



Chairman's Message

Dear Member,

Prior to our Annual General Meeting which will be held on the 7th of March 2019 at Gorseland, Aberystwyth it is my pleasure to advise you of the following relevant points from my Chairman's Report for year ended 31/03/2018.

I believe that schemes such as our Farm Assurance schemes and our Organic certification schemes are more important than ever to our members, considering the uncertain future facing our industry. At the time of writing this summary in early February the details relating to our exit from the EU are as uncertain as ever. Whatever the outcome I am convinced that our industry will need to provide clear evidence to our customers both home and overseas, that our products are produced to the highest quality standards and that they satisfy the demands of our future customers and consumers.

All our quality schemes are independently certified and compliant with ISO standard 17065 (a globally recognised and trusted International standard) and on that basis we should not fear any challenge from anyone in the world on the standards and quality of our production.

Another matter which I believe will be of significant importance to our industry moving forward will be to embrace digital technology and use digital platforms as management tools on a day to day basis.

To this end WLBP has, and will continue to invest in providing a range of digital tools to our members. We will

provide essential information through the supply chain to our customers as well as making our members lives a lot easier on a day to day basis. Our digital tools (which are currently available free to our members), include animal statutory records, medicine records including important AMR medicine data, annual health planning and nutrient management on farm. We are currently able to offer support to any member to register and use our online tools and if anyone is interested please contact our office.

Finally I would like to assure you that our board and staff are working very hard to ensure that we will continue to supply you with the service and support required during this challenging time for our industry.



David Bebb Evans

Welsh Lamb & Beef Producers Ltd NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of members will be held at Gorseland, North Road, Aberystwyth SY23 2HE on Thursday, 7th March 2019 at 2.00pm

Yours faithfully,
WG Jones, Secretary

AGENDA

- 1 To receive minutes of the previous AGM
- 2 To receive a report from the chairman, Mr David Bebb Evans
- 3 To receive and approve the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018*
- 4 To appoint directors – Messrs David Bebb Evans and Dafydd Jones retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election**
- 5 To approve Whittingham Riddell as Reporting Accountants

* Copies of the annual accounts are available on the society's website (www.wlbp.co.uk) or for a hard copy, please contact the office on 01970 636688

** If you wish to make a nomination to the board, please forward the name and address of the member to: WLBP Ltd, PO Box 8, Gorseland, North Road, Aberystwyth by 6th March 2019 supported by the signatures of 6 other WLBP members.

Summary Extracts of WLBP Ltd Annual Accounts

Income & Expenditure A/c 31.03.2018

	£000s	£000s
	2018	2017
Turnover	1257	1166
Gross Profit	114	105
Cost of Operation	121	81
Surplus / (Deficit before Tax)	-7	24
Interest Received	1	2
Tax on (Deficit) Surplus	1	-10
(Deficit) / Surplus for Year	5	16

Balance Sheet as at 31.03.2018

Fixed Assets	97	102
Current Assets	2318	2033
Current Liabilities	1701	1416
Net current Assets	617	617
	714	719

Capital and Reserves

Called up share capital	2	2
Surplus Income	712	717
	714	719

Top Tips: Medicine Records

A complete purchase and treatment record must be kept for all veterinary medicines administered to livestock. This enables the monitoring of all livestock treatments and a retrospective review of routine procedures and to identify recurring problems.

See below examples of written and Farm Records completed entries in the medicine purchase and treatment record:

Date	Product	Unit/Brand	Quantity	Supplier	Price	Additional	Notes
12/02/18	Amoxicillin 500mg	100 boxes	100	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes
15/02/18	Amoxicillin 500mg	100 boxes	100	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes
18/02/18	Amoxicillin 500mg	100 boxes	100	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes

Animal	Product	Quantity	Brand	Supplier	Price	Additional	Notes
12345	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	12345	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes
67890	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	12345	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes

Record of Purchase of Medicines

Date	Supplier	Product	Quantity	Price	Notes
12/02/18	12345	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	£1000	100 boxes
15/02/18	12345	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	£1000	100 boxes
18/02/18	12345	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	£1000	100 boxes

Medicine Records

Record of Use of Medicines (see Farm Record of Medicines in Medication Administration page 10)

Date	Animal	Product	Quantity	Brand	Supplier	Price	Additional	Notes
12/02/18	12345	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	12345	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes
15/02/18	67890	Amoxicillin 500mg	100	12345	12345	£1000	500	100 boxes

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

Most of our members pay their membership fee by Direct Debit, but for those of you who don't, please ensure that when sending in a payment for your subscription that all of your correspondence is clearly referenced with your FAWL/Organic number along with your name and full address. Failure to do so could result in your payment being misallocated and/or your certification suspended due to non-payment. If you wish to set up your payment via Direct Debit, please ensure that your full name and address is correctly displayed along with you FAWL/Organic number on the direct debit form.

Annual Health and Welfare Reviews

Since the 1st of July 2018 a new requirement of the FAWL standard is that an annual health and welfare review must be undertaken in conjunction with your farm vet. To date in the region of 3500 of these reviews have been completed.

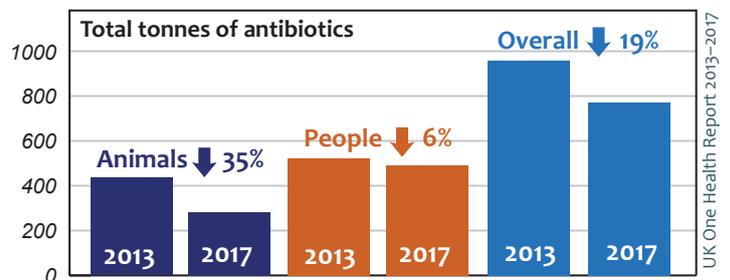
The review gives an opportunity to address any issues that have occurred on the farm in the last 12 months and particularly focuses on the use of antibiotics and anthelmintic products on the farm.

Of the initial reviews that have been undertaken by vets it's clear to see that the aspect that has had most attention, discussion and recommendations have been around the correct use of sheep anthelmintic (drenches) treatments.

Early indications seem to demonstrate that the use of antibiotics at the right time is also an area to improve on as well as improving biosecurity and considering the greater use of vaccinations where appropriate.

Below are some figures that were recently published from an executive summary of the UK One health report 2013–2017 on antibiotic use in animals and humans (published January 2019). Please note that by working proactively with your vet in ensuring that your use of antibiotics is responsible on your farm that you are contributing to the reduction in usage and therefore prompting a positive message which this report demonstrates.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-one-health-report-antibiotic-use-and-antibiotic-resistance-in-animals-and-humans>



WLBP – Social Media



Follow us: @WLBProducers



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WLBP Farm Records facility providing great advantages



Jolyon Higgs and his wife Alex of Cwmfron Farm, Tylwch, run a beef and sheep enterprise on their farm in the uplands of Llanidloes which ranges from 650–1000ft.

600 breeding ewes are kept at Cwmfron Farm consisting of Welsh Mules, Welsh Mountain and Texel. Jolyon and Alex also keep a herd of 20 suckler cows which are Limousin and British Blue cows producing Aberdeen Angus cross prime cattle.

50–60 Welsh Mules are retained on the farm with another 50 yearling ewes being sold through the Welsh Mules Sheep Breeders Association Sales every year at Welshpool Livestock Market.

As members of the Farm Assured Welsh Livestock (FAWL) scheme, Jolyon and Alex have taken advantage of the online WLBP Farm Records facility available to them free as part of their subscription. After registering and creating an account, their FAWL and cross compliance documentation are populated and kept online. This includes their flock book, herd register and medicine book. Jolyon says:

'I first heard of the facility when I went to a Waitrose producer meeting. It prompted the idea that I could reduce paperwork and maintain more accurate online records. With increasing demands from retailers and government to keep records I felt it was beneficial to have all of the records in one place.'

There is also a mobile phone app that works alongside the WLBP Farm Records website; The Stock Move Express app allows users to input information offline while on the farm.

'I mainly use the Stock Move Express app, I can input information standing by the animal. As I always have the program available to me, I can look up information such as treatments, withdrawal dates and movement history all from my phone.'

Jolyon uses the facility to record movements which can be linked to EID Cymru and BCMS. He also records medicine purchases, treatments, individual ewe records and registering births and deaths.

'By recording the medicine treatment of my animals, I can build up a history of individual ewes. It helps me manage my flock better as I can select animals that are prone to regular occurring diseases. With the link to EID Cymru I can store all my movement licenses in one place and they can be sent direct to them.'



Jolyon is seeing advantages in utilising his online Farm Records tools and looks forward to expanding his usage of the facility which will contribute towards keeping all records up to date on the farm.

If you are a FAWL member and would like more information on the WLBP Farm Records facility, please visit our website:

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

or contact the FAWL office on 01970 636688 to speak with our Farm Records Co-ordinators:

**Llyr Lewis: 07741 549270, LlyrL@wlbp.co.uk
Sion Ifans: sionifans@wlbp.co.uk**

£5m to help eradicate sheep scab

The Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths, has announced £5m available through the Rural Development Programme will be used to help eradicate sheep scab.

The funding is available to deliver an industry led project to tackle the disease in Wales. The announcement follows an industry proposal to eradicate sheep scab from Wales.

Further details of the project will be announced in the forthcoming months following ongoing discussions with industry representatives.

Announcing the funding, the Minister said:

"Sheep scab has significant economic consequences for sheep producers and animal welfare issues for sheep. It is one of the most contagious disease of sheep in Wales and eradicating it is a priority for us and the industry. I'm pleased to be able to announce £5m Rural Development Programme funding will be used to help support the industry tackle the disease. Eradicating the disease has the potential to deliver significant lasting economic benefits for the sector at a particularly challenging time as we prepare to leave the European Union."

IMPORTANT – Organic correspondence

From 28/2/2019 we will no longer be able to email copies of Certificates and Schedules directly to RPW on your behalf as RPW will now only accept electronic documents that have been uploaded to them from your own businesses RPW account. We can continue to email electronic copies of your Certificate and Schedule to you directly if you require.



Get ready for Organic inspection:

Complete prior to audit:

- Complete annual inspection questionnaire
- Check that field schedule attached to inspection questionnaire is correct and amend if necessary

Make available for inspection:

- If any field number changes, please provide up to date map(s) of holding
- Field records including all inputs and outputs
- Manure management plan and completed Record Sheet 02
- Derogations applied for since the last inspection
- Habitat protection plan
- Purchase and sales records: receipts and invoices
- Labels – feed, seed, etc
- Up to date, complete feed records for all feeding groups (including grazing periods and forage fed)
- Medicine records – purchase and treatment
- Animal health plan
- Records – Movements, births and death
- Certificates for graziers and land rented
- Organic stock purchases – transfer documents and copies of certificates

Derogation and record sheet templates are available online: www.welshorganic.co.uk
or by contacting the office: **01970 636688**

Please don't hesitate to contact the office if you have any queries.

*These are a few tips to help you prepare for your organic inspection.
However, please note that the inspection will cover all organic standards.*