



WELSH MULE SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2025

Welsh Mule Sheep Breeders Association Ltd; Gorseland, North Road, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 2WB

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The AGM of members of the association is to be held on 5th February 2025 at 7.30pm at the offices of Welshpool Livestock Sales, Buttington Cross, Welshpool

2025 SALE DATES

WELSHPOOL

Wednesday 10th September
(Ewes)

Thursday 11th September
(Ewe Lambs)

Thursday 9th October
(Ewes and Ewe Lambs)

HEREFORD

Friday 12th September
(Ewes and Ewe Lambs)

Tuesday 14th October
(Ewes and Ewe Lambs)

RUTHIN

Saturday 13th September
(Ewes and Ewe Lambs)

Sales Report 2024

September Sales

Throughout the September sales, The Welsh Mule Sheep Breeders Association have seen outstanding trade with a strong demand for both yearling ewes and ewe lambs.

The yearling ewes at Welshpool on 11th September saw an average of £250.14, an increase of £50 from last year, with H & E Powell, Llwyngwilym, Rhayader topping the market at £370 for a pen of ewes sold to Gwilym Evans & Son, Upper Ffrydd, Caersws. The following day, ewe lambs averaged £174.02, with Wyn Jones, Maesyderi, Ffairfach receiving the best price for ewe lambs at £280 from G Scrivens, Oldberrow Hill Farm, Ullenhall, Warks.

The association sale in Hereford was held on 13th September. Prices for both yearlings and ewe lambs were up from 2023. Yearling ewes averaged £249.31, with the top price of £350 again being gained by H&E Powell, Llwyngwilym, Rhayader for a pen bought by JM Robbins, Middle Farm. Ewe lambs averaged £175.39 with J Thomas & Son, Tanhouse Farm receiving the best price for ewe lambs at £300 from RG Williams, Llwyn Derw, Pontrobert.

The September sale week ended in Ruthin with yearling ewes averaging £204.10, with the top price of £230 being gained by Alun Evans, Ffrith Fedw, Prion, Denbigh for a pen bought by GW & DW Roberts, Cil Llwyn. Ewe lambs averaged £140.29 with GB Jones Ltd, Fron Bella, Pentrefoelas receiving the best price at £192 from IH Morris & Son, Penrhewl.

October Sales

Welshpool second sale 10th October: The day started with an entry of 409 yearling ewes that topped at £275 for a pen of coloured mules from DI Roberts and Sons, Stingwern purchased by BM Evans, Coed-y-Garth Overall Yearling Ewes average was £226 showing an increase of £43 per head compared to last years second sale

We then moved on to the ewe lambs with an entry of 4214 put forward today which averaged £136 showing an increase of £2 from last years sale

Top price went to J Thomas and Son, Tanhouse Farm for a pen of white faced lambs at £195 purchased by RG Rogers, Fron Ganol

Hereford second sale 15th October: The day started with an entry of 300 yearling ewes that topped at £235 for a pen of white faced mules from Evershot Farms Ltd purchased by MG Rowlands and son Neuaddhen. Overall Yearling Ewes average was £202.

We then moved on to the ewe lambs with an entry of 6050 put forward which averaged £134.

The Vernon Willson memorial cup went to RG Jones, Tymawr for a pen of coloured ewe lambs which also achieved top price at £190 purchased by D Morgan and Sons Pencelli.

The society would like to thank all of the vendors, purchasers and auctioneers for making the 2024 sale season such a successful one.

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Sheep Veterinary Society (SVS) and Sheep Antibiotic Guardian Group (SAGG) advice for enzootic abortion (EAE)

Both Sheep Veterinary Society (SVS) and Sheep Antibiotic Guardian Group (SAGG) are disappointed by the lack of enzootic abortion (EAE) vaccine available during the tupping season and were aware that this will have a significant impact on sheep farmers and their flocks that currently rely on effective vaccination to control the disease.

Previous advice has not changed:

1. When faced with an aborting ewe, it is important that the ewe is isolated from the rest of the flock and that samples are taken to diagnose which abortion agent is responsible.
2. It is not appropriate to use routine prophylactic antibiotics to control abortion – the use of antibiotics in late pregnancy is only acceptable to protect other ewes in the group in the face of an outbreak or a group of ewes following a confirmed laboratory EAE diagnosis in the immediately preceding year.

For flocks that have previously regularly vaccinated against EAE, there will this year be a small cohort of unvaccinated replacement ewes but the risk to them is low if the remainder of the flock is protected. They should be marked and vaccinated next year when they are not pregnant.

For flocks that are at high risk of disease (perhaps due to current or recent EAE abortion outbreak or following the introduction of EAE-shedding ewes into an unvaccinated flock) please contact your local vet practice.



ATTENTION MEMBER!

If you haven't sold any Welsh Mules in an association sale in the last 4 years then you might not receive correspondence, if you would like to continue to receive correspondence but haven't sold in an association sale in the last 4 years please email info@welshmules.co.uk



To purchase the Official Association Merchandise visit our Online Shop:
<https://mw-signandprint.co.uk/welsh-mules/>



2024 EWE LAMB COMPETITIONS

		White-faced	Coloured-faced
Welshpool	11 Sept	Price, Tyrosser, Llanafan Fawr	I & W Jones, Upper Rheol, Erwood
		AM Jones, Middle Farm, Rorrington	Wyn Jones, Maesyderi, Ffairfach
		I & W Jones, Upper Rheol, Erwood	GT Davies & Son, South Hill Farm, Wiston
Hereford	12 Sept	TB Phillips & Co, Twyn-Neuadd Farm, Libanus	J Thomas & Son, Tanhouse, Dolau
		I & W Jones, Upper Rheol, Erwood	RG & BM Jones & Son, Tymawr, Garth
		KA Hughson & Partners, Ty Mawr, Newbridge-on-Wye	DIL & E Jones Llanilltyd, Libanus
Elwyn Bennett Memorial Cup: RG & BM Jones & Son, Tymawr, Garth			
Ruthin	13 Sept	GB Jones, Fron Bella, Pentre Foelas, Betws Y Coed	HA & SM Jones, Llwyn Gwgan, Llangwm, Corwen
		E W Jones a'i Feibion, Rhiwaedog, Rhosygwaliau, Bala	T & NW Roberts, Gorswen, Llanrwst
		E Jones, Tyn Nant, Eglwys Bach, Colwyn Bay	Dewi Jones, Plas Pigot, Llansannan
Keith Evans Memorial Cup: Alun E Evans, Ffrith Fedw Prion, Denbigh			
Hereford October Sale: Vernon Wilson Memorial Cup: RG & BM Jones & Son, Tymawr, Garth			

= Champion

TAGGING SEQUENCE

The association's executive committee has approved the following tagging colour sequence for the next six years.

2025 – PINK

2026 – BROWN

2027 – PURPLE

2028 – GREEN

2029 – BLUE

2030 – ORANGE

For the 2025 sales, ewe lambs must be tagged with a yellow electronic tag in the left ear and a **PINK coloured tag in the right ear**

2024 Average prices in detail

		2024 Av Price	2023 Av Price	
WELSHPOOL	September:	Yearlings	250.14	200.44
		Ewe lambs	174.02	142.62
	October:	Yearlings	225.59	183.00
		Ewe lambs	135.57	133.34
HEREFORD	September:	Yearlings	249.31	197.57
		Ewe lambs	175.39	142.10
	October:	Yearlings	201.77	184.92
		Ewe lambs	133.74	140.15
RUTHIN	Yearlings	204.10	183.50	
	Ewe lambs	140.29	124.07	

Accounts for the year to 31st August 2024

A summary of the 2024 Financial Accounts will be available at the Annual General Meeting

The full detailed accounts are available on request by emailing the secretary on info@welshmules.co.uk

YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE WELSH MULES

Field Officer: **Holly Page**

Tel: **07582 629423** Email: hollypage1111@gmail.com

Secretaries: **01970 636688**

Website: www.welshmules.co.uk

Email: info@welshmules.co.uk

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 Hereford sale:

Builth Market Auctioneers, Market Office, The Smithfield, Builth Wells, LD2 3ED.

01982 553228

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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SOCIAL MEDIA

We are happy to share photos / videos of your Welsh Mules on the Association Social Media Platforms. Please send your content by messaging the information to the relevant Social Media account.

Thank You.



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