



WELSH LAMB & BEEF PRODUCERS LTD

NEWSletter

WINTER 2019



New WLBP App lightens the load for Welsh livestock farmers

Paperwork has long been the bane of many a farmer's life, but a new record-keeping phone app has been launched for Welsh beef and sheep producers which saves time and ensures accuracy.

Exclusively created for Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers Ltd (WLBP), the app simplifies and standardises livestock record keeping and eliminates errors when entering medicine information.

The easy-to-use WLBP Stockmove Express app, for Android or iOS phones, enables farmers to instantly record important livestock medicine information – including purchases and treatments. The QR barcode scanning facility records the product name, batch number and expiry date.

Available to all WLBP members, it is the latest innovation from WLBP, which represents over 7,500 Welsh livestock farmers, and owns the Farm Assured Welsh Livestock (FAWL) Scheme.

Explains Llŷr Lewis, WLBP Farm Records and Standards Co-ordinator, "We've had great feedback from farmers who have started using the app, as it is quick and straightforward to use, and reduces paperwork.

"The app's QR barcode scanning facility records the product name, batch number



and expiry date. It also automatically works out a medicine's withdrawal period and populates the farm medicine book."

Automatically linked to the WLBP Farm Records Website, the app also updates cross-compliance, farm assurance and farm management records, while movements are automatically inputted into flock and herd registers.

Says Llŷr, "You can complete the online FAWL Management Book and Health Plan, and everything is linked to the BCMS and EID Cymru. There are various management tools, automatic updates, as well as ongoing free support from WLBP staff."

Ceredigion sheep farmer, Rhun Williams, keeps a flock of 650 ewes on his farm in Tregaron.

"I've been using the app since June," says Rhun. It's an easy and convenient way to keep records. It's immediate, and you can put the information in while you're administering the medicine, so there's no having to fill things in later or when you get home. You just pop it on the phone, and the job's done.

"With FAWL, you're required to keep records, and in a proper format – this app does it for you. I'd encourage other farmers to take it up and see how easy it is."

WLBP has produced a short video giving more information about the app.

The video may be viewed via the WLBP website (<https://farmrecords.wlbp.co.uk>) and social media channels:

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQCZJbjkdZs> (English) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FovoNtLJ2tY> (Welsh)



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REMEMBER TO LIST ALL YOUR HOLDING NUMBERS WITH FAWL

In the period between April 2019 and September 2019 the farm assurance status of our members was checked 131,654 times. These checks were done online on the FAWL Web checker which is available to everyone who registers to use it.

The web checker is mainly used by markets, abattoirs, collection centres, livestock buyers, agricultural merchants and local authorities. These businesses use the web checker to check members FAWL statuses. These checks are crucial if they are purchasing Farm Assured Welsh livestock. Merchants can also use the checker when FAWL members purchase vermin control. An added

benefit of being a FAWL member is that the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) give recognition to members who comply to the scheme standards, which means FAWL members do not need to undertake a course to purchase rodenticides.

It is important that our members provide written notification to the FAWL office of any changes or additions to their farm details i.e. CPH number, additional holdings or trading name via email to info@fawl.co.uk or through the post, as this might affect their Farm Assurance status. FAWL office: 01970 636688, info@fawl.co.uk. Web Checker: www.fawl.co.uk

Preparing your organic business for Brexit

- You should contact QWFC Ltd to inform us if you are planning to export.
- Before exporting to the EU, you must ensure that your labelling complies with new requirements and register with the TRACES NT portal as an exporter.
- Please note that your certification documents may also change.
- Before you export to any non-EU country, ensure that they will accept UK product after Brexit and that your labelling complies with any organic national requirement.
- Unless your certifier has approval from the European Commission (EC), or we reach an equivalency arrangement before we exit after Brexit the EU organic logo should no longer be used in the UK.
- Certification codes for labelling may change. (e.g. QWFC's current code GB-ORG-13 may change).
- Once your certifier has EC approval the certifier code on products and references to where the product was produced (EU or non-EU) may also need to change.
- If you are importing from a non-EU country, ensure that your exporter is aware of the requirement for new UK organic documentation.

USEFUL LINKS:

Government Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-farming-sector-and-preparing-for-eu-exit>

Food Labelling (general): <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-labelling-changes-after-brexit>

Defra email alerts (Sign up for email alerts about Brexit and your sector. You can select the Defra areas you want to hear about): https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDEFRA/subscriber/new?qsp=CODE_RED

Glastir Organic News

The Welsh Government recently announced the following information for Glastir Organic customers:

Customers whose contracts expire 31 December 2019 are to be offered a contract extension to 31 December 2021.

The contract extension will be offered via your RPW online account and should be available to view from early November. Once you receive your contract extension offer, if you wish to proceed with it you will need to accept the offer via the blue button on your RPW online account within 21 days of the contract extension offer being made. The extension offer will be in two parts, you will receive the second part of the offer in 2020.

Customers whose contracts expire 31 December 2020 are due to be offered next autumn a contract renewal to 2021.

Please see the FAQ document on the Welsh Government website for further information: <https://gov.wales/glastir-organic-contract-renewal-frequently-asked-questions>

If you have any queries regarding your Glastir Organic contract, please contact the Rural Payments Wales: 0300 062 5004 or via your RPW online account.

Royal Welsh Winter Fair 2019

We will once again have a stand at this year's Royal Welsh Winter Fair at Builth Wells on the 25th and 26th of November. The stand is located on the balcony overlooking the cattle ring – stand number 282. There will be an opportunity on the stand for you to create an account on the online Farm Records facility and to view how the system could benefit your business. Please remember to call by and meet us!



Livestock Transport Authorisation

Over the past few months, a few queries have arisen regarding the need to have a Livestock Transport Authorisation, therefore we have briefly outlined the requirements below.

Standard 13a, Transport legislation: All animals must be transported according to current legislation and be accompanied by correct movement or delivery documentation. Drivers must hold the correct statutory licence for the vehicle used and a certificate of competence to carry livestock.

For anyone transporting animals on journeys of over 65 kilometres (approximately 40 miles) as part of an economic activity, this includes moving sheep to tack/rented land, they must hold a valid Authorisation to do so.

There are two types of Authorisation available:

- a short journey Authorisation (Type 1) for journeys over 65km and up to and including eight hours duration
- a long journey Authorisation (Type 2) for all journeys over 65km including those that exceed eight hours duration

Before being able to apply for Type 1 or Type 2 Authorisation, you are required to undertake an assessment and obtain a Certificate of Competence issued by an independent body nominated by the competent authority. Certificates of competence should accompany transporters on all journeys.

Further information can be found on the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport>.

If you have any further questions regarding Livestock Transport Authorisation please contact the welfare in transport team at APHA: Telephone: 0208 026 0491. Email: Wit@APHA.gsi.gov.uk.

Broken Needle Policy

It's very important that any needle that has broken inside the animal during treatment is recorded and identified so that the slaughterhouse can stop the meat from entering the food chain.

What to do if this happens?

- 1 If a broken needle is left in an animal during treatment, you need to:
 - Mark the animal with a distinct and permanent form of identification.
 - Record the date of the incident, the identity and the method of identification
 - Make a record of the injection site where the needle broke.
 - When disposed of, the animal will be consigned directly to slaughter and not sold to another producer.
- 2 The movement / means of disposal will be recorded in the herd / flock record book.
- 3 If the animal is retained as breeding stock or it is retained for longer than 7 days, its health status will be checked regularly.
- 4 The animal will only be marketed within 7 days if the withdrawal period for the substance being injected allows this.
- 5 The animal will be consigned to a slaughterhouse with an emergency slaughter certificate from a veterinary surgeon providing details of the injection site.
- 6 The injection site with the broken needle will be marked on the animal before consignment.
- 7 If the animal is marketed after 7 days, it will be consigned to a slaughterhouse and the slaughterhouse informed in writing of the broken needle, the injection site and the date on which incident occurred. The injection site with the broken needle will be marked on the animal before consignment.
- 8 If the animal is kept for home consumption care will be taken to avoid broken needle; alternatively, it will be euthanised.
- 9 Cattle and sheep will only be marketed as farm assured when the above procedures are followed.

Health and Welfare Review

A new standard was brought in to the FAWL scheme in July 2018. This is FAWL Standard 8c, the Annual Livestock Health and Welfare Review.

The annual livestock health & welfare review needs to be undertaken with the farm vet. The vet is expected to review:

- 1 **Regularly occurring problems and key issues, making recommendations to improve identified issues.**
- 2 **Medicine records and data, including anthelmintic use, flukicide use, total antibiotic prescribed & utilised making recommendations for responsible reduction of medicine used, where appropriate.**
- 3 **The use of Highest Priority Critically Important Antibiotics (HP-CIAs) and make recommendations for responsible reduction.**
- 4 **Prophylactic treatment and make recommendations for alternative disease prevention strategies.**
- 5 **Biosecurity**

It's really important that we can demonstrate that Welsh beef and sheep producers are taking the threat of antibiotic resistance seriously. There is no point in telling consumers that Welsh beef and lamb producers don't use much antibiotics, these days we must prove it; we need to have the evidence and the data to back our claims. These vet reviews will enable us to do that while at the same time checking with a vet whether it really is necessary to use as much antibiotics as we may do. As an industry we face many challenges from welfare lobbyists to climate change activists. Please help us face up to the antibiotic challenge by completing the annual vet reviews.

To date over 5000 reviews have been carried out by farm vets. Positive feedback has been received from vets and members who have seen this as an opportunity to discuss any animal health issues arising on farm. The advice given can potentially generate savings for the farm business along with utilising the correct type of medicines and anthelmintics.

The Health and Welfare review is providing an opportunity to generate a discussion with your farm vet with many utilising this time as a starting point to generate an updated animal health plan.

Rosie Gibson from Honddu Vets, Brecon states:

'I think that the FAWL health and welfare review is a very positive step forward. It provides a great opportunity for one on one discussion which leads to better informed animal health decisions being taken by the farmer. We see this as an excellent way of explaining preventative measures that in the end reduce the antibiotic use on farm. Our aim is to help farms become more efficient through healthy livestock, making good use of available medicines whilst avoiding inappropriate, incorrect or unnecessary use of drugs whether they be wormers, antibiotics or vaccines. The FAWL health and welfare reviews help us do this and give us an insight into what actually happens on our clients' farms, hopefully making our advice more useful.'

It is possible to complete the Health and Welfare review via the online Farm Records facility. Both farmer and vet can view the Health and Welfare review providing that both have registered and created an account on the Farm Records website.

For further details on how to register, contact:
Llŷr Lewis 07741549270/llyrl@wlbpc.co.uk



WLBP Farm Records FACILITY WORKSHOPS



FARMING
connect
cyswllt
FFERMIO

08456 000 813

Come along to one of our fully funded **Farm Records Facility** workshops to help understand its capabilities and benefits to your business.

The Farm Records and Animal Health plan facility is available to all producers in WLBP lamb, beef (FAWL), dairy and Welsh Organic schemes. This is a tool designed to help you maintain accurate and up to date records of animal management including: a sheep flock book, cattle herd register & medicine purchase / treatment record.

Please visit the Farming Connect Events page to book your place:

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/events>

WORKSHOP VENUE	DATE	TIME
M-Sparc, Parc Gwyddoniaeth Menai, Gaerwen, LL60 6AG	04/12/2019	2.00-4.00
Pant Du Vineyard, Penygroes, Caernarfon, LL54 6HE	05/12/2019	6.00-8.00
Coleg Cambria Llysfasi, Ruthin Road, Ruthin, LL15 2LB	09/12/2019	2.00-4.00
Beaufort Park Hotel, Buckley, Mold, CH7 6RQ	10/12/2019	2.00-4.00
Glasdir, Plas yn Dre, Llanrwst, Conwy, North Wales, LL26 0DF	11/12/2019	2.00-4.00
Ysgol y Berwyn, Ffrydan Road, Bala, LL23 7RU	08/01/2020	6.00-8.00
Welshpool Livestock Market, Buttington Cross, Welshpool SY21 8SR	09/01/2020	6.00-8.00
The Elephant and Castle, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2BQ	13/01/2020	2.00-4.00
MRC Wales, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6AH	14/01/2020	6.00-8.00
Llety Parc, Ffordd Parc y Llyn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth SY23 3TL	16/01/2020	2.00-4.00
Castle Hotel Brecon, Powys, LD3 9DB	20/01/2020	6.00-8.00
The Beaufort Inn, High Street, Raglan, NP15 2DY	21/01/2020	2.00-4.00
Tyglyn Aeron, Ciliau Aeron, Lampeter, SA48 8DD	22/01/2020	2.00-4.00
The Plough Inn, Rhosmaen, Llandeilo, SA19 6NP	23/01/2020	2.00-4.00
St Mary's Golf Club, St Marys Hill, Pencoed, CF35 5EA	27/01/2020	6.00-8.00
Gelli Aur College Resource Centre (Coleg Sir Gar), Golden Grove, Carmarthen, SA32 8NJ	28/01/2020	2.00-4.00
Llwyngwair Manor, Holiday Park, Newport, Pembrokeshire SA42 0LX	29/01/2020	6.00-8.00
Best Western Lamphey Court Hotel and Spa, Lamphey, Pembroke, SA71 5NT	30/01/2020	6.00-8.00

If you are not registered with Farming Connect, please call the Service Centre on 08456 000 813 to register before booking your place.



<https://farmrecords.wlbp.co.uk>

Postponing within less than 24 hours – please think twice

Everyone involved in agriculture is aware of the pressure and time constraints that farmers have to adhere to and there are always deadlines to reach. The pressure to complete and arrange activities can lead to difficulties in adhering to appointments that have been pre-arranged with assessors who visit your farm. There are times when an emergency or something out of one's control raises its head that means members have to postpone their farm assessment at very short notice.

We accept that these circumstances are sometimes unavoidable. However, we'd like to make it clear that

if a farm assessment gets postponed within less than 24 hours of when an assessment is due without a valid reason, we will have to charge for the postponement and invoice for a further fee before the assessor can re-visit the farm to complete the assessment. If this is not done, it could lead to members being suspended from their respective scheme.

If you need to postpone an assessment you've already agreed to then please contact your farm assessor or the certification office at least 24 hours before the agreed date and time of assessment.