

# CYMRU WALES

## NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER  
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ISSUE TWO: SUMMER 2022

A NATIONAL SHEEP ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION

## Chairman's Welcome

Kate Hovers

**The months are flying past again and it really feels like summer as I write this.**

I hope you have all managed shearing and harvest during the good weather and like me are looking forward to the Royal Welsh Show after a two year break. I shall be showing Torwen Badger Face and Hill Radnor sheep on the Monday, a bit of stewarding on Tuesday morning plus time on the NSA stand over the show. Do come and see us for a chat and to give your views on anything sheep and sheep farming.



**Kate Hovers**  
Chair & Trustee



**Caryl Hughes**  
Vice Chair & Trustee



**Helen Roberts**  
Development Officer



**Tim Ward**  
Treasurer & Trustee



**John Lloyd**  
UK Policy & Tech Rep



**Margaret Dalton**  
Finance & Scrutiny Rep



your business your future



# 2022

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18th – 21st July

Royal Welsh

Wednesday 27th July

NSA Sheep Event – Malvern

Monday 1st August

NSA Wales and Border Early Ram Sale

Wednesday 3rd August

Entries close for NSA Wales and Border  
Main Sale Ram Sale

Tuesday 9th August

NSA Cymru Wales committee meeting

Monday 19th September

NSA Wales and Border Main Ram Sale

November

NSA Cymru Wales committee meeting

28th & 29th Nov

Royal Welsh Winter Fair

Farm walks and other events will be planned and publicised via the NSA website, NSA Sheep Farmer and social media.

Events: Contact Helen Roberts

helen@nationalsheep.org.uk  
or call 07976 803066

Ram Sale: Contact Jane Smith

jane@nsaramsales.co.uk  
01291 673939

## Sheep Scab

Kate Hovers BVSc CertSHP MRCVS

### NSA Cymru continues to be busy representing the interests of sheep farmers in Wales.

One initiative is the stakeholders' group on Sheep Scab. Both Helen and, myself sit on the group which I chair. We are a non-funded group pooling our ideas and resources to help make a difference. After a setting the scene meeting, we went on to set some priorities around prevention; testing and treatment; environmental issues. We are awaiting guidance from Welsh government on their future control programme and have had positive meetings regarding communication and working together.

We obviously endorse the SCOPS information as industry best practice and intend to promote this further, we will have Welsh language versions available shortly.

#### SCOPS have the following documents that are downloadable:

Click Here to view [Sheep Scab Booklet](#)

Click Here to view [Treatment Options](#)

Click Here to view [Using Injectables](#)

Click Here to view [Quarantine Information](#)

Click Here to view [Code of Practice for Mobile Sheep Dipping](#)

We have discussed issues of dip disposal and have ongoing work looking at making this easier while protecting the environment.

We may have secured a budget for a media information campaign this Autumn (watch this space) by which time we should know details of future Welsh Government funded scab control projects.

I have enjoyed chairing this group as the very different stakeholders are all working together and contributing in a positive way.





## NSA Cymru Development Officer update

Helen Roberts, NSA Cymru Development Officer

**Since our first newsletter the year is moving at a fast pace and I am sure we are all looking forward to the Royal Welsh next week (Just hope it is not quite so hot).**

We have a number of new exhibitors in the NSA Pavilion so please do come and take a look at the breed, trade and technical stands which can offer an array of advice in this ever changing world. Each day there will be a short 20 minute talk from MSD covering Practical tips to get the most from sheep vaccination with Q & A to follow.

This session will include discussion of: correct handling, storage, cleaning and use of vaccination guns, particularly in the light of the discontinuation of the Sterimatic System.

Correct vaccination positioning and technique to reduce the risk of adverse reactions.

The best ways to handle, transport, store and administer vaccines.  
Which animals should and should not be vaccinated to ensure best value for investment.

The talks will be around 1pm with the NSA building or on the NSA stand, so please feel free to join and find out more, if you can't make these then please do call and see us for a tea and a natter, it will be good to catch up with Members old and new.

Quick on the heels of the Royal Welsh it will be all hands on deck for the NSA Sheep Event on the 27th July at the Three Counties Show Ground, the event has a fantastic line up of seminars, workshops over 250 trade stands, competitions and demonstrations etc. Details for tickets can be found [here](#) and all other information [here](#)

NSA Cymru will then play host to the National Sheep Association AGM on Thursday 11th August 2022, 10.00am, Doladron Farm, SY22 6JR by kind permission of the Bennett family. Following the AGM there will be a farm walk.

Alun, Helen and family have experience of a variety of sheep breeds and always aim to breed quality sheep.

The family established their Plasucha Lleyn flock in 1996, growing it to



600 breeding ewes. The flock has had much success since its formation, selling Lleyn ewes up to 2,000gns and a tup for a joint breed record price of 18,000gns to Laga Farms, Orkney.

Their eldest son, Robert showed a keen interest in the sheep growing up and established the Plasucha Texel flock in 2006; this is made up of approximately 30 breeding ewes. The flock has had much success winning at National shows such as the Royal Welsh and Great Yorkshire and has sold males to a top of 32,000gns and females to a top of 18,000gns.

After purchasing a hill farm in Llanerfyl, Alun and Helen now also run a 250 head flock of MV accredited North Country cheviot hill ewes. In 2021, the flock was awarded the Champion Hill Type flock in the Wales and Borders flock competition.

To breed their own MV accredited mule ewes they also run a small flock of MV accredited traditional blue faced Leicesters. Alun and Helen purchased 8 females at the Rossibank dispersal sale in Carlisle in 2016 and the family have bred their own mules for the last 3 years.

The family lamb 400 ewe lambs outdoors in April/May.

If you plan to attend the NSA AGM in person, or would like the AGM to be facilitated via zoom, please fill in the registration form at the link below. Please register before the 5th August for catering purposes. [Register here.](#)

**For more details about NSA Cymru and our activities please contact [helen@nationalsheep.org.uk](mailto:helen@nationalsheep.org.uk) 07976 803066.**



**Made with Wool is working to bring Welsh wool stakeholders together to realise the potential of wool as a natural, sustainable and versatile material with the goal of raising the value of Welsh wool.**

This all-Wales project brings together an extensive network of stakeholders that represent every part of the wool supply chain in order to facilitate collaboration across the whole chain 'From Fleece to Finish'.

## WHAT DOES THE PROJECT OFFER / INCLUDE?

**Free Wool Testing** for farmers and wool producers in Wales. Wool testing allows producers to gain an understanding of the quality of their wool and aids in making breeding decisions, especially for those interested in improving the micron of their flock.

**Mentoring Support** for individuals and businesses within the supply chain in Wales.

**Commission small research studies** on topics that are a barrier to business development within the sector.

**Facilitate networking** within the sector to bring people together to realise new ideas, attend workshops, training sessions, visits and to increase awareness and knowledge of the sector.

**Wool Manifesto for Wales**, a document that shares a vision for the sector in Wales, created by stakeholders involved in all parts of the supply chain.

**Develop and pilot 5 new commercial products** made using Welsh Wool.

<p><b>PURE</b></p> <p>Wool is 100% natural 100% renewable 100% sustainable 100% biodegradable If you love the planet use more wool</p> <p>MELIN TREGWYNT</p>	<p><b>WARM</b></p> <p>Wool is warm but cool too because it adapts to the wearer - that's why sheep are so snug and content!</p> <p>WELSH WOOL COMPANY</p>	<p><b>FLAME RETARDANT</b></p> <p>Wool is flame retardant, and will often self-extinguish, making it a safer choice for our homes and precious ones</p> <p>WELSH WOOL COMPANY</p>	<p><b>STRONG &amp; LONG LASTING</b></p> <p>Wool can take lots of heavy wear and is known to look better for longer - that's because quality always lasts!</p> <p>corgi</p>	<p><b>SLEEP WELL</b></p> <p>Sleep well with a wool bed, duvet and blanket - scientific tests show that wool will create a sleep climate perfect for you to enjoy deeper sleep, lasting comfort and sweet dreams</p> <p>BAWVET</p>
<p><b>ANTI-BACTERIAL</b></p> <p>Wool has hyppallergenic and anti-bacterial properties - it makes the air we breathe cleaner and better</p> <p>GWLAN CAMBRIAN CAMBRIAN WOOL</p>	<p><b>BREATHE EASY</b></p> <p>Wool keeps us cosy and warm, but not too hot as it cleverly changes to the wearers needs</p> <p>THE WELSH GIRL</p>	<p><b>INSULATE</b></p> <p>Insulate with it, soundproof with it, wear it, walk on it. The world's oldest renewable fibre is also the most versatile and modern</p> <p>MONKSTONE KNITWEAR</p>	<p><b>SHEEP ARE AMAZING</b></p> <p>They graze peacefully, grow wonderful wool, we use it to make beautiful textiles and the whole process begins again...no depletion just sustainable and sensible</p> <p>solva</p>	<p><b>WOOL IS SMARTER</b></p> <p>Wool is smarter than any other fibre - by better understanding the wool supply chain we can grow a more profitable industry</p> <p>GARTHENOR ORGANIC</p>

10 REASONS TO CHOOSE WOOL...



## WHERE TO FIND US

Here are some upcoming events that we will be attending. You are also welcome to contact us by email on [gwan@mentermon.com](mailto:gwan@mentermon.com)

**The Royal Welsh Show**  
18th - 21st of July

**Anglesey County Show**  
9th - 10th of August

**Meirioneth County Show**  
24th of August

Join the Welsh Wool Cluster through our website to receive updates on the project, for the chance to have your say or to offer your expertise.

[WWW.GWNAEDAGWLAN.CYMRU](http://WWW.GWNAEDAGWLAN.CYMRU)



## NSA welcomes Welsh Government announcement on the Sustainable Farming Scheme

**NSA has welcomed announcements from Welsh Government on the Sustainable Farming Scheme, but recognises that there is still some way to go before a practical scheme is ready for roll out in 2025. These announcements give Welsh farmers the first look at future schemes moving away from BPS and Glastir.**

NSA Chief Executive Phil Stocker said ‘Welsh Government is clearly keen to be working with farmers and related stakeholders to co-create this new scheme in preparation for roll out in 2025. The document sets a sound set of principles, WG recognise they don’t have all the answers, and they are keen to co-create the detail with farmers and their organisations (such as NSA). It is encouraging to see that future schemes are set to reward practical actions on farms which many of our farmers are working towards already. NSA has been working collaboratively with Welsh Government and is encouraged to see that much of the recommendations from industry have been included, with strong recognition of the importance of food production in Wales, and the beneficial role farming can and is having on the environment and wider landscape. NSA will welcome further discussion especially around payment rates to ensure Welsh farming businesses are able to maintain financial viability, resilience, and productivity.’

Mr Stocker continues “The Sustainable Farming Scheme policy document clearly talks about the principle of land sharing where farm land can simultaneously deliver for food production, for the climate, for nature, and for culture and the public. However there is still much detail to be ironed out such as ensuring tenants can access the scheme and aren’t limited by tenancy agreements, and getting to grips with how this will work on common land and cross border farms, and considering short term grazing agreements. The proposals include a requirement for 10% of the land area to have tree cover, to include well managed hedgerows, and this includes existing tree and hedgerow cover. This may be challenging for some landscapes

where open common land for example forms a large proportion of the holding. We will be discussing practical issues such as this with the WG team as their work progresses and try to stay focussed on appropriate outcomes rather than standardised prescriptions.”

The announcement outlines ‘A baseline payment will be made to farmers for undertaking a set of Universal Actions which can be delivered by farms across Wales and go above and beyond what is required by legislation. Additional payment will be available for farmers who choose to undertake extra Optional and Collaborative Actions.’ With further detail explaining ‘The Welsh Government wants to engage with farmers from across Wales to understand how the proposed actions could work on their farms as part of the next phase of co-design. To help farmers carry out the actions, support will be offered through an advisory service, as well as training and farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing. Payment rates are being informed by Welsh Government modelling and economic analysis which is still being undertaken.’

NSA Cymru Regional Development Officer Helen Roberts said “Farmers across Wales are well placed to tackle climate change but also maintain and enhance a reputation for world renowned produce and build on the strong cultural reputation that Welsh farming delivers. It is encouraging to see commitment from government that it will work with farmers to co-design the future schemes, and NSA Cymru will continue to work collaboratively with government on routes to ensure proper support is provided for rural communities through the Agriculture (Wales) Bill due this Autumn.”



Cymerwch olwg  
ar ein adnoddau  
newydd i athrawon  
a phlant

Check out our  
brand new  
resources for  
teachers and pupils

[hwbcigcoch.cymru](http://hwbcigcoch.cymru)

[redmeathub.wales](http://redmeathub.wales)

Adnoddau yn rhad ac am ddim, ar ffermio, iechyd, yr amgylchedd a choginio, wedi eu datblygu gydag athrawon ac yn cyd-fynd â'r Cwricwlwm i oedran 3-16.

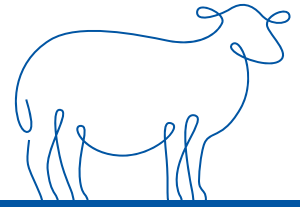
Free new resources on farming, health, the environment and cooking, developed with teachers to complement the Curriculum for ages 3-16.



# Make the most of your day at...



www.sheepevent.org.uk



## SHEEP EVENT

NSA Sheep 2022: Celebrating the UK sheep sector

Wednesday 27th July



### A warm welcome

NSA staff, office holders and Next Generation Ambassadors will be around all day to chat about sheep topics and offer you a tea or coffee. Find the NSA stand in the big marquee between the Avon and Wye Halls. The official opening ceremony is at 10.30am.

### Cookery theatre

Watch Dunbia, Asda, NSA Ambassadors, Worcestershire YFC and Gloucester YFC chefs and butchers cook up a feast of delicious lamb recipes in the cookery theatre in Wye Hall.



### Strength, stamina and speed

The country's finest fencing contractors compete against the clock to erect world class wire fencing, sponsored by Tornado Wire. Prizes will be presented at 3pm (Stand 177)

### NSA Next Generation Shepherd final

Young shepherds from across the UK compete to win a piece of the impressive £2,000 prize pot, sponsored by the Texel Sheep Society.



### Test your carcass judging skills

All visitors can enter the open carcass classification competition, sponsored by Hallmark and Kepak. First prize is £150



### Nifty inventions on display

Commercial companies and farmer display their inventions in Avon Hall, sponsored by Rappa.

### Industry partner demonstrations

AHDB, SCOPS, Moredun and other NSA partners share and demonstrate the latest practical advice in Avon Hall.



### Teeth, toes, testes

Get a practical demonstration of a ram MOT in Avon Hall.

### Buy the best

Top sheepdogs will be on sale in the main ring, with each lot put through its paces before bids are invited.



### New for 2022, NSA Grassland Trail

NSA is excited to be joined by companies and specialists ready to pass on the most up to date information about on-farm grassland optimisation.

Look out for maps around the site, or pick up a guide at the NSA stand.



Grassland Trail





## Time certainly flies when your having fun and for me the last few weeks have been very busy!

Between YFC events getting back into full swing and trying to get all the main stock work and harvest done before the annual holiday to the RWAS I certainly haven't had much chance to consider that the Sheep Event is just around the corner. I'm honoured to be invited to be part of one of the seminars taking place at this years sheep event. My fellow panelists Dr Matt Lobley, Kirree Kermode, Clarke Hibberd and chaired by Adam Henson will be discussing the topic – 'Sheep Farmers – a force for social good'. I'm looking forward to getting stuck in to this topic on the day and hopefully will be able to share some of my own personal experience and opinions on succession planning within the business and encouraging the next generation and the importance of YFC and other rural organisations in providing these opportunities. I will hopefully have an opportunity to explain the vital role agriculture, in particular the sheep industry has on the Welsh language in rural areas as well.

The seminar will hopefully discuss the views of people on the industry and what we can do to overcome any negative views and how the sheep industry can be a great step for young people into the agricultural industry and should be a career choice to be proud and something to aspire to be involved in. I'm looking forward to discussing a topic close to my heart with like minded people and I'm sure there will be plenty of comments and questions from the audience, so please come along and join the seminar at 1.30pm at the Sheep Event.

Edrychaf ymlaen at weld a sgwrsio efo aelodau yn ystod y dydd! Gobeithio bydd y tywydd braf yma yn parhau tan ddiwedd y mis er mwyn i bawb gael gwneud y gorau o'r diwrnod.

# WIN a sheep handling system worth £20,000

NSA and Te Pari are giving away a Te Pari Racewell HD3 mobile sheep handling system including EID and scale system.

Complete the form on the NSA website to enter.  
[go.nationalsheep.org.uk/tepari](http://go.nationalsheep.org.uk/tepari)



SCAN ME TO ENTER

