



NATIONAL SHEEP ASSOCIATION

SOUTHSHEEP 2018

INVESTING
IN A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE

event guide



SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

South of England Showground

Ardingly, West Sussex, RH17 6TH

9:00am - 5:00pm



your business **your future**



A WARM WELCOME TO NSA SOUTH SHEEP 2018

BY SAM STANISSTREET NSA EVENT CHAIRMAN

As Event Chairman I wish to offer you all a warm welcome to this year's NSA South Sheep Event at Ardingly Showground. Firstly I would like to thank all those who have worked so hard to put this event together especially the co-organisers, Bob Blanden and my wife Zoe Stanisstreet.



Sam Stanisstreet

Our aim is to promote our theme 'investing in a sustainable future' throughout the event. With so many challenges ahead of us I hope the event will enthuse and inspire you all to meet these challenges. Our seminars and discussion forums have been designed with this in mind. I urge you to make the most of what we have on offer and to engage with the trade stands, breed societies, demonstrations and professional expertise. Several competitions will be taking place on the day including 'gift of the gavel', lamb selection, innovations and fleece competition. Unusually we have a 'working dog trial' which aims to test dog's performances in a farm situation. This is an opportunity to reap ideas for the future, to meet up with farming colleagues and most importantly to enjoy a day off the farm.

Finally, I must thank our sponsors without whom this event could not take place.

ENJOY YOUR DAY

Event information

- NSA South Sheep 2018
- Saturday 8th September
- South of England Showground, Ardingly, West Sussex, RH17 6TH
- 9:00am - 5:00pm

Admission

- Free for NSA members (with a current membership card; one free entry per membership card held)
- £12 for adults (including VAT)
- £6 for students/YFC members (on production of current card)
- Free for international visitors (on production of passport)
- Free for under 16s
- Free parking and event guide

ONLY ASSISTANCE DOGS ON SITE PLEASE

INFLUENCING WHAT WE CAN IN THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES

BY PHIL STOCKER NSA CHIEF EXECUTIVE

When we are living in such uncertain times, with no clear view of where our journey to exit the EU will take us, NSA events such as NSA South Sheep 2018 are more important than ever.



Phil Stocker

With so much left outside our control, from extremes in the weather to the unpredictability of our politicians, we must focus on the things that are 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 events such as today's will provide inspiration and information to enable sheep farmers to maximise on-farm performance.

I encourage you to take advantage of the expertise gathered together at NSA South Sheep. Visit the trade stands, engage in the seminars and discussions, come along to the NSA stand with your comments and concerns, and enjoy an entertaining and informative day. The event is perfectly placed to examine where we are going and arm visitors with the tools they will need to prosper.

If you are not already an NSA member, please do consider joining. It is vitally important to ensure the sheep industry has a strong and united voice – and 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 the event or visit www.nationalsheep.org.uk/membership.

THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

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NSA South Sheep 2018 organisers thank the following for their support: all of our sponsors; Duncan Ellis (providing sheep), Noel Armstrong (commentary) and David Rees (judge) for supporting the Farm Trial; Cliffe Veterinary Practice for acting as Events Vets; Nerys Wright for organising the seminars; and all who helped at the NSA South East Region Next Generation Shepherds Day back in June.

NSA EVENT GUIDE

This is a National Sheep Association publication

National Sheep Association

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NSA SOUTH SHEEP 2018

Organised by NSA South East Region

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Event Vice Chairman: Andrew Barr

Event Organisers:
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Event Committee: Marie Prebble, Nigel Durnford, Tim Armour, George Horne, John Britton, Phil Hart, Yann Le Du and Ian Lockwood, supported by members of NSA South East Regional Committee.

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CHECK OUT WHAT'S ON AT NSA SOUTH SHEEP 2018

9.00am

Gate open to the public

- Farm Dog Trial begins (9.00am-1.00pm then 2.00pm-4.00pm approx)
- Judging of best sheep breed society, indoor and outdoor trade stands begins
- Demonstrations begin

10.00am

Texel progeny classes begin, and prime lamb competition to be judged in pens.

10.30am

Seminar 1: Sheep systems fit for post-Brexit England

10.45am

Discussion workshop 1: Benefits of utilising sheep within the arable rotation

11.30am

Seminar 2: Practical steps for managing lameness

11.45am

Discussion workshop 2: Homeopathy at wellie level

12.00pm

Sheepdog demonstration: Trainer, handler and trialist David Rees will demonstrate his dogs and explain how to get the most out of your training.

**DON'T
MISS! MORE
HIGHLIGHTS
ON PAGES
7 & 8**

**EVENT
MAP
ON PAGES
19-20**



1.15pm

Discussion workshop 3: Stamp out lameness

1.30pm

Seminar 3: Promoting positive landlord and tenant relationships in the post-Brexit era

2.15pm

Discussion workshop 4: Recent progress in addressing sheep worrying

2.30pm

Seminar 4: Optimising lambs sales at the farmgate

3.15pm

Discussion workshop 2 repeated: Homeopathy at wellie level

4.00pm

Gift of the gavel competition

4.30pm

Prize giving for Farm Dog Trial

5.00pm

Event closes



ONE SMALL STEP FOR "EWE", ONE GIANT LEAP FOR YOUR FLOCK...

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.

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

However, farmers are quite often unsure how to get started, but 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.

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.

A warm welcome awaits you, come and visit the MSD Stand to find out more.



TAKE THE 1st step

#JoinTheMarch



Join the march to reduce sheep lameness.
Follow the proven¹ Five Point Plan...

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

...to a healthy view of a sound flock.



1. Clements et al. *Veterinary Record* (2014) 10.1136/vr.102161

Use medicines responsibly. For more information please refer to the Responsible Use sections of the NOAH website.

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WHAT NOT TO MISS AT NSA SOUTH SHEEP 2018



SEMINARS

SEMINAR 1: 10.30am - 11.15am

Sheep systems fit for post-Brexit England, with Bob Abband, reproductive management and nutrition consultant.

SEMINAR 2: 11.30am - 12.15pm

Practical steps for managing lameness, with Karen Ingleby, vet with MSD Animal Health.

SEMINAR 3: 1.30pm - 2.15pm

Promoting positive landlord and tenant relationships in the post-Brexit era, with George Dunn, Tennant Farmers Association.

SEMINAR 4: 2.30pm - 3.15pm

Optimising lamb sales at the farmgate, with Wyn Williams, Dunbia.

WORKSHOPS

DISCUSSION WORKSHOP 1: 10.45am - 11.30am

Benefits of utilising sheep within the arable rotation, with Hertfordshire sheep breeder Rob Hodgkins, Dr Liz Genever of AHDB Beef & Lamb and Richard Harding of Procram.

DISCUSSION WORKSHOP 2: 11.45am - 12.30pm & 3.15pm - 4.00pm

Homeopathy at wellie level, with Chris Lees and Jackie Pearce-Dickens of HAWL.

DISCUSSION WORKSHOP 3: 1.15pm - 2.00pm

Practical steps for managing lameness, with Karen Ingleby, vet with MSD Animal Health.

DISCUSSION WORKSHOP 4: 2.15pm - 3.00pm

Recent progress in addressing sheep worrying, with Sargent Tom Carter of Sussex Police.

DEMOS & ATTRACTIONS

CELEBRATING WOOL:

From sheep to shoe, watch a ewe being hand shorn and then help felt a pair of shearer's moccasins. British Wool will be on hand, explaining the current wool marketing situation, giving advice on how to make the most of your wool clip, and running a fleece competition. And wool spinning demonstrators will be turning fleece wool into yarn.

SHEEPDOG HANDLING:

In addition to the Farm Dog Trial (details on page 14), sheepdog trainer and trialist David Rees will demonstrate dogs of different ages and stages of training, 12pm-1pm in the Ardingly Ring.

BUTCHERY DEMONSTRATIONS:

Master butchers Ian Winstone from Randall Parker Foods and Julien Pursglove, Sainsbury's Head Butcher, will turn a whole carcass into what is best for the end customer.

WORKING DEMONSTRATION AREA:

Sheep handling equipment will be demonstrated throughout the day in the horse exercise rings between the Abergavenny and Robins buildings.

TEXEL PROGENY CLASSES:

Seven classes (ewe lamb, pair of ewe lambs, shearling ewe, ram lamb, pair of ram lambs, shearling ram, group of three) plus the championship.

LIVE PRIME LAMB CLASSES:

Three classes (pair of continental butchers' lambs (40kg+ and under 40kg) and pair of native breed butchers' lambs) to be judged in their pens.

STICK AND CROOK MAKING DEMONSTRATION:

Renowned stick-maker Reg Marshall will show how he skilfully turns horn and wood into a decorative, practical shepherd's tool.

JOIN NSA TODAY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

NSA is excited to team up with leading fencing supplies manufacturer Tornado Wire to give away four sets of wire and fixings each worth over £450 this year. Join NSA today for your chance to win this fantastic prize as well as receiving the many other benefits NSA membership can offer you.

Already a member? Don't worry, our existing members can still benefit from this useful prize giveaway. While new members are automatically entered into the Tornado Wire prize draw, existing members can also be in with a chance of winning every time they recommend a friend, neighbour or family member to sign up as an NSA member. There is no limit to how many recommendations you make so get spreading the word of NSA's fantastic work to increase your chances of winning!

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.

SIGN UP BEFORE 30TH NOVEMBER 2018 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN 300M OF TORNADO WIRE



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* Entry is free or half price depending on the event; one discount per NSA membership card held. T&Cs for both prize draws at www.nationalsheep.org.uk

JOIN NSA TODAY AND RECEIVE

- Sheep Farmer Magazine
- NSA Weekly Email Update
- Free* entry to NSA Sheep Events
- Free legal helpline
- Option to sell at NSA ram sales
- Associate membership of the Moredun Foundation
- Regional, meetings, events and farm walks
- Use of the NSA Lambing List

BE A SWANNDRI WINNER AT SOUTH SHEEP 2018!

Join us at the NSA stand today for your chance to win a set of Swandri clothing courtesy of outdoor clothing and footwear specialist Outback Outfitters. All visitors at NSA South Sheep 2018 are eligible to enter the competition to win, just come along to the NSA stand. One lucky winner will be pulled from the hat at the end of the event.

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



NSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

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Member's Details

Name:

Address:

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Please supply photo ID, eg passport, driving license,
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Tel:
Supplying a mobile phone number will allow us to send you occasional text messages about NSA events in your area.

Email:
Supplying your email address will allow us to send you the NSA Weekly Email Update, packed full of news and information.

Payer's Details

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

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Email:

If this membership is a gift, please tick if delivery is direct to the new member and not to the buyer

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

Your Sheep Enterprise

No of commercial breeding females?

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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CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF BRITISH MANUFACTURING

RAPPA
1978
2018 **40**
40TH ANNIVERSARY

2018 marks a historic year for the Electric Fencing and Animal Handling company Rappa, who this year celebrate 40 years in business. Manufacturing Mobile Yards and Fencing Machines from their Hampshire based factory Rappa have good reason to be proud of their achievement, James Ridley, owner of Rappa explains why:

“Rappa has always designed products to solve real problems, from the first fencing machine to our newest mobile yard. We always work with farmers in the design and build process.”

Rappa was born from a single product, The Ridley Rappa, invented by James' father Harry Ridley in 1978. This was a fencing machine that helped collect in and roll out electric fencing.

“The first Fencing Machine was a wheel barrow style machine and whilst it has been modified over the years the overall design has not changed dramatically to this day” says James.

In the early 90's the Ridely Rappa was no longer the only product offered by the company, Harry Ridley and Sons Ltd formally changed its name to Rappa. Rappa has grown steadily ever since and not wanting to stop in 2012 Rappa started manufacturing their own Mobile Yards. **To find out more about Rappa visit www.rappa.co.uk.**

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NEXT GENERATION INSPIRED BY NSA SOUTH EAST REGION

On a glorious day at Hadlow Down in East Sussex in June, NSA South East Region held its Next Generation Event. There were two parts, one to run the Next Generation Shepherds Competitions and secondly a combination of seminars and a workshop. The seminar speakers were Paul Crawley, Alex Johnston, Lauren Bird, Stuart Fletcher, Richard Harding, Chris Davies and Rob Hodgkins. The workshop was run by Susie Emmett.



Workshops at the
Next Generation Event

The competitions had both an Open section for 18 - 26-year-olds, sponsored by Mole Valley Farmers and a Student section with a lower starting age that was sponsored by Volac. The winner and runner up of the Open went forward to the national final at NSA Sheep 2018 in Worcestershire on 18th July.

The elements of the competition were ATV handling, electric fencing, shearing, lamb selection, and sheep health and handling. The prize fund totaled £1500 with £350 to the Open winner and £200 to the Student winner.

The winner of the Open was Sam Hewett from Edenbridge, Kent, and the runner up was Emily Killick from Telscombe, East Sussex. In the Student section the winner was Angus Morgan from Hailsham and the runner up was Joseph Wood from Wimborne, Dorset. The organiser of the competitions, Louise Silk, a vet from Hampshire who is on the regional committee, said: “The standard of these young people was very high and it was a very close fought competition between them.”

NSA South West Region is very grateful for the support given to this event from Tesco, Barkers Animal Health, Hobbs Parker Auctioneers, Mole Valley Farmers, Rappa and Volac. And also to all those that helped with adjudicating the Next Generation Competitions, Claire Thorpe from Cliffe Vets, Charles from AHDB Beef & Lamb, Phil Hart from Plumpton College, James Ridley from Rappa and EASI for quad handling.

Thanks to Marie Prebble, James Hamilton and Louise Silk for organising the day and all those who came to make it worthwhile.



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. "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. "We're now able to open up Farmbench 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 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 and using Farmbench is key to the improvements he's making on farm. "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 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.



Unearth your strengths

“ Farmbench is like looking over the hedgerows of someone else's farm. Confidentially, you can open it up and see where you are against others and see where you need to improve. ”

Edward Hawkins, Somerset

Register now at farmbench.org.uk

FARM DOG TRIALS AT NSA SOUTH SHEEP 2018

For the first time ever, NSA South Sheep will feature a Farm Trial. This will be an exercise for sheepdogs that is more relatable to farm work than you usual sheepdog trial. The course will be smaller and set differently, the emphasis on for example, moving sheep through a handling system, loading a trailer and shedding. The dogs will need to control more sheep around the course. Unlike a traditional trial where the handler remains at the post, the handler will be expected to work with the dog. Handlers will be competing from the UK and other parts of Europe.



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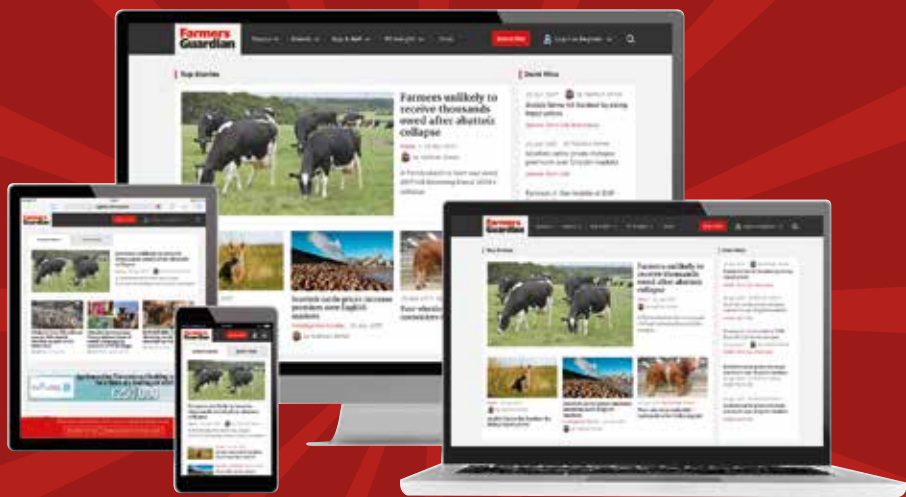
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SURPLUS LAMBS PERFORM WELL ON MILK REPLACER

Surplus lambs reared on performance-formulated lamb milk replacer, based on whey protein from cow's milk, do just as well as lambs running naturally with the ewe.

A study carried out at IBERS, Aberystwyth University, reports that the use of a colostrum alternative followed by good quality lamb milk replacer facilitates the successful rearing of surplus lambs. Lambs reared on milk replacer reached similar weaning weights to their naturally-reared counterparts and, when killed out, both carcass weight and conformation were comparable to that of lambs reared on the ewe, despite a slightly lighter body weight at slaughter.

"The results of this trial clearly show that sheep farmers should be confident about rearing surplus lambs on performance-formulated lamb milk replacer, provided care is taken to maximise rumen development before weaning for lambs reared on an ad libitum system," said Volac Research Scientist Dr Jessica Cooke.

The results will be encouraging for the many sheep producers who have invested recently in automatic feeding of surplus lambs.

"Enquiries about automatic milk feeding are at an all-time high in the sheep sector. Like calf rearers, farmers are undoubtedly attracted by the labour-saving benefits and the fact that machine-rearing frees up time to focus on other important jobs. But they also report faster growth rates because there is no limit to how much or when the lambs can drink," said Volac Technical Officer, Abi Erian.

However, Volac stressed that machine rearing, whilst saving substantial time and rearing hassle, is certainly no substitute for good husbandry.

"The IBERS trial highlighted the importance of maximising rumen development while rearing surplus lambs on ad libitum milk replacer. But sound hygiene is also crucial and lamb pens must be draught-free, and well drained and bedded to keep lambs as warm and dry as possible. In addition, clean, fresh water must be made available along with creep feed (18% crude protein) offered ad lib to encourage early intake. Follow these guidelines and you can be confident in rearing those extra lambs highly cost-effectively with margins of £15-£25 a lamb being achievable (over lifetime feed cost), based on previous years' lamb prices," Dr Cooke said.



EVENT MAP

TRADE ENTRANCE

VISITOR CAR PARK

VISITOR ENTRANCE

A

B

TOILETS

CATERING AND BAR

E

D

F

C

H

G

I

G

FARM DOG TRIAL AND DEMONSTRATIONS

EAST GRINSTEAD

KEY

- A INDOOR TRADE STANDS & CELEBRATING WOOL AREA
- B SEMINARS
- C BREED STANDS & PRIME LAMB CLASSES
- D INDOOR TRADE STANDS
- E TEXEL PROGENY CLASSES
- F WORKING DEMONSTRATIONS
- G OUTDOOR TRADE STANDS
- H DISCUSSION WORKSHOPS
- I FENCING DEMONSTRATION

MAYO HEALTHCARE
Enhancing Animal Health

ALL GUARD

PRE-TUPPING BOLUS

EW EWE 5 in 1 BOLUS

MAYO HEALTHCARE
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EW EWE BOLUS

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