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Breeding sheep for a greener future

Observations from the Falkland Islands

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Introductions.....



- Full time Agri-business consultant- ADAS
- Sheep enthusiast
- Amateur sheep shearer

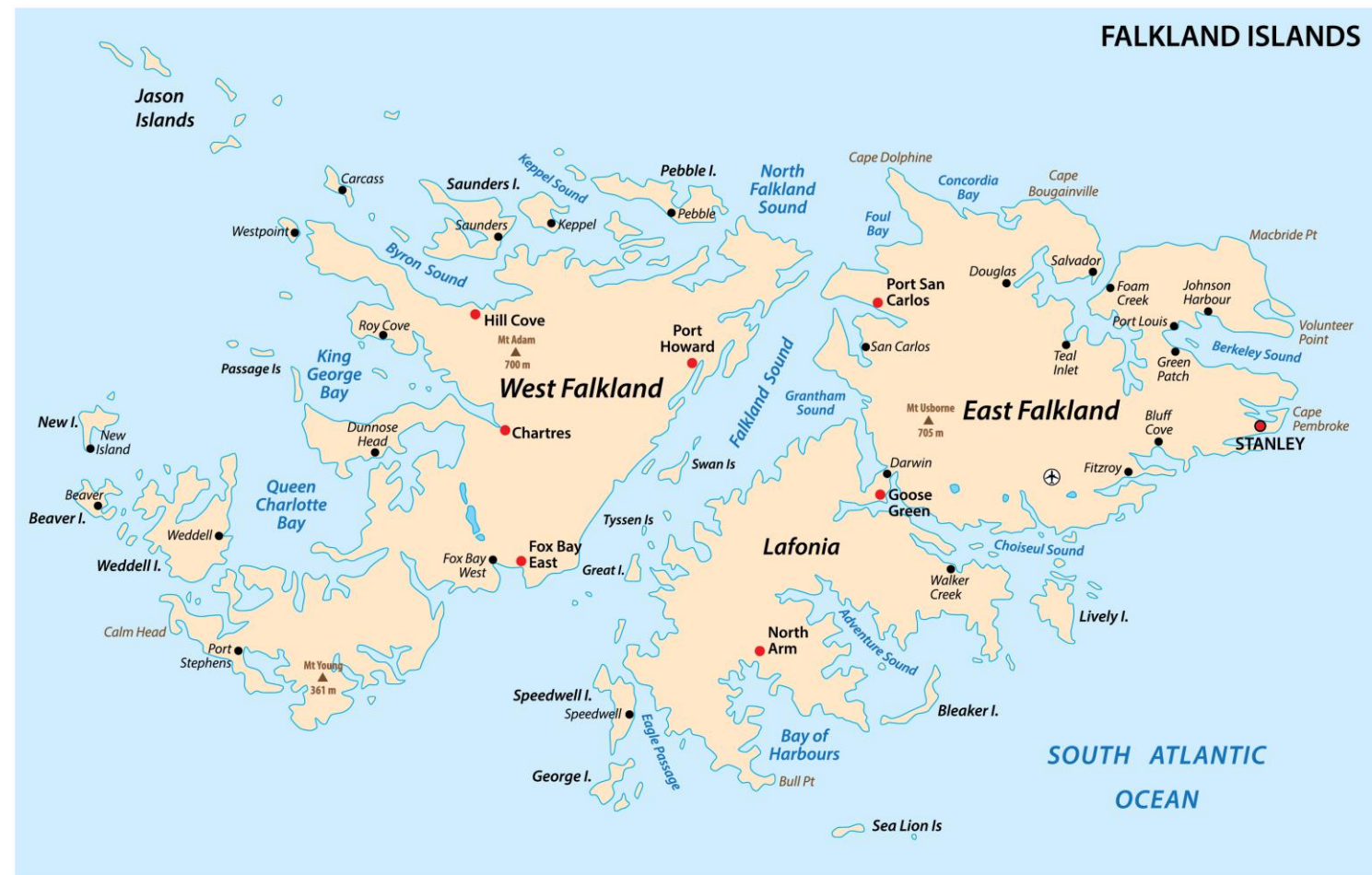
What are we going to talk about?

1. The Falklands and its history
2. Farming in the Falklands today
3. Key challenges



The Falkland Islands

- 778 islands
- 4,700 square miles
- 3,500 people
- 100% employment rate
- Fishing, tourism and farming main industries
- 500 miles East of Argentina
- Chile, UK and Uruguay main import destinations





History

- French, British, Spanish and Argentinian Sovereignty until 1830's where Britain took over
- Mainly used for cattle production until sheep were introduced in 1830's....
- Cattle killed for British export using Chilean and Uruguayan Gauchos



Farms today

- 82 farms
- Average size 14,000ha
- Average flock size is 8,000 sheep
- Stocking rate 5/6acres per sheep
- Falklands Landholdings Corporation (FLC)

Falkland Islands Farm Boundaries



Farming statistics

- Approximately 500,000 sheep of mixed breeds
- Produces approximately 1700 tons of wool
- Micron between 18-29 (average 23)
- Majority of wool produced under Responsible Wool Standard
- Approximately 3,500 cows
- A few dairy cows but no dairy farm
- Falkland Island Meat Company



Falklands sheep industry development....



The Sheep Improvement project (SIP) 2005

- Objective to reduce micron as well as produce more meat production in national flock

Key Challenges....



- The environment
- Location
- Access to market

What did I learn from Falklands?

- Resilience
- Market access
- Value adding
- Adapting to environmental challenges
- How can they produce as much with less?



Thanks to the NSA and AHDB for the opportunity to present and thankyou for listening....

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