



NATIONAL SHEEP ASSOCIATION

SHEEP EVENT 2018

event guide

Free entry
for NSA
members

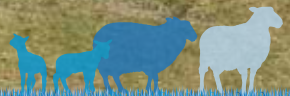


WEDNESDAY 18TH JULY

The Three Counties Showground

Malvern, Worcestershire, WR13 6NW

9:00am - 5:00pm



your business **your future**



A WARM WELCOME TO NSA SHEEP 2018

BY BRYAN GRIFFITHS NSA CHAIRMAN

On behalf of everyone at NSA, in this my first year as NSA Chairman, I am both honoured and delighted to welcome you all to NSA Sheep 2018.

Our flagship biennial show, NSA Sheep Event has become a key date in the diary for sheep farmers and the wider agricultural sector. As a business-to-business trade exhibition, it stands out as an enjoyable day for visitors, providing opportunity to hear the latest from industry experts and exhibitors, pick up new skills and meet up with sheep farming friends old and new.

This industry-focused event goes from strength to strength despite us finding ourselves with potentially uncertain times ahead.

We are pleased to welcome visitors from across the UK to the event, as well as those as far afield as Europe, Australia, New Zealand and the Middle East, to observe the fine selection of commercial and breed society stands, take part in one of the many seminars or workshops, or enjoy spectating at one of the many competitions and demonstrations held around the showground.

All at NSA sincerely hope you find enjoyment and value in attending the event. Please call by the NSA stand to say hello or chat through the issues and topics important to you at this time. We are an organisation representing sheep farmers' views and priorities and will continue to take these thoughts, be they concerns or ambitions for the future, forward to the people and places affecting our pivotal industry.

If you are not already an NSA member, I urge you to consider joining. There has never been a more important time for the sheep industry to have a strong and united voice. The more NSA members there are, the stronger our mandate and the greater our resources to work on behalf of the whole sector. Find out more at NSA Sheep 2018 or at www.nationalsheep.org.uk/membership.



Bryan Griffiths

THRIVING IN AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

BY PHIL STOCKER NSA CHIEF EXECUTIVE

As excitement mounts for NSA Sheep 2018, I cannot help but look back to the previous event in 2016 when we were all still reeling from the referendum result to exit the European Union.

Two years of discussion, debate and disagreement see us in an equally uncertain time – we still do not know what the future holds for trade or farm support, and therefore what our sheep sector will look like in the short or long term.

With an event theme of 'thriving in an uncertain future', NSA Sheep 2018 is perfectly placed to examine where we are going and arm visitors with the tools they will need to prosper.

Much planning has gone into the event to provide an insight into the potential changes that lie ahead, providing information to prepare your business in readiness. There will be technical advice and practical demonstrations, topical seminars and business know-how – and equally as important, a chance to catch up with friends on a much-needed day out.

'Thriving' may seem to be a hopeful term after what has been for many the worst lambing season for many years, but contrasted with the positivity of strong lamb prices in spring and early summer, this year has proven what we can be certain of – that we will never predict or control the weather or global markets!

But there are things within our ability to influence. NSA is working hard and exploiting every opportunity to ensure the sheep sector is not forgotten in high-level Brexit discussions. And NSA Sheep 2018 will provide inspiration and information to enable sheep farmers to maximise on-farm performance.

NSA has been clear throughout the last two years of uncertainty that productive and profitable sheep farming businesses deliver desirable economic, environmental and societal benefits. The Government is enthusing about higher welfare standards and environment improvements, but we know sheep farming already punches above its weight in these areas and will continue to do so if a supportive legislative framework is put in place.

Whatever the future has in store for us, we can be confident in and proud of what we deliver – be it meat, wool, breeding stock or sheep dairy, or environmental gains and the underpinning of rural communities. Ultimately this will take us forward, perhaps to new markets, perhaps to grow old ones, but whatever journey we take, NSA will continue to ensure its members' opinions and livelihoods are central to its work.



Phil Stocker

NSA EVENT GUIDE

This is a National Sheep Association publication

National Sheep Association

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CHECK OUT WHAT'S ON AT NSA SHEEP 2018

EVENT
MAP
ON PAGES
18-19

9:00am Gates open

- NSA stand open to visitors. Come along to discuss key topics, meet staff or relax with a tea or coffee
- Asda Cookery Demonstrations begin (repeated every 45 minutes throughout the day in Wye Hall 4)
- Free Burgon and Ball shear sharpening service begins (Stand 125)
- NSA Next Generation Shepherd of the Year Final begins. *Sponsored by Texel Sheep Society*
- Judging of the trade stands begins. To include the prize for best pen of sheep on a breed stand, *sponsored by the Livestock Auctioneers Association.*

9.45am

- **Workshop: 'The future of shepherding in the UK'** (Workshop area A; details on page 6)
- **Workshop: 'Boosting flock health'** (Workshop area B; details on page 6)

10:00am

- Judging of British Wool fleece competition begins (Stand 129)
- Kelpie demonstrations begin (repeated throughout the day at Stand 222)*

10:30am

- **Opening ceremony:** Followed by trade stand winner announcements with presentations on exhibitors stands
- Tornado Wire Fencer of the Year competition begins (1.30pm finish)

10:35am

- **Workshop: 'Sustainable worm control – maximising profitability'** (Workshop area A; details on page 6)
- **Workshop: 'Responsible antibiotic use – reducing costs and improving farm output'** (Workshop area B; details on page 6)

11:00am

- Presentation of stand competition winners on respective stands
- **Seminar 1: 'Thriving in an uncertain future for international sheepmeat trade'** (Seminar tent between Avon and Wye Halls; details on page 5)

11:25am

- **Workshop: 'Stamp out lameness'** (Workshop area B; details on page 6)

11:30am

- Working sheep dog sale begins*, selling through to 4pm (Main Ring)

11.45am

- **Workshop: 'The role of trees in sheep farming'** (Workshop area A; details on page 6)

12.15pm

- **Seminar 2: 'Recognition of public goods to ensure a thriving future for farmers, sheep and the environment'** (Seminar tent between Avon and Wye Halls; details on page 5)
- **Workshop: 'Sheep scab - New challenges and new opportunities'** (workshop area B; details on page 6)



*Timetable subject to change.

12:35pm

- **Workshop: 'The future of shepherding in the UK'** (Workshop area A; details on page 6)

1:05pm

- **Workshop: 'Boosting flock health'** (Workshop area B; details on page 6)

1.25pm

- **Workshop: 'Sustainable worm control – maximising profitability'** (Workshop area A; details on page 6)

1.30pm

- **Seminar 3: 'Making the most of technology to drive thriving businesses'** (Seminar tent between Avon and Wye Halls; details on page 5)

1.55pm

- **Workshop: 'Responsible antibiotic use – reducing costs and improving farm output'** (Workshop area B; details on page 6)

2.15pm

- **Workshop: 'The role of trees in sheep farming'** (Workshop area A; details on page 6)

2.45pm

- **Seminar 4: 'Domestic market opportunities for a thriving future'** (Seminar tent between Avon and Wye Halls; details on page 5)
- **Workshop: 'Stamp out lameness'** (Workshop area B; details on page 6)

3:00pm

- Tornado Wire Fencer of the Year award presentations, (Tornado stand 172)

3.30pm

- British Wool Fleece Competition awards presentation (Stand 129)

4:00pm

- Presentation of prizes for SCOPS sheep scab treasure hunt (NSA stand)

4:15pm

- NSA Next Generation Shepherd of the Year award presentations (NSA stand)

5:00pm Event closes

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE UK SHEEP SECTOR:

If you are reading this guide ahead of the event why not join us the evening before NSA Sheep 2018 at the pre-event dinner, celebrating all that is great about the UK sheep sector. The evening includes a three-course meal and entertainment on Tuesday 17th July in the Severn Hall at the event venue. Lamb for the delicious dinner is kindly provided by supplier Randall Parker Foods, with wine sponsored by ABP. **Book your ticket now at www.sheepevent.org.uk**



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SEMINARS

SEMINAR ONE: 11:00am

Thriving in an uncertain future for the international sheepmeat trade

Chairman: John Fyall, Aberdeenshire sheep farmer and NSA Scottish Region Chairman

This expert panel will look at how the UK can optimise sheepmeat exports once we exit the EU. As a sector that relies heavily on overseas sales, the session will look at the pros and cons of trade deals with EU and non-EU countries, tariffs and quotas, and the potential impact on the domestic market and sheepmeat prices.

Panel: Robin Manning (Defra Future Farming and Land Use Team), **Phil Bicknell** (AHDB Market Intelligence) and **Mike Gooding** (Farmers Fresh Director).

SEMINAR TWO: 12:15pm

Recognition of public goods to ensure a thriving future for farmers, sheep and the environment

Chairman: Bryan Griffiths, Devon sheep farmers and NSA Chairman

Farm support in the future is likely to be made up in-part of payment for delivery of public goods. This session will look at the appropriate reward for the economic, environmental and social benefits that sheep farmers provide, as well considering what support UK flocks need to be healthy, efficient, profitable and resource responsible.

Panel: Phil Stocker (NSA Chief Executive), **Jeremy Moody** (CAAV Secretary and Advisor) and **Christine Middlemiss** (Chief Veterinary Officer for England).

SEMINAR THREE: 1:30pm

Making the most of technology to drive thriving farm businesses

Chairman: Gloucestershire sheep farmer and NSA English Committee Chairman

In this modern age of technology, this seminar will look at appropriate tools and information for the sector and how sheep farming could use them to improve current approaches and embrace new systems. Speakers will consider how and where gains can be made, on a national and local level, with benefits to the sheep sector as a whole and on individual farms.

Panel: Simon Hall (Defra Livestock Information team), **Rob Hodgkins** (Hertfordshire sheep breeder), **Fiona Lovatt** (sheep vet at Flock Health) and **Elizabeth Stockdale** (NIAB Soil Scientist).

SEMINAR FOUR: 2:15pm

Domestic market opportunities for a thriving future

Chairman: Eddie Eastham, Cumbrian sheep farmer and NSA UK Policy and Technical committee Chairman

Export markets may offer big post-Brexit opportunities, but we cannot ignore that the majority of UK production is still consumed without our own country. This session will look at what the future holds and what further domestic opportunities exist. Speakers will look at current trends and what steps the sheep sector can take to drive and embrace these.

Panel: Rizvan Khalid (Euro Quality Lamb Senior Director and AHDB Beef & Lamb Board Member), **speaker from the retail/processor sector** and **farm shop convenience retailer** (Legges of Bromyard).

WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP AREA A

The future of shepherding in the UK

9.45am - 10.30am (repeated at 12.35pm - 1.20pm)

The NSA Next Generation programme comes into contact with large numbers of enthusiastic young people, but what is the future for employed shepherds, do they have the skills needed and do employers provide the opportunities they need to thrive? NSA Next Generation Ambassadors will lead the debate in this interactive workshop.

Sustainable worm control – maximising profitability

10.35am - 11.20am (repeated at 1.25pm - 2.10pm)

As the UK sheep industry continues to battle with anthelmintic resistance, Elanco Animal Health will look at using newer wormer groups as a mid-late season dose in lambs and a farm protection (quarantine) treatment, to clear out parasite burdens and maximise profitability.

The role of trees in sheep farming

11.45am - 12.30pm (repeated at 2.15pm - 3:00pm)

When thoughtfully integrated into sheep management systems, trees can boost production and improve animal health and welfare while also providing wider benefits to the environment. Hear Woodland Trust and the sheep farmers they work with as they share their experiences (the good and the bad).

WORKSHOP AREA B

Boosting flock health

9.45am - 10.30am (repeated at 1.05pm - 1.50pm)

Nick Canning from Strathclyde Nutrition will provide practical advice on footbathing sheep, and look at nutritional options at lambing time to support ewes and lambs at a critical time.

Responsible antibiotic use – reducing costs and improving farm output

10.35am - 11.20am (repeated at 1.55pm - 2.40pm)

With Red Tractor Assurance and Tim Bebbington of Castle Veterinary Group, this workshop will look at practical examples of reducing antibiotic use through vaccine use and best practice. It will also look at changes to farm assurance rules around this topic.

Stamp out lameness

11.25am - 12.10pm & 2.45pm - 3.30pm

Fiona Lovatt and Phillipa Page, vets from Flock Heath Ltd, will help sheep producers decide where to take the first step and join the march to reduce lameness to less than 2%. Supported by MSD Animal Health, the workshop will consider the FAI five-point plan that offers sheep producers a clear lameness management strategy and a practical protocol for reducing incidence.

Sheep scab - new challenges and new opportunities

12.15am - 1:00pm

Join sheep consultant Lesley Stubbings and colleagues from the Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep (SCOPS) group to discuss the implications of resistance in scab mites to the injectables and explore our options for controlling scab by using new tools and employing old ones more effectively.



PICK UP A NEW SHEEP & TREES GUIDE, PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP BY WOODLAND TRUST AND NSA



TAKE PART IN THE SHEEP SCAB TREASURE HUNT TO PICK UP INFORMATION AND HAVE THE CHANCE TO WIN TOP PRIZES!

JOIN OUR FARMERS OF THE FUTURE AT NSA SHEEP 2018

Young people in the sheep sector are particularly welcome to NSA Sheep 2018, where we hope you will take time to find out more about NSA Next Generation.



The NSA Next Generation programme is committed to supporting the sheep farmers of the future, offering guidance and support to young people with a passion to succeed. Whether you're a new entrant or from generations of producers before you, the programme provides opportunities, support and information.

Come to the NSA stand to find out more, and meet with NSA Next Generation Ambassadors who are spending the day at the event and taking turns to be on the stand. And don't miss the NSA Next Generation workshops, focusing this year on the role of employed shepherds. Find us in Workshop Area A at 9.45am, repeated at 12.35pm.



WHO WILL TAKE THE NEXT GENERATION SHEPHERD OF THE YEAR TITLE?

Just one more round of competitions awaits 18 young shepherds as they prepare to battle for the title of NSA Next Generation Shepherd of the Year 2018.

A sure attraction of this year's show is the national final of the competition, which brings together successful regional finalists from throughout the UK to compete for this prestigious title. Testing practical skills such as shearing and ATV handling alongside knowledge of sheep health and lamb selection, the final of the competition will take place throughout the day with the successful winners awarded their prizes from a prize pot of £2,000 by NSA Chief Executive Phil Stocker. The competition will also include a mystery challenge testing the young shepherds' skills and knowledge of a topical subject currently affecting the UK sheep sector.



Young Shepherd - Winner Richard Carter and Phil Stocker

COMPETING FOR YOUR REGIONS ARE:

- NSA Central Region**
Will Leese and Harley Turner
- NSA Northern Region**
Matthew Emmott and Rob Walker
- NSA Marches Region**
Sarah Dunn and Rollo Deutsch
- NSA South West Region**
James Westcott and Sam Edwards
- NSA Eastern Region**
Robert Spink and Ryan O Sullivan
- NSA Cymru / Wales Region**
Dafydd Davies and Tomos Owen
- NSA Northern Ireland Region**
Iain Wilson and Mark Hamilton
- NSA Scottish Region**
Winners from NSA Scot Sheep
- NSA South East Region**
Winners from NSA SE Region Next Generation Day

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ORGANISE YOUR DAY

- Treasure trail:** SCOPS has laid a special treasure hunt around the showground. Find the clues as you seek out sheep scab information. (Entry forms from the NSA marquee or SCOPS stand in Avon Hall).
- Luscious lamb:** Watch Asda chefs and butchers cook up a feast of delicious lamb recipes (Cookery theatre).
- Top tree tips:** Pick up a new Sheep & Trees guide from NSA and Woodland Trust to learn more about integrating trees into farmland. (NSA marquee or Stand 142).
- Strength, stamina and speed:** Take it easy while you watch others take the strain! Check out the Tornado wire fencing competition (Fencing area).
- Buy the best:** Top sheepdogs will be on sale at the event again this year, with each lot put through its paces before bids are invited (Main ring).
- Prize competition:** Visit the Texel Sheep Society to 'guess the weight of the Texel lamb' for a chance to win an Allflex EID reader (Stand 94).
- International welcome:** A warm welcome to our international guests, all of whom are welcome to the NSA stand for a complimentary lunch (NSA marquee).
- Woolly wonders:** With prizes on offer on the day and the chance to qualify for the national Golden Fleece competition, check out the British Wool fleece challenge (Stand 129).



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PRE-EVENT FARM TOURS

As part of the NSA Sheep 2018 theme of 'Thriving in an uncertain future', this year's pre-event farm tour package will take visitors to the farms of Pauhla Whittaker and Sam Jones to see how they're safeguarding their businesses for the years ahead. If you are reading this before the event, why not join us on the pre-event farm tours? Book online at www.sheepevent.org.uk.

FARM TOUR ONE: Pauhla and Martin Whittaker, Cranham, Gloucestershire CAPITALISING ON MARGINS TO MAXIMISE RETURNS

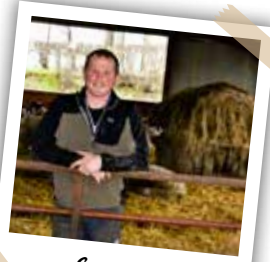
Thriving in the future will mean focussing on margins and maintaining an open-minded attitude for Pauhla and Martin Whittaker, farming at more than 290m (950 feet). The couple run 370 ewes alongside 65 suckler cows on the 225ha (560-acre) farm, all of which is in higher level stewardship. The bulk of the flock is made up of Mules, mostly put to Texel cross rams. Some also went to the Vendeen this year, a cross Pauhla is keen on. "We originally wanted the Vendeen to tup some ewe lambs with," she explains. "But I think we'll probably stick with it going forward. It has worked really well on the Mule, producing progeny that is hardy and well-suited to the farm's landscape but also kill out really well if not kept for breeding." Wethers and non-breeding females are sold through local marketing co-operatives and meat wholesalers. Pauhla also sells meat directly off the farm, marketing lamb, hogget and mutton. She says: "EID recording is allowing us to see which type of ewes are producing offspring with improved killing out percentages. We're also looking at comparisons in earlier and later-born lambs to see whether a significant variance exists as a result of this." All lambs are tagged and scanned at birth and Pauhla uses the system to monitor growth rates. Pauhla summarises: "There's so much out there about 'Brexit-proofing' your farm and dealing with uncertainties but no one knows what's around the corner. I think ultimately the only thing we can do is look at our own business and determine where margin increases and savings can be made. We will continue to do what we're doing as well as we can, but we're also prepared to change if necessary."

FARM TOUR TWO: Sam Jones, Redditch, Worcestershire. DIVERSIFICATION KEY TO THRIVING FUTURE

Thinking outside the box to secure the farm's future has seen diversification take shape in many forms at Brookhouse Farm, home of third-generation farmer Sam Jones and his family since the 1930s. Successful additions to the business include a biomass boiler, solar panels, storage units and an outside bar business for weddings and events. "I believe you've got to be doing something else, some kind of diversification, to stand on your own two feet," says Sam. "We couldn't survive without these investments now, with the economic climate the way it is. The sheep enterprise makes money but doesn't easily allow me to make investments - I'm confident I've got these side-lines where I want them to be to safeguard the business and give me more flexibility to farm the way I want." The 205-hectare (507-acre) farm has seen some change since Sam took over, the most drastic being a reduction of ewe numbers from 2,000-head 10 years ago to 1,200 North Country Mules now. Reducing numbers has allowed improved management of health, stricter culling, reduced blanket use of antibiotics, and a more effective approach to supplementary feeding. Sam concludes: "We have a goal of where we want to get to and this keeps us focussed and motivated. We'll keep looking to make those 5% gains in profitability across all parts of the farm, as well as increasing the productivity of the sheep enterprise. But crucially, we enjoy what we are doing and, as well as our goals, this gives us the motivation to keep going."



Pauhla Whittaker



Sam Jones



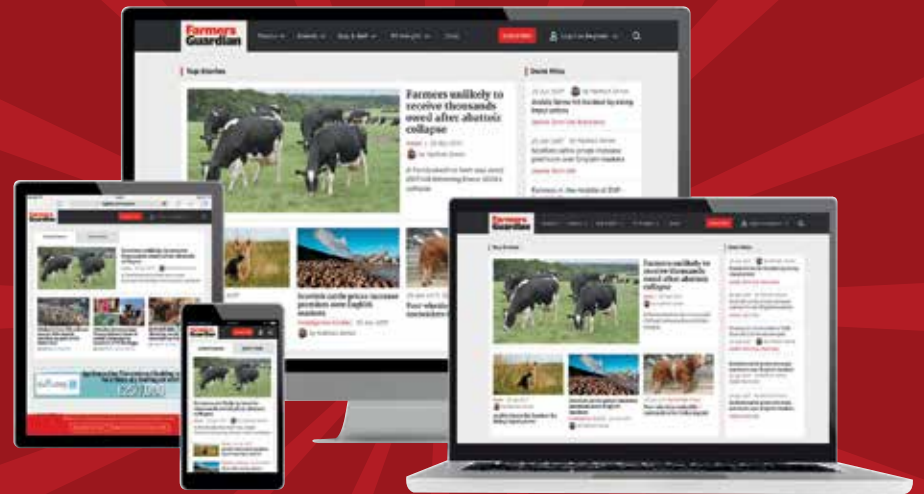
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Why be an NSA member? NSA membership offers sheep producers throughout the UK and even further afield a voice at this important time. NSA delivers a wealth of information to members through publications such as Sheep Farmer magazine, online and at 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 their regional committee will share comments and concerns 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 interest of sheep farmers and the sheep industry to governments throughout the UK, while helping NSA fund its activity at every level.

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For full competition terms and conditions and details on data protection please visit the NSA website.



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Please state where you obtained this form from and your reasons for joining:

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No of pedigree breeding females?

No of bought-in store lambs finished per year?

Has an existing NSA member recommended you to join? If so fill in their details below and they too can be entered into NSA's prize draws,

or are you already an NSA member? To be entered into the prize draw, fill in your details above and pass this leaflet onto a friend to sign up

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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SHEEP WORMERS



Sheep wormers are a vital part of any gastro-intestinal worm control programme in order to help protect flock health and welfare. There has been a lot of talk about resistance to anthelmintics over the last 10-15 years so, if this is the case, why have we not seen more sheep farms being unable to farm sheep?

This is because resistance doesn't always mean the product will completely fail. Rather, it means there is a reduction in the percentage of worms killed by a particular wormer which increases over time. This affects productivity and often the effects can be hard to see unless you are monitoring growth rates or other production measures. Even low levels of resistance can leave enough worms behind to affect growth rates. Indeed, when the number of resistant worms is more than 10%, we start to gradually lose lamb performance because the product is not performing at its optimum level.¹ This is the reason why we need to act now and put a sustainable worm control programme in place.

Resistance to the three older wormer classes – white (benzimidazoles or 1-BZ), yellow (levamisoles or 2-LM) and clear (macrocyclic lactones or 3-ML) wormers – is increasingly common on many sheep farms. Research from Wales Against Anthelmintic Resistance Development (WAARD) showed resistance to all three of these older wormer classes: 94% resistance to white wormers; 68% resistance to yellow wormers; 51% resistance to ivermectin and 19% resistance to moxidectin.² Using a post-drench efficacy test to test the effectiveness of the wormer used is important to understand the effectiveness of any wormer treatment given. Wormers are an investment in your flock so this is a way to making sure you are getting the most for your money by understanding what product you should be using. If the wormer is working less than 90% there are several reasons why this may be the case – one might be resistance but it could also be a faulty gun or the dose was wrong. Integrating the newer generation wormer classes early, such as Zolvix™ the 4-AD (monepantel) group, may help to slow down resistance development, thereby prolonging the efficacy of the older classes but it has to be incorporated early and appropriately.³

References: 1. SCOPS manual <http://www.scops.org.uk/vets-manual.html> 2. Wales Against Anthelmintic Resistance Development (WAARD) Final Report 2015. 3. DM Leathwick* and BC Hosking Managing anthelmintic resistance: Modelling strategic use of a new anthelmintic class to slow the development of resistance to existing classes, New Zealand Veterinary Journal 57(4), 203-207, 2009

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For further information call Elanco Animal Health on +44 (0)1256 353131 or write to Elanco Animal Health (the animal health division of Eli Lilly and Company Limited), Lilly House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NL. Zolvix™ 25mg/ml oral solution is a broad spectrum anthelmintic for the treatment and control of gastro-intestinal nematode infections and associated diseases in sheep including lambs, hoggets, breeding rams and ewes. Legal category: [POM-VPS] in UK. Information regarding the side effects, precautions, warnings and contra-indications can be found in product packaging and leaflets; further information can also be found in the Summary of Product Characteristics. Advice should be sought from the medicine prescriber prior to use. Zolvix, Elanco and the diagonal bar logo are trademarks of Elanco or its affiliates. **Use medicines responsibly** (www.noah.co.uk/responsible). © 2018 Elanco and its affiliates. UKSHPZOL00087_rdp30253.

1. The production costs of anthelmintic resistance in sheep managed within a monthly preventive drench program I.A. Sutherland, J. Shaw, R.J. Shaw Veterinary Parasitology 171 (2010) 300–304.

REDUCING LABOUR COSTS WITH FARBENCH

Edward Hawkins, who runs 200-acre Cutsey Farm in Somerset, has been able to improve his farm business while reducing labour costs and time by making use of AHDB's Farmbench tool.

"I first started benchmarking three years ago and this is my first year using the digital Farmbench system. It's now much easier to input figures and look at them instantly instead of on paper. We have a herd of pedigree suckler South Devon Cattle and will be calving 41 this spring. Before we started benchmarking we were calving over a 26-week period, which was hard to manage as it put a huge strain on our labour," explains Edward.

Edward started to benchmark as part of the AHDB South West grazing group and discovered that improvements could be made to shorten the calving period and therefore reduce the pressure. "Farmbench is just another tool to add to our support on farm. We're now able to open it up and see where we're going right or where we might be going wrong. This is what we did with our calving period and have now managed to shorten it to 14 weeks, with the aim of reducing it further to a maximum of 12 weeks. The changes we've seen are amazing, as we've managed to free up labour and also produce a group of uniform animals that we can send to market for the desired specification," Edward says.

Being part of the discussion group allows Edward to share what he is doing with peers and implement improvements based on what others are doing. Edward believes that sharing this information with the group and using Farmbench is the key to knowing what you can improve. "If we don't look at figures and record information, we won't know where we need to improve. Farmbench is like looking over the hedgerows of someone else's farm. Confidentially, you can open it up and see how you measure up against others and where you need to improve."

Find out how Farmbench could help you improve your farm business by visiting farmbench.ahdb.org.uk.



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Edward Hawkins, Somerset

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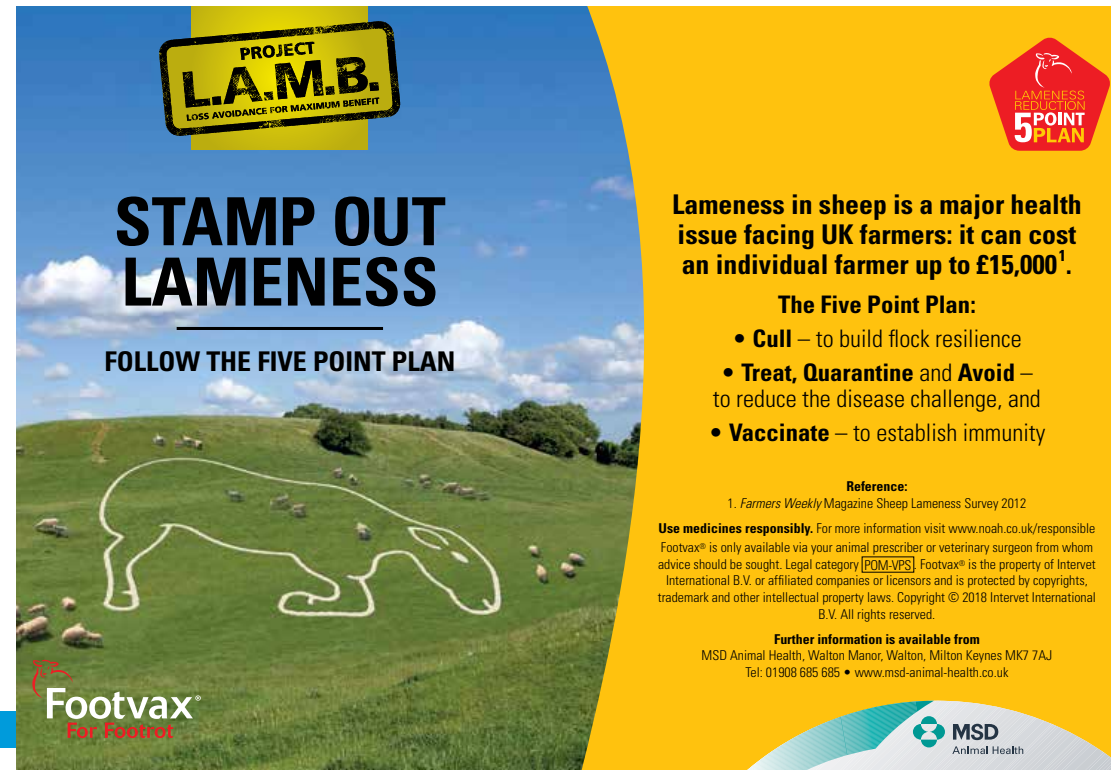
UK sheep farmers continue to make progress towards stamping out lameness in the national flock. Since the publication of the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC) 'Opinion on Sheep Lameness' report in March 2011, the industry has made great strides but must maintain momentum if it is to hit a target of less than 2% disease incidence in the national flock by 2021.

The later summer months are a great time to consider implementing the proven Five-Point Plan for lameness reduction, hence the focus on this frustrating and counter-productive condition throughout July and early August. Developed by independent farm-based research and development organisation FAI Farms, the Five-Point Plan has been shown to deliver improvements on UK sheep farms where it has been adopted as part of their management programme. Implemented correctly and given long-term commitment, the Five-Point Plan offers sheep producers a clear lameness management strategy and a practical protocol for reducing the incidence of this costly problem, because:

- It builds natural disease resilience within the flock
- It reduces the disease challenge and spread on the farm
- It improves flock immunity through vaccination

The Five-Point Plan builds a flock's resilience to disease through culling persistently lame animals, reduces the infection challenge on the farm and establishes immunity through vaccination. Sheep lameness nationally would be dramatically reduced if more farmers adopted it - but producers are quite often unsure how to get started. By using a simple Lameness Control Planner, priorities can be identified to enable that first step to be taken and join the march towards the 2% lameness target. If you are struggling to reduce lameness in your own flock, there's plenty of support and local help available to help you make that step change towards better long-term control. Sheep producers interested in implementing the Five-Point Plan on their own farm should contact their local vet or animal health adviser and ask for help from a qualified Lameness Reduction Adviser.

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The Five Point Plan:

- **Cull** – to build flock resilience
- **Treat, Quarantine and Avoid** – to reduce the disease challenge, and
- **Vaccinate** – to establish immunity

Reference:
1. *Farmers Weekly Magazine* Sheep Lameness Survey 2012

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Shearwell's Stock Recorder with its internal reader is an invaluable tool for those that wish to use individual recording to improve flock and herd performance and record statutory information. This can be linked to race readers and weighing equipment providing a hands free and accurate means of capturing data. FarmWorks by SDL farm management software is provided free with the Stock Recorder. FarmWorks is a valuable asset for livestock farmers – pedigree and commercial.

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EVENT MAP

WYE HALL

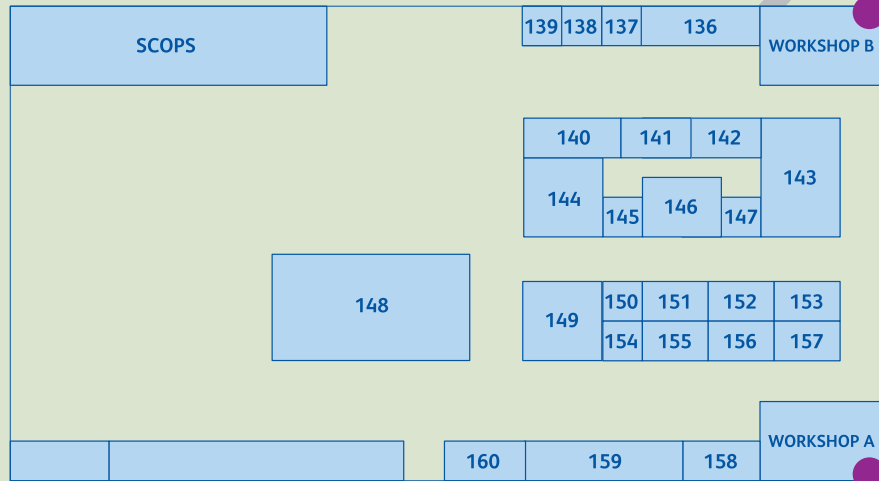
P
TO THE BROWN GATE
(SHEEP EXHIBITORS ONLY)

KEY

- Seminars
- Workshops
- Cookery theatre
- Sheepdog sale
- + First Aid
- Toilets
- Catering / Bars
- P** Car Parks

STOCKMANS CATERING

AVON HALL



SHEEPDOG SALE IN MAIN RING

EVENT OFFICE PRESS

WYE HALL

AVON HALL

ATV HANDLING

SHEARING SHED

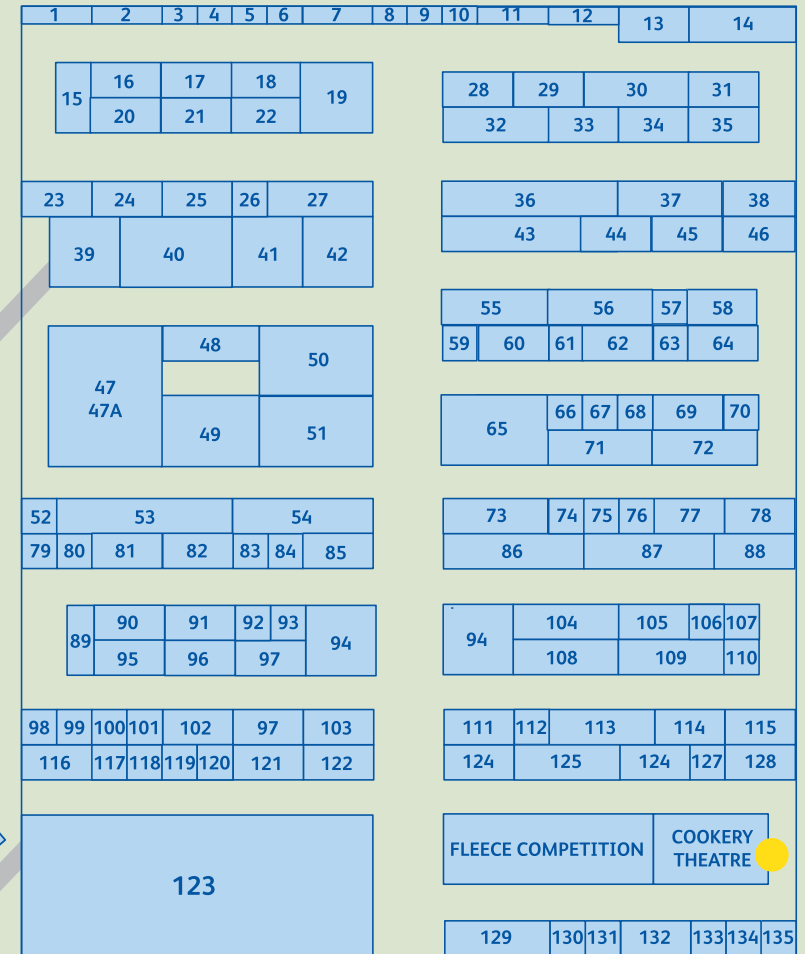
AVENUE F

TORNADO FENCING COMPETITION

DISABLED PARKING

P
TO THE YELLOW GATE
(EXHIBITORS ONLY)

P
TO THE BLUE GATE
(PUBLIC ENTRANCE)



Responsible Antibiotic Use Workshop at Sheep Event 2018

Hear first-hand from sheep producers who are working with their vet, Tim Bebbington, from Castle Veterinary Group, to actively reduce antibiotic use on farm through a variety of measures.

As well as practical advice on reducing antibiotic usage, farmers will also get a good understanding of the steps needed to boost immunity through vaccination and best practice.

Red Tractor is running 2-free sessions for farmers attending the NSA Sheep Event 2018.

Where: Avon Hall

When:
Session 1: 10.35am
Session 2: 1.55pm



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Germinal (Stand 141) Market leaders in forage technology, supplying high performance Aber High Sugar Grass and clover varieties and highly innovative forages. www.germinal.com

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GLW Feeds (Stand 190) Manufacturers of high quality livestock feeds with a range of sheep diets available to suit all systems. www.glw-feeds.co.uk

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders Association (Stand 109) Rams that produce easily-born, crossbred lambs with excellent carcasses. Fast to finish off of milk and grass. www.hampshiredown.org.uk

Harper Adams University (Stand 137) Undergraduate and post graduate courses at Harper Adams, as well as sheep research and knowledge transfer activities at the university. www.harper-adams.ac.uk

Harrison & Hetherington (Stand 38) Livestock auctioneers, brokers and valuers providing a service to farmers/customers on a national basis. www.harrisonandhetherington.co.uk

Hawes Farmers Auction Mart Company (Stand 40) Livestock auctioneers and valuers. Sales, valuations, management and other professional services for rural land and property undertaken. Chartered surveyors. www.hawesmart.co.uk

Hebridean Sheep Society (Stand 3) Promoting Hebridean sheep as an economical breed with qualities of importance to today's livestock industry. www.hebrideansheep.org.uk

Herefordshire and Ludlow College (Stand 158) We will be promoting land-based qualifications that run at the Holme Lacy campus of Herefordshire and Ludlow College. www.hlcollege.ac.uk

High Country Romneys (Stand 58) A fully recorded flock of NZ Romneys producing rams for forward thinking farmers from the best NZ genetics. www.highcountryromneys.com

Humane Slaughter Association (Stand 152) Supporting research and providing practical guidance on the welfare of production animals during transport, marketing and slaughter worldwide. www.hsa.org.uk

HumberPalmer Fertilisers (Stand 116) Manufacturers of high efficiency fertilisers containing a unique natural base rich in humates to improve soil health and crop productivity. www.humberpalmer.co.uk

Hybu Cig Cymru (Stand 156) The industry-led organisation responsible for the development, promotion and marketing of Welsh red meat. www.hccmpw.org.uk

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Ifor Williams Trailers (Stand 205) We will be displaying our latest livestock and small unbrakes trailers, come and see us for more information. www.iwt.co.uk

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KiwiKit (Stand 225) New Zealand solutions for British farmers, fencing contractors and veterinary surgeons. www.kiwickit.co.uk

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Livestock Auctioneers Association (National Sponsor) National organisation representing auctioneering firms that occupy and run the livestock auction markets of England and Wales. www.laa.co.uk

Llanwenog Sheep Society (Stand 6) We are a native breed which is versatile, productive, economic and produces exceptional meat. www.llanwenog-sheep.co.uk

Lleyn Sheep Society (Stand 104) A commercial ewe that is a hardworking, efficient maternal sheep that is successful and profitable for today's lamb producer. www.lleynsheep.com

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Lyndhurst Australian Kelpie Sheepdogs (Stand 222) Kevin Reeves (a regular event attendee) will be doing a working demonstrations by request to show the advantages of the Kelpie. www.lyndhurst-kelpies.co.uk

Masham Sheep Breeders Association (Stand 25) To promote and market the Masham sheep. www.masham-sheep.co.uk

Massey Feeds (Stand 98) Manufacturer of compound feeds and mixes for all sectors of the agricultural industry. www.masseyfeeds.co.uk

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McVeigh Parker & Co (Stand 174) Specialist Farm & Fencing Supplies, showcasing Clipex sheep handling and fencing systems plus Xfence wire netting. www.mcveighparker.com

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Mitchells Livestock Auctioneers & Valuers (Stand 64) A professional, commercial livestock market with supportive farmers and engaged staff leading us forward in all mart requirements. www.mitchellslivestock.co.uk

Modulamb (Stand 219) Award winning sheep handling and feeding equipment. Including Mini-Mobile trailer, dagging crate, lambing equipment, weighers and ElectroDip sheep jetter. www.modulamb.com

Mole Valley Farmers (Stand 213) Information on product ranges and technical services available through Mole Valley Farmers and Mole Valley Country Stores www.molevalleyfarmers.co.uk

Moredu Foundation (Stand 140) Come along to our stand and find out more about our research into infectious diseases in sheep. www.moredu.org.uk

MRT Fencing (Stand 218) A wire and fence producer with a range of products for residential, professional, industrial and agricultural. www.moreda.com

MSD Animal Health UK (Stand 143) Project LAMB, an MSD initiative, is a proactive approach to sustaining a healthy flock. Visit us to find out more. www.msd-animal-health.co.uk

Murley Agricultural Supplies (Stand 207) Agricultural machinery, parts and services supporting Warwickshire, Worcestershire and surrounding areas. www.murley.co.uk

National Beef Association (Stand 83) A member-led charitable organisation with a single focus of representing British beef farmers in policy. www.nationalbeefassociation.com

National Farmers' Union (Stand 42) Supporting all farmers, lobbying Government and fighting for British farming. www.nfonline.com

National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs (Stand 130) We are one of the largest rural youth organisations in the UK dedicated to young people who have a love for agriculture and rural life. www.nfyfc.org.uk

National Polytunnels (Stand 215) Leading designers, manufacturers and suppliers of polytunnel structures to growers and garden centres. www.nationalpolytunnels.co.uk

National Sheep Association Find our marquee in the centre of the event. And support us in providing a voice for UK sheep farmers. Join today for £55 (£27.50 for under 27s). www.nationalsheep.org.uk

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Savemake Suffolks (Stand 115) Combining top NZ and UK breeding to produce long meaty rams with good constitutions, fertility and easy lambing. www.suffolkrams.co.uk

SCOPS (Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep) At the back of Avon Hall, find the industry group promoting effective and sustainable worm control in UK sheep flocks. www.scops.org.uk

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West Mercia Police (Stand 202) Providing information and advice to the public to help reduce crime in rural areas. www.westmercia.police.uk/rural-crime

Whistance Feeds (Stand 229) Supplier of animal feeds - blends, straights and pellets in tote bags, bulk (tipped or blown). www.whistancefeeds.co.uk

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Wiltshire Horn Sheep Society (Stand 16) Combining low maintenance and input costs with native lowland breed strengths for the modern sheep industry. www.wiltshirehorn.org.uk

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Wynnstay (Stand 203) Manufacturer and supplier of agricultural products to farmers and rural UK community through its agriculture and specialist retail divisions. www.wynnstay.co.uk

XLVets UK (Stand 122) XLVets FarmSkills courses provide practical farm-based training delivered by vets and industry experts to improve livestock and business performance. www.xlvets.co.uk

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