

WELSH LAMB & BEEF PRODUCERS LTD

NEWSletter

SUMMER 2019



WLBP Farm Records Developments and Updates

As the number of WLBP members who register to use the online Farm Records facility increases it's important that we update our facility in line with the changing demands of the industry and the needs of our members.



Recent Updates

Our latest update was implemented in June 2019. These updates included changes to the 'My FAWL' section of the website.

The 'My FAWL' section is the online version of the FAWL Management Records Book. This section contains online templates relating to the FAWL scheme.

These templates include Farm Contacts, Training and Complaints, Policies, Health Plan, Annual Health and Welfare Review, Manure, Fertiliser and Farm Waste Plan records.

One of the main updates was the 'Progress towards completing FAWL

Management Book' indicator. This indicator displays how much progress has been made in completing the 'My FAWL' section. It also recognises the areas that are left to be completed or which could be elsewhere.



There have also been some exciting updates on the WLBP Vet Accounts. Your Vet practice

can now complete your Annual Health and Welfare Review online. For Farm Records members this will automatically populate the Annual Health and Welfare section in your 'My FAWL' on Farm Records.

My Flock My Herd My Fawl Farm Records

Future Updates

We are constantly improving the Farm Records facility and we have several updates ready to be implemented in the very near future.

Our next updates will include:

- The addition of an optional field which records average weight during medicine administration.
- Further updates to the Vet accounts.
- Phone App ability to scan medicine QR/barcode during medicine purchases.



The medicine purchase QR/barcode scanning will be available via the WLBP Stockmove Express App. Our Farm Records facility will have access to the up to date information (i.e. withdrawal dates etc) on some medicines when you purchase them. By using the scanning facility, it can reduce the time required to enter the medicine purchase information and it will also reduce errors when entering information.



On the 14th of November last year, the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning & Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths, announced that the Welsh Government was proposing to adopt a whole Wales approach to tackling agricultural pollution. By introducing new regulation that will start to come into effect on 1 January 2020, Welsh Government will seek to address not just agricultural pollution but reputational damage, trade in agricultural produce with the EU and baseline standards above which payments can be made for public goods outcomes. The proposed measures will cover nutrient management planning, fertiliser applications, protection of water and manure storage standards.

The requirement for nutrient management planning for example will be quite detailed. It will require all farmers to produce an annual plan that will include for instance information down to field level on type of crop grown, field size, amount and type of manure that may be spread and the amount of manufactured fertiliser

that may be required. Full details are available on the Welsh Government's website.

The change in regulation will mean that WLBP will need to amend the standards for the FAWL scheme to reflect those changes. We hope that Welsh Government will provide sufficient notice to allow us to make all scheme members aware of the revised requirement. A transitional period has been promised to allow farmers time to adapt and ensure compliance.

Somewhat confusingly, Welsh Government has also supported an industry initiative to try and tackle many of the issues that it proposes to tackle through regulation. An industry stakeholder group that includes Natural Resource Wales (NRW) and farming unions amongst others is attempting to develop a voluntary scheme to enable farmers to adapt their management systems to improve water quality but without some of the more stringent requirements of the regulatory changes proposed. WLBP has made clear its support for the voluntary approach.

Working with other Certification bodies

Dual inspections: If you are a member of another scheme such as organic or crops, we can try and arrange a dual inspection with the other appropriate certification body.*

Who we work with:

	CERTIFICATION BODY				
SCHEME	NSF	Soil Association	Lloyd's Register	SAI	OF&G
Crops	V				
Dairy	V		✓	V	
Organic		V			V

Following the inspection:

The assessor will send us the paperwork including the signed non conformance sheet. We shall then send you the appropriate letter with, if applicable, the non-conformance report and required actions.

Returning Corrective actions and evidence:

Any corrective action relating to the FAWL scheme must be sent back to the FAWL office by email or post (email: info@fawl.co.uk, postal address: Gorseland, North Road, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 2WB). Please remember to also send relevant information back to the other certification body if requested.

^{*} Please note we endeavor to arrange dual inspection wherever possible, however it may not always be possible.

Beef and Sheep unit utilises WLBP Farm Records

Gethin Evans farms with his wife Cheryl and parents Emyr and Ada Evans at Rhosgoch, Llanilar, Aberystwyth. They run a beef and sheep enterprise, while Gethin also works full time for the National Trust as Senior Estate Manager for Snowdonia.

The sheep flock consists of 500 Lleyn and Welsh Mules ewes that are mainly bred with Lleyn and Texel rams. All the lambs are finished on a combination of grass and lamb creep. Most of the lambs are sold to Waitrose through Livestock Marketing and Sainsburys via Randall Parker Foods.

Within the beef enterprise they have 50 British Blue x and Hereford x suckler cows. The calves are sold as stores between 12–18 months old. Gethin also bucket rears 50 calves from 2 weeks of age, and they are also sold as stores between 12–18 months old.

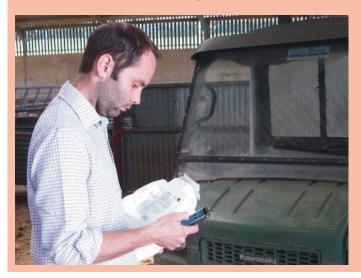
Since January 2019 Gethin has taken advantage of the online WLBP Farm Records facility which is available to them as part of their FAWL membership package. Following registering and creating an online account, their FAWL and cross compliance documentation are populated and kept online. These include their flock book, herd register and medicine book.

Gethin had previously been using another farm software but felt that the WLBP Farm Records offered a full 'one stop shop' package that did everything he wanted for recording his daily farm records.

'I wanted something easy to use that did all the mandatory recording that is required. I also wanted a package that would allow me to record treatments of batches and individual animals that would populate my medicine book.'

As part of the WLBP Farm Records facility Gethin uses the WLBP Stockmove Express phone app which links directly to his online account. The app is proving to be a useful tool as he can record things when he is on or off the farm.

'As I work full time alongside the farm, the phone app is very useful as It allows me to record things on the yard, there and then. Also, if need be, I can complete my records while I'm working away. I look forward for





the QR scanning facility becoming available on the phone app as this would minimise the time to enter the medicine information.'

Gethin's WLBP Farm Records account is linked to BCMS and EID Cymru. This allows him to complete movements and births etc through the online account or the app.

Gethin has embraced the simplicity of the system which allows him to record the information once which then gets allocated to the correct documentation on Farm Records as well as notifying either BCMS or EID Cymru.

'It's great to have a one stop service where you can connect to BCMS and EID Cymru, and the movements are automatically inputted into the Herd Register and Flock Book.' The simplicity of the App is the best feature and makes recording very fast and simple.'

Gethin has also conducted the FAWL Health and Welfare Review with his vet.

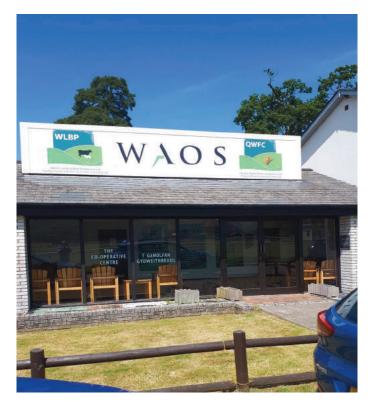
'The one to one discussion was useful, and in particular we could use this to focus on the main topics of concern on the farm, which was lameness, and the continued focus on trying to eradicate this from the flock.'

Within the farming enterprises at Rhosgoch, WLBP Farm Records has provided a huge benefit as a record keeping and performance recording tool. Gethin is looking forward in continuing to take advantage of the facility that is available to them through their membership of FAWL.

For further information regarding the WLBP Farm Records facility please contact our Co-ordinators: Llyr Lewis – 07741549270 LlyrL@wlbp.co.uk Sion Ifans sionifans@wlbp.co.uk www.farmrecords.wlbp.co.uk

Royal Welsh 2019

We will be present at the Royal Welsh Show this year in the WAOS building (D348 between the ITV Cymru Wales and FUW buildings). WLBP staff will be there to assist or answer any questions you have. We will also be offering help and advice on how to get involved with our online tools including Farm Records.



Organic livestock summer or winter grazing (tack grazing)

Organic livestock must only graze on organic registered land. If an organic animal is removed from organic land and grazed for any period of time on non-organic land, that animal will lose its organic status.

At some periods during the year, particularly winter months, you may need to find extra land to graze your livestock. Organic tack land has been in short supply in recent years, so it is a good idea to start looking as early as possible.

There are several websites that list organic land available for grazing:

www.welshorganic.co.uk

https://www.soilassociation.org/farmers-growers/ market-information/organic-marketplace/

www.ofgorganic.org/classified

You can also leave a wanted advert on these sites to request organic land available for grazing.

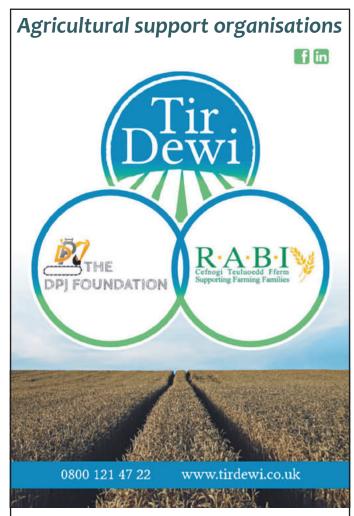
If you are unable to source organic land to graze your livestock, please contact the office to discuss: **01970 636 688**

ORGANIC BARLEY OPPORTUNITY

International Award-winning brewer Evan-Evans of Llandeilo is planning as part of its new brewery build to include a state-of-the-art Organic Malting plant. Whilst it is early days the company is now looking to make contact with successful organic barley farmers to discuss the demand for the 2020 and 2021 growing seasons.

This is a long-term project and will have a potential demand for 500 tonnes of Organic Barley.

Please contact Simonbuckley@evan-evans.com for further information.



RABI – 0808 281 9490 The DPJ Foundation – 0800 587 4262

The diagram shows three organisations who work closely together to support farmers. In the main the help is provided by volunteers, all of whom are farmers or have worked in or alongside farming for years – they understand. They will do what they can to help with whatever your problem or problems and they will never judge you. Help is confidential so no one need know that we are with you and its free.





