

JULY 2019

For this year's sales, ewe lambs must be tagged with a yellow electronic tag in the left ear and a

Brown

coloured tag in the right ear

Welsh Mule Sheep Breeders Association Newsletter

Welsh Mule Sheep Breeders Association Ltd; Gorseland, North Road, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 2WB Phone No 01970 636688;

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REMINDER:

We would be grateful if members could ensure that they choose the correct sale entry form to complete when entering sheep for sale.

Yearlings and older ewes, please use the **WHITE** forms;

Ewe Lambs, you need to use the **BLUE** forms and

Performance Mule Ewe Lambs, please use the **GREEN** form.

2019 SALE DATES: WELSHPOOL:

- Wednesday, 11th September (Ewes)
- Thursday, 12th September (Ewe Lambs)
- Thursday 10th October (Ewes & Ewe Lambs)

BUILTH WELLS:

- Friday, 13th September (Ewes & Ewe Lambs)
- Tuesday, 15th October (Ewes & Ewe Lambs)

RUTHIN:

- Saturday, 14th September (Ewes & Ewe Lambs)

SHEEP SCAB & DIPPING:

Scab continues for present a challenge to all sheep producers in Wales. The Welsh Government has announced that it will set aside £5m for a project to try and eradicate the problem. In the meantime the association needs to make sure that sheep sold at our sales are free from scab. Members are reminded that when considering the options for treating sheep against scab or lice before sale that no product is licensed to be used for scab by showering.

If scab is suspected by sale inspectors, all the sheep entered by a member will have to be immediately withdrawn. They may be removed from the sale yard without the owners consent if the owner is not present. (Please see Rule 29 of the Conditions of sale entry & declaration 1 of the sale entry forms.)

2019 Sale Draw:

The draw for the all the association's September 2019 sales will be conducted at:

6.30pm on Wednesday 7th August 2019 at the offices of Welshpool Livestock Sales, Buttington, Welshpool,

prior to the meeting of the executive committee of the association

Ewe Lamb Competition:

Please submit your entries for the ewe lamb competitions to the association's auctioneers by 9.00am on the day of sale.

There will be two classes of competition as usual, one for white-faced ewe lambs, the other for coloured-faced ones. The champion will be selected from the winners of the two classes.

CLOSING DATES FOR RETURN OF SALE ENTRY FORMS:

September Sales

Monday, 29th July

October Sales

Monday, 16th Sept



2019 Shows and demonstrations:

The association was present at two NSA open days this summer, NSA Wales and NSA South West. We will also be present at the Royal Welsh Show at the end of July.

We had two very good displays at the NSA events with quality sheep supplied by the association's treasurer Hywel Davies Blaenresgair, Llansawel. Both events proved successful with a number of enquiries from potential buyers. These shows allow the Association to display and promote the breed to potential buyers and make the general public more aware of farming issues. We had a good number of members of the association's executive committee on hand to help. If any member is coming to the Royal Welsh show, please call in on the stand. You'll get the opportunity to meet with Joe Hamer the Field Officer and to extol the virtue of the Welsh Mule to potential buyers.

There will be extensive advertising throughout the summer starting from in August through to October with the focus being the traditional farming journals as well as local ones while Facebook and Twitter will also be used. Please remember to check social media to see the results achieved at the association's sales over the season. *Below is a photo of Treasurer Hywel Davies' Welsh Mules Sheep with Suffolk X Lambs. We displayed the excellent daily live-weight gain of the lambs on the stand. (see right)*

Home bred mule ewes with Suffolk cross lambs at foot Daily Live Weight Gain

4th crop ewe
1 x Lamb born 6th Feb
47kg - 460grams a day

Home bred mule ewes with Suffolk cross lambs at foot Daily Live Weight Gain

6th crop ewe
2 x Lambs born 8th February
50kg - 500 grams a day
42kg - 420 grams a day



Welsh Mules sales prices for last two years				
Welshpool	2018		2017	
	Nos	Av Price	Nos	Av Price
September:				
Yearlings	5783	143.15	6307	144.10
Ewe lambs	7888	93.74	8873	99.89
October:				
Yearlings	915	111.10	1313	106.21
Ewe lambs	5153	74.46	6646	79.81
Builth Wells				
September:				
Yearlings	3002	141.94	2811	150.82
Ewe lambs	7444	92.82	8491	101.15
October:				
Yearlings:	236	120.51	441	111.95
Ewe lambs	5134	73.94	6504	80.89
Ruthin				
Yearlings	1575	113.45	1770	130.83
Ewe lambs	2567	73.08	2609	83.77

YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE WELSH MULES

The association's Field Officer, Joe Hamer has many roles to play from promoting the Welsh Mules at shows and events to following up queries after sales. He is on hand to help both vendors and buyers and can be contacted on 07527 174420.

The association's official auctioneers can be contacted at:

For the Welshpool sale:

Welshpool Livestock Sales; Buttington Cross, Welshpool, SY21 8SR
(01938) 553438

For the Builth Wells sale:

Brightwells; 33 High Street, Builth Wells, LD2 3DL (01982) 553614

For the Ruthin sale:

Vale of Clwyd Livestock Market; Plas Glastir, Ruthin LL15 1PB
(01824) 702025
Jones Peckover; 1 The Roe, St Asaph, (01745) 583260



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