



Livestock

Our Farms Network



5 Discussion Group Projects involving **85** farmers:

- Control and prevention of clinical and subclinical mastitis
- Reducing mastitis in commercial sheep flocks
- On-farm thoracic ultrasound project
- Sheep greenhouse gas emissions - what-if?
- Flock efficiency and reducing iceberg diseases

Discussion Groups



Theme	Number of Discussion Group meetings	Hours of Knowledge Transfer	Individuals Supported
Livestock	40	75.5	209



Examples Livestock:

- Iceberg Diseases
- Trace Elements in Beef
- Flock data and post mortems
- Cow Signals
- Milk Quality and Hygiene
- Genomics and heifer rearing

Masterclasses



- 90** attendees across **8** Masterclasses including -
- > Master Fertility - suckler herds
 - > Master Calf Rearing
 - > Master Lameness - Dairy and Sheep

Feedback:

“As a result of the masterclass, I will be reducing the amount of time dairy cows will be standing to improve animal health & welfare.”

Accredited Training



77 unique individuals were supported from 75 businesses, undertaking 79 training courses.

1233 hours of training were delivered, the most popular courses being:

Course	Individuals Supported	Hours of Training Delivered
Sheep Scanning	20	280
DIY AI	19	408
Machine Sheep Shearing	16	256

Feedback:

“The entire course was essential learning and knowing the difference between rats and mice and ways of controlling without using poison was ideal.” (Machine Sheep Shearing)

Mentoring



- 57** Individuals have accessed mentoring
- 202** hours
- 167** mentoring sessions

58% of all sessions were related to Livestock

Individuals are requesting mentoring on the following livestock related topics



Applications received

- Sheep and dog handling **17**
- Animal health and welfare **3**

Extracts from mentoring diaries include:

- “We went through feeding, grazing and rations. I took them to the poultry sheds and explained how this works. I explained to the mentee how to grade lambs by draughting 5 lambs and explaining what lights mediums, heavies, and overweights were.”
- “Conversation with the mentee about the list of + and - for his suckler enterprise, monetarily and other less obvious advantages or disadvantages. Asked the mentee to work out calving indices for his suckler herd.”
- “The mentee has gained more confidence and the dog was listening better. The dogs’ left and right commands has improved but still needs more work. The dog is keen to work the sheep and is not willing to listen to the stop command.”

Clinics



56 clinics completed

Feedback:

“Individual water testing was very informative and useful, it helped us plan our nutrition/supplementation with the goats from knowing what was and wasn’t in the water, we also discovered a level of bacterial contamination we weren’t aware of so will be installing filtration hopefully this coming year when finances allow.”

Strategic Awareness Events



- 4** Events
- 60** Attendees

These events focused on livestock nutrition.

Feedback:

“Plenty of relevant information, the speaker had a lot of information as well as suggestions for businesses and ways for us to improve our flock”

Agrisgôp



9 Agrisgôp meetings have taken place:

60 attendees

24 hours

Groups that met during this period focussed on:

Aim of the meeting was to update members on the recent research linking lameness and genetics. The take home message was to start incorporating Lameness Advantage into genetic decisions and look at genomics of heifers to help with breeding decision.

The meeting focused on the Pasture For Life membership and accreditation and how this would improve the farm efficiency by sharing ideas and experience with other farmers that are also working to eliminate the use of concentrate and grains to lower feed input costs.

Update on the benchmarking data for the group including mobility scores, first lactation mobility scores and lesion incidence. Discussed objectives for group going forwards and the key area to focus on being heifers.

Animal Health and Workshops



494 **494 unique individuals** from **372 businesses** were supported

Workshops Delivered	Individuals Supported	Hours Delivered
45	620	1860

Of the 14 workshop topics delivered, some of the most popular were:

Workshop Topic	Individuals Supported	Hours Delivered
Lambing Losses Part 1: Abortion & Nutrition	620	1860
Feeding the Flock for Optimal Performance	45	45
Sheep Lameness	45	45
Lambing Losses Part 2: Post Lambing Losses from Birth to Weaning	45	45

Feedback:
 "Good refresher prior to lambing by knowledgeable and practical farm vet." (Lambing Losses - Part 1: Abortion and Nutrition)

Welsh Sheep Genetic Programme

2 Genetics Study Tour

5 Genetics Workshop

• Recording at lambing (Manual) • Recording at lambing (DNA) • Using EID to record flock performance • Breeding and Genetics Market Workshops

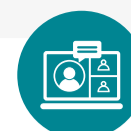
1 Genetics Press Release - Annual review meetings

1 Genetics Webinar - Ewe nutrition - pre and post lambing

2 Annual Review Meeting - Genetic progression and breeding for the future

2 Genetics clinics (1-2-1) - EID & Software

e-Learning



85

85 unique individuals were supported from **73 businesses**. The majority from the Agriculture - Dairy sector. They completed 51 courses.

Module	Individuals Supported
e-Learning: Mandatory Unit: Cattle Lameness	32
e-Learning: Mandatory Unit: Artificial Insemination	32
e-Learning: Abortion in Cattle	5
e-Learning: Body Condition Scoring - Sheep	5
e-Learning: Abortion in Ewes	5

There are now **71 e-Learning** modules available on BOSS. New modules added included:

e-Learning: Sustainable Use of Anthelmintics
e-Learning: Antibiotic Resistance

Advisory Service



The service supported the following advice:

40 Animal Health and Biosecurity

187 Specialist Veterinary

15 Livestock

Feedback:

"Excellent support and advice which has been an important source of knowledge for the business"

"Outstanding advice, really made a difference to our business"

Surgeries

35 Surgeries completed. Topics included -

Nutrition

Milk Quality

Articles

Mud snail DNA test could give answers to liver fluke risk in Welsh sheep flock

