

Barclays Agriculture has over 250 years of experience supporting UK farming, we currently have experienced agricultural managers and support staff.

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T: 01635 563689 E: imogen.holley@bayer.com

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T: 01506 460023

E: john.mccafferty@bcftechnology.com www.bcftechnology.com

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British Wool Marketing Board

Your Wool -**Your Board**

2016 Guide Wool Clip Values*







Texel £1.02/kg



Cheviot £1.20/kg



Mule

£0.95/kg

Welsh

£0.45/kg





£0.61/kg

£0.80/kg

*Net value after all operating costs have been deducted and excluding VAT. Based on sales January to April 2016.

You can find out more about British wool and the work of the British Wool Marketing Board at:

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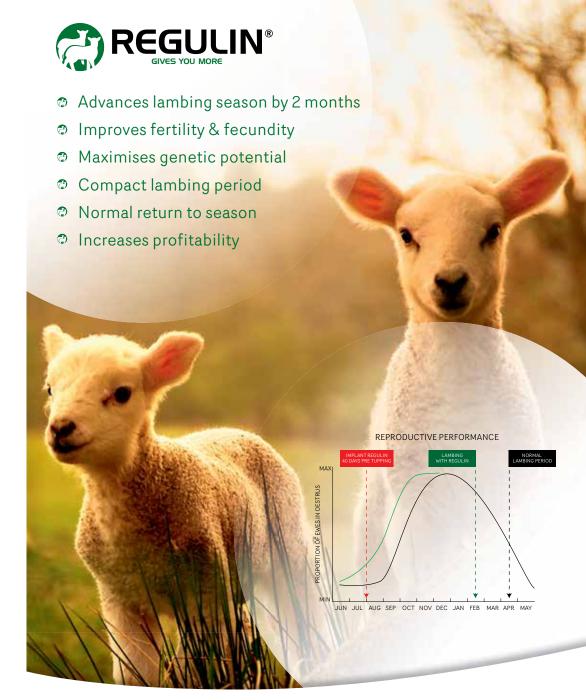
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