

Ryeland FBS Autumn 2022

Incorporating Coloured Ryeland News



Introducing our National & Reserve Champions

National Champion was a yearling ewe from the Hawthorns Flock of Alison Robinson, and Reserve was the Ram Lamb (M15145) from the Pembroke Flock of NP & EJ Morgan. Pictured here with Judge Russell Howell of the Mansel Flock and Society Presidents Eleanor and Alun Parry.

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Editor's Note



This edition features a bumper crop of shows, unsurprisingly. I've squeezed in as many as possible and tried to be as accurate as possible and apologise if there are any errors.

If there are any features you'd like to see covered in the newsletter please do let me know. Aside from Regional news and show results is there anything else you'd be interested to see? Do email me with your thoughts.

Maybe we could start a new feature on young farmers. Anything from young people starting their own flock to youngsters growing up with sheep. If you have a youngster who'd like to do a profile please let Holly or I know.

We love to hear from you so do contact us. Holly's details are in the Coloured Section. Please let me have your articles for the winter (ugh!) edition by the 10th November.

Lin Whittall

Ryeland Editor

Lin.whittall@googlemail.com

From your Chairman

Dear Members

Well finally it's been a summer of showing again... Most shows have commenced again this year after the pandemic and it has been wonderful either exhibiting, visiting for the day or as many of you judging. For the majority of shows the weather has been kind and it has been fantastic to catch up with members of the society, family and friends. At many of the shows that I exhibited at this year the attendance numbers, stall holders and exhibitors were down on previous years before the pandemic. Hopefully, as things settle the shows will flourish. For me, if honest I have not missed the very early morning starts, the show preparation and the travelling but when you touchdown at the show all of that disappears.

This weekend saw the return of the RFBS full Show and Sale, held for the third year at Worcester. The facility for online bidding in addition to viewing virtually was used by purchasers this year again and is a wonderful resource for those who cannot make the sale. Many travelled the length and breadth of the UK to either bring stock for sale or to purchase to develop and improve their flocks for the coming years. The quality of stock presented was excellent again this year although trade was down on previous years, there was a more significant drop in prices for the Coloured Ryelands. In the Ryelands the top price went to a Ram Lamb from the

Pembroke Flock (Neville Morgan & Family) which sold for 1,500g. In the Coloured Ryelands the top price went jointly to a Shearling Ram bred by the Pigscot flock (Mandy & Sean Tilling) which was sold for 900g, and a Ewe Lamb bred by the Night star flock (Tim & Gill Glover), which was also sold for 900g.

Earlier in August was the RFBS National show at Tenbury. Again, we were very lucky with the weather and there was a fantastic turn out of exhibitors for both the Coloured Ryelands and the Ryelands. Thanks to the judges on the day who were Russell Howell for the Ryelands and Steve Gray for the Coloured Ryelands. Russell's overall champion was a shearling ewe from Alison Robinson and Steve's overall champion was a shearling ewe from Stephen & Zoe Unwin. Congratulations to the winners and to all those that exhibited. Special thanks to Claire Weedall who organised the craft tent this year, and to those who provided crafts, demonstrated, or provided cover during the day, it really was a hive of activity and a great display. And finally special thanks to Lin Whittall who with the help of members from the Herefordshire region provided the after showing food and drink.

In many of my newsletter articles over recent years I have talked about the challenges faced during the pandemic, now that those have faded, we move onto a new set of challenges, with fuel prices, feed prices and the lack of grass all hitting sheep owners across the UK. At present we are paying £450 a tonne for mix and £40 for a large square hay

Council Members

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Chairman - Caz Bateman

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Caz Bateman

Ryeland Committee Representative

Zoe Unwin

Councillors: retire 2024

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Stephen Hipps (Yorkshire)

Matthew Pink (Yorkshire)

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Retire April 2025

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Jenny Hughes (Eastern England)

Stephen Ramsden (South West England)

RFBS Office Hours:

Tuesdays - Thursdays

9.30am - 5pm

bale. We have recently started feeding as we have no grass which is surprising considering we live in a generally very wet part of the UK. We are not alone in this situation as I regularly speak to many members who have been feeding far longer than a couple of weeks. Hopefully, the rain from the last 24 hours will encourage the grass to grow so we can have a final spurt of growth before autumn.

There are many events still to look forward to during the late summer, start of autumn. Several agricultural shows are still to hold their shows for this year, there are various regional events, please visit the regional Facebook pages for updates. The president's dinner is in Anglesey in October and there is the society sale in Carlisle in September for those who were unsuccessful with purchases at Worcester.

As we head into tugging season again, I wish you and your stock well. May the boys be eager, the ewes delighted and the offspring many.

Caz Bateman

Eastern Regional Report

This summer has been a real mixed bag for the region. The weather has been drier than I can ever remember with only about two days of patchy rain in the last two months. The sheep are not enjoying their summer and it has been hard work for the humans as well! In Essex we topped 40 degrees for a couple of days and I felt lucky not to lose any animals.

However many of us have been delighted to get out and about showing again this Spring and Summer and with the introduction of the Points trophy (points awarded at Suffolk, Royal Norfolk, Tendring and Wayland show - as these have Coloured Ryeland classes) and the Flock competition at Tendring show it has made for an exciting season.

Congratulations to Sue Tunstill and Phil Northern for winning the Coloured Ryeland Flock competition at Tendring and Jordan Stone for winning the Ryeland one.

At the time of writing Wayland show is a few weeks away so we do not know the winner of the points competition but with an average of 40 sheep at each of the regional shows so far it will be exciting to see the winner.

We really hope to see many more of you at the shows next year. Even if you just want to come and watch you will be made very welcome.

Jenny Hughes

jennyec@hotmail.co.uk

Herefordshire & The Marches Regional Report

Our two workshops held in May and July - the first at Malvern concentrating on husbandry and show preparation and the next at Zoe and Stephen Unwin's lovely farm near Shrewsbury covering flock assessment and planning for tugging, were both very well attended and we hope all attendees went away more knowledgeable than when they came. Thank you to all who organised these.

Shropshire Show first place results –

Ram: Jack Williams & Dominic Dickson

Ram lamb: Jack Williams & Dominic Dickson

Breeding ewe: Davies family

Shearling ewe: Jack Williams & Dominic Dickson

Group of 3: Davies family

Champion and Reserve

Dominic Dickson and Jack Williams (picture overleaf)

Well done everyone & thank you to Matthew Pink for judging

Burwarton Show first place results -

Breeding ram: Jack Deakins

Shearling ram: Margaret Bedford

Ram lamb: Tom Wright

Breeding ewe: Sue Quigley

Shearling ewe: Robert Morgan

Ewe lamb: Tom Wright

Group of 3: Jack Deakins

Champion Ryeland - Tom Wright

Reserve Champion - Robert Morgan

Congratulations to all and thanks to Carys Jones for judging.

The National Show has just taken place on our home patch at Tenbury. Entries for Coloured Ryelands were robust but it would be lovely to see a few more Ryelands next year. Alison Robinson was Champion with her yearling Ryeland ewe, Reserve being NP and E J Morgan with their Ryeland Ram Lamb. Champion Coloured Ryeland went to Stephen and Zoe with their shearling ewe and Reserve to Jo Fisher with her aged ram. A great day and well done all.

The Fleece Competition took place at this show judged by a representative from the Wool Board who also kindly judged the Wool on the Hoof classes. The winning fleece was entered by Jo Fisher. Sharing a tent with the fleeces was an exhibition of



Above: Champion and Reserve at Shropshire Show, both from Jack Williams and Dominic Dickson, with judge Matthew Pink.

for both Ryelands and Coloured Ryelands, plus wool on the hoof classes so we're looking forward to a good show.

Normally we hold our Annual Dinner in December. However, we are aware that some people are not keen on driving at night and inevitably, in December there are clashes with other events, so for a change we are organising an Afternoon Buffet on the 15th October at Richards Castle Village Hall. At this event we will be presenting trophies for our Regional Points Competition.



Above: Champion and Reserve at Burwarton Show, from Tom Wright and Rob Morgan, with judge Carys Jones.

crafts made from Ryeland wool with Pam spinning on her wheel and Judith who was there with her peg loom. Thanks to Claire, Pam and Judith for organising this, and taking the time to come and attend and demonstrate your skills. The tent was very busy, which was really great.

The next event is our Grand Autumn Lamb show which is being run in conjunction with Kington Show on 10 September. There are lots of classes

Plans are afoot for next year's events, the main one being that our region is hosting the RFBS AGM in May. Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for details of forthcoming events - hmryelandgroup.co.uk.

David Duggan
Regional Chair

South, Mid & West Wales Regional Report

Open day on Bank Holiday Monday 29th August between 12pm and 4pm kindly hosted by Clive, Mary and Lisa Jenkins, at "Market Gate", Cresselli, Kilgetty, Pembrokeshire, SA68 0SH. The Coloured Ryeland and Ryeland flocks belong to grandsons Arthur and Osian. Also on show on the day will be Badger face Torddu sheep and pygmy goats belonging to the other grandchildren as well as their livestock to make your visit an enjoyable one.

Topics to include, stock judging, trimming, wool products and pre tugging advice. Experienced sheep members will be available to answer any questions and offer advice. *[Editor's note. Unfortunately the newsletter won't be published before this event but I do hope it went well]*

The second event will take place on Sunday 18th September between 12pm and 4pm at the home of Sue and Andy McVicar, Garth Cottage, Aberhafesp, Newtown, Powys, SY16 3LN. The home of the long-established Montgomery Coloured Ryeland Flock, also our new Greyface Dartmoor and Valais Blacknose flocks. To book your place please contact Sue and Andy on 01686-621977 e/mail andrewmcvicar245@btinternet.com. We are limiting the numbers to 30 people. Topics to include a shearing talk and demonstration, pre tugging advice and many other topics of your choice.

We are hoping to have a Christmas Lunch at The Castle Hotel, Llandovery on Sunday 11th December it will be good to meet old friends and make new ones. Further details to follow.

Andy McVicar

Regional Chair

North Wales & Mercia Regional Report

The year seems to have gone in a flash.....the showing season came & went and already the tups are in with the ewes. Looking back on the summer there were some disappointments in our region but also some highlights.

There is far more to keeping Ryelands than just taking them to shows, but those who have never thought of entering or going along to watch really are missing out. We are fortunate in our region to have plenty of shows but at some the entries were very low which is such a disappointment for those who did attend and for the judges who look forward to having a good display of sheep in front of them. Our first show of the season – Stafford – was an exception as this always draws plenty of entries from all over the country and lots of spectators too. There were some new exhibitors there who were keen to learn from others more experienced than them and there was plenty of fun to be had as well!

Derby County had Ryeland and Coloured Ryeland classes for the first time and it was a very successful show with a great atmosphere. Royal Cheshire was not so well attended, in spite of having the best marquee for the sheep to be found at any show, and excellent rings too as well as generous prize money. Hopefully next year this will be better supported, along with Nantwich which is trying to re-establish itself following 3 cancellations. Anglesey has classes for Ryelands and that is one on my list for next year!

The one remaining show in our region is our Lamb Show, held in conjunction with the English Winter Fair at Stafford showground on November 19th & 20th. This is an ideal show for anyone who wants to come along either to watch or take part as it is all indoors and plenty of help is available if you are new to showing. There are classes both days, with the serious showing on the Saturday (to be judged by Tim Tyne) and then wool on the hoof and young handler classes on the Sunday, along with our charity fancy dress. On the Saturday evening we will again be booking a very large table at the wonderful Golden Orient restaurant and everyone is welcome to join us even if you are not attending the show. For full details please contact Karen Turnbull or check the events section on our regions website www.ryelandnwam.org

We had a wool and craft day planned for early September but sadly this had to be postponed until next year – hopefully it will take place in the Spring. Your committee will be meeting over the winter to plan events for 2023 which will cover some topics we have not featured before so look out for them on the website, our region's Facebook page and in the newsletters. Anyone who has ideas for events or who would be willing to host one please get in touch with me or any committee member.

Michele Varmen

Regional Chair

News From South East England

As members are aware, there is no longer a regional committee for the South East, but this column will continue to publicise and report on activities for members in the region.

Another enjoyable regional Zoom coffee morning took place on 9th July. Do consider dropping in virtually to one of these events, which take place for an hour or so on a Saturday morning every couple of months. It's an easy way to network with other members, and to obtain a selection of views on any burning sheep-related queries you may have!

By the time of publication of this article, Findon Sheep Fair on 10th September will have taken place. It is the only show in our region this year to have dedicated classes for both CRs and (for the first time), Ryelands, so we are hoping for a healthy number of entries to ensure the continuation of classes next year. A full report will follow in the next newsletter.

The regional marketplace lives on, and it works! Find or sell sheep (or equipment) without trekking to Wales by sending your advert (with photos if desired) to laura@swaynesfarm.net for publication in our next email bulletin to members.

Finally, if you want to find out about activities for members in the South East, or would like informal advice about Ryeland/CR matters such as shows or registration (always a popular one), email either laura@swaynesfarm.net or tonymoore@tmbdrv.plus.com and Tony Moore or I will do our best to help.

Laura Goldsmith

News from Scotland

It's been a summer of sunshine for shows in Scotland with great entries and some very strong competition. There are now 10 shows across Scotland that offer classes for Ryelands with four of them also offering classes for Coloured Ryelands.

Championship winners across the season were:

Ayr – Andrew Hunter Blair

Lesmahagow – Susan Bryden (Ryelands); Joanne Fisher (Coloureds)

Stirling – Janice Milne

Highland – Andy Frazier

Echt - Raymond Aitken

New Deer – Raymond Aitken

Turriff – Eilidh Garrett

Wigtown – David Mitchell (Ryelands); Susan Bryden (Coloureds)

Dumfries – Janice Milne (Ryelands); Ted Harrington (Coloureds)

The show season culminated at Kinross with the Scottish National Show which was judged by Philippa Gray who handed out the awards in both sections. Champion in The Ryeland section went to David and Annette Mitchell with the gimmer Mansel Bettyboop and in reserve was Janice Milne with the aged tup Red Sewell Zuperman. In the Coloured Classes, a gimmer from Susan Bryden, the supplementary-registered Broomwell Paisley, won the title and in reserve spot was also Susan Bryden with the ewe lamb Damson Brae Cover Girl.



Shown in the picture

Scottish title winners at Kinross: From the left Janice Milne (reserve Ryeland); David Mitchell (Champion Ryeland); judge Philippa Gray; Susan Bryden (champion Coloured); Lucy Kilpatrick for Susan Bryden, (reserve Coloured).

The following week there was an outing to the sale at Worcester for quite a few Scottish members with all the vendors' sheep selling and quite a few purchases heading back over the border on Saturday evening. One vendor had a breakdown on the way to the sale but 'Team Scotland' rallied round to make sure both sheep and their owners made it down the road (and back up again!).

The next event for Scottish members will probably have happened by time of publication – an open day at Stirling, courtesy of Janice and Russell at Keirhead which was including a talk by long-term friend of the group, SAC vet Caroline Robinson discussing the care of the in-lamb ewe from tugging to lambing.

Then in November, Scottish members will be invited to attend a winter lunch in Stirling where the points competition prizes will be awarded.

Yorkshire Regional Report

Here in Yorkshire the shows have been getting back to normal, with many shows all up and running again after covid. Both the Ryeland and Coloured Ryelands have been well represented. The GYS was excellent this year with the Ryelands and Coloured Ryelands shown on separate days, which was so much better. The Coloured Ryeland Champion went to Miss A Burton, Reserve to Mrs M Varman. The Ryeland Champion went to Mr A Frazier and the Reserve to Miss M Cook. A lovely display of

sheep through all the classes which were well attended - I am sure the judges had a tough time. Well done to the Champions and Reserves. Also well done to Pippa Welford for winning her age group in the young handlers; a great achievement. It was great to see quite a few of the young handlers with Ryelands or Coloured Ryelands.

Hospitality was enjoyed on both days after the show classes, with thanks to Gill and Tim Glover for providing an excellent spread of food.

The Yorkshire Region will be hosting the Judge training day in October, enquiries to Zoe Unwin and Jill Gray.

We are also running the flock competition during September, a good chance to get feedback on your flock.

The annual Autumn Lunch and awards presentation for the flock competition and the points trophies for 2022 will be held in November, details to follow.

Regards

Yorkshire Region Committee.

Fleece and Yarn Report



Jenny Hughes has kindly offered to be our Chairman for this group since she is a Council member and can present our views and reports. Thanks very much Jenny.

We continue to operate by keeping in touch by email and Zoom meetings and if our Committee can help any members who wish to exhibit goods or promote fleece at shows and exhibitions please do let us know.

Bettina Addington Smith did an eye catching display in the sheep lines at Royal Cornwall Show for which we thank her.

Fleece results -

- Well done to Tim and Gill Glover on winning Reserve Champion Fleece at **Stafford County Show** and the Silvester family Goodlife Ryelands for their second place fleece. (photo)
- The winners of the **Great Yorkshire** Fleece Competition were T & G Glover with their Ryeland fleece with Stephen Hipps in 2nd place and T & G Glover first with their Coloured Ryeland fleece, taking 2nd place too.

The winners of the Fleece Competition at **Dumfries show** were as follows :

Coloured section:

1. Sarah Whitaker.
2. Ricky Smyth

Fine and Medium class:

1. Pat Maddock, a Ryeland fleece who also won reserve champion.

It was great to see the Ryeland and Coloured Ryeland fleeces doing so well.

At the **National Show** at Tenbury there were 6 entries for the Fleece Competition. Jo Fisher took first place, winning the trophy for her Coloured fleece and Thomas Nash was second. Well done. Sadly there were no Ryeland entries so the trophy is retained until next year.



Sharing the Fleece tent was our Craft Tent, organised by Claire Weedall and manned by Pam Bateman with her spinning wheel and Judith with her peg loom. Together with woollen goods for sale the girls were very busy all day and we thank them for taking the time to demonstrate their skills.

We'd love to hear from you if you have any ideas you wish to promote.

If you have any queries or suggestions please contact Lin Whittall on Lin.whittall@googlemail.com to be directed to the appropriate member.

Finally - **British Wool directory**. This is from the Facebook site, Celebrating Small-holding UK Wool and Fibre who have given their permission for their list of Mills to be reprinted.

The information on the list about minimum weights accepted should be verified if you're using that Mill. And if information is incorrect or new mills start up do let the Facebook group know so they can update their list.

- Benridge Woolworks, Durham, hand spinning only, no minimum, <https://www.benridgewoolworks.co.uk/>
- The Border Mill, Scottish Borders, minimum 1 fleece, <https://www.thebordermill.co.uk/>
- Coldharbour Mill, Devon, no private orders, <https://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/>

- Curlew Weavers, Ceredigion, minimum 70kg as weavers specialists, <https://curlew-weavers-woollen-mill.business.site/>
- Diamond Fibres, Sussex, minimum 10kg for yarn, no minimum for carding, <http://diamondfibres.co.uk/>
- East Anglia Alpaca Mill, Norfolk, alpaca only, minimum 1 fleece, <https://eastangliaalpacomill.co.uk/>
- Europa Mills, Yorkshire, minimum 200kg, <https://www.europawools.com/>
- Halifax Spinning Mill, Yorkshire, minimum 30kg for yarn, minimum 1 fleece for carding, <https://www.halifaxspinningcompany.co.uk>
- Highland Wool, Sutherland, minimum 1 fleece, <https://thehirsell.com/highland-wool/>
- Islay Woollen Mill, Isle of Islay, no private orders, <https://islaywoollenmill.co.uk/>
- Jamieson of Shetland, Shetland, no private orders, <https://www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk/>
- John Arbon, Devon, no private orders, <https://www.jarbon.com/>
- Knockando, Moray, no private orders, <https://www.kwc.co.uk/>
- Laxtons, Yorkshire, possibly minimum 500kg, <https://www.laxtons.com/>
- Lilipop Mill, Staffordshire, minimum 1 fleece, alpaca only, <https://www.lilipopmill.com/>
- The Lost Sheep Company, Conwy, handspun, no minimum, <https://www.thelostsheepcompany.co.uk/>
- The Natural Fibre, Cornwall, minimum 10kg for carding, minimum 20kg for yarn, <https://www.thenaturalfibre.co.uk/>
- New Lanark, Lanarkshire, minimum 150kg, <https://www.newlanark.org/>
- North Ronaldsay Mill, North Ronaldsay, not sure about minimum, <http://www.northronaldsayyarn.co.uk/>
- Rampisham Hill Mill, Dorset, minimum 1kg, <https://www.rampishamhillmill.co.uk/>
- Shire Mill, Leicestershire, minimum 1kg, maximum 15kg, <https://www.shiremill.co.uk/>
- Two Rivers Mill, Dorset, minimum 10kg, alpaca only, <https://www.tworiversmill.com/>
- Uist Wool, North Uist, no private orders, <https://www.uistwool.com/>

Iceberg Diseases in Sheep

The term ‘iceberg diseases’ can be used to describe five chronic infectious diseases in sheep in the UK. These diseases are insidious in onset and spread, whilst having an increasing impact on productivity and welfare. Infection rates in affected flocks are often more prevalent than first meets the eye. The number of sheep showing signs of disease are often only the ‘tip of the iceberg’. Initially these diseases may

only cause subtle decreases in ewe performance, but eventually will result in increased cull/death rates. Ryelands are thought to be hardy but like any other breed they certainly are not immune to infectious diseases. There have been several confirmed cases of iceberg diseases in pedigree Ryeland sheep. Unfortunately, none of these diseases are treatable.

Maedi Visna (MV)

Presentation: Signs of disease may be subtle and variable. The virus can affect the lungs, causing pneumonia in adult sheep and deaths. In infected flocks there may be increased rates of mastitis, increased lamb losses and poor lamb growth rates (because of reduced milk production), poor fertility, and increased susceptibility to illnesses. There is also a neurological form of the disease. Only 25-30% of infected sheep will develop signs of illness, others may only have reduced productivity but will continue to spread the virus to others for the duration of their lives.

Spread: All ages of sheep are susceptible to infection. This virus is spread by nose-to-nose contact, aerosol droplets, milk, and colostrum. It can also be transferred on dosing guns and needles. MV can survive in the environment for up to 14 days. In 2010 the SRUC concluded that just under 3% of flocks were infected with MV, with significant regional variation. Of these flocks up to 84% of sheep were positive for MV. These figures are likely to be higher now. Data suggests that some sheep may be genetically less susceptible to MV but further investigation is still needed. Some flocks have achieved MV free accreditation, but a continued effort is required to maintain this status.

Testing: By blood sampling, good accuracy.

Johne disease

Presentation: Severe weight loss and sometimes 'bottle jaw' (fluidly swelling under the jaw). Unlike cattle, sheep do not usually scour with this condition.

Spread: This bacterium (*Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis*) causes disease in the intestines of infected sheep and is spread when it is ingested from faeces, milk or via placenta. Sheep may be infected from Johnes positive cattle. It is mostly contracted as a lamb, but signs of disease are not usually seen until adulthood (usually >2 years old). The bacteria can survive in water, slurry and soil for up to 4 years. There is a vaccine available in the UK (under veterinary prescription) that may be a useful control measure in individual flocks although it is only available under a special import licence.

Testing: This disease is hard to diagnose until the sheep is shedding infectious bacteria. Testing can be performed by blood sampling, or by testing faeces or milk, and (most-reliably) by post-mortem.

Ovine pulmonary adenocarcinoma (OPA)

Presentation: OPA, also known as 'Jaagsiekte' is a virus that causes cancerous tumours in the lungs. Infected sheep may breathe heavily, have a chronic cough that does not resolve with medication, have copious clear/white frothy (infectious) nasal discharge and eventual weight loss. Infected sheep are susceptible to *Pasteurella pneumoniae* because of their damaged lungs, and so may suffer sudden death without signs of prior illness.

Spread: This virus is mainly spreads by nose-to-nose contact, aerosol, and contaminated feed troughs. It can be spread in this way from ewe to lamb, but also via colostrum. Lambs and young adults are the most susceptible to catching this disease but will often not develop signs until around 3+ years old. It is thought that infected sheep are infectious to others for some while before they appear unwell. Abattoirs and fallen stock surveys report a prevalence of 0.9%-5.6%.

Testing: There is currently not a reliable screening method or blood test for this disease, making it a tricky condition to control. Specifically trained vets may be able to diagnose lung tumours by ultrasound of the chest. This method is not hugely accurate in the early stages and can give false-positive results. Cases must be confirmed by post-mortem. The 'wheelbarrow test' is a crude but fairly accurate test. If a sheep with OPA is picked up by the back legs so that the chest is raised higher than the head, copious amount of watery or frothy discharge may be seen draining from the nose. However not all infected sheep will be positive for this test, and they are usually only positive in the later stages of disease.

Border disease (BD)

Presentation: Higher than expected barren rates (>5%) or cases of still-born lambs. 'Hairy shaker' lambs – poorly grown, wobbly, rough coated lambs. BD suppresses the immune system so affected sheep will be more susceptible to other illnesses.

Spread: This virus is passed from the ewe to lamb if the ewe becomes infected during certain stages of pregnancy, but also from sheep to sheep via saliva, milk, semen, and aerosol. It is spread by the presence of a 'persistently infected' (PI) lamb, much the same as BVD in cattle.

Testing: By blood testing of lambs or ewes. Testing of aborted placenta.

Contagious lymphadenitis (CLA)

Presentation: A disease of sheep and goats that causes abscesses of the lymph nodes, classically either side of the jaw/neck, with thick pus. 25% of cases also have affected internal lymph nodes causing severe weight loss. Some sheep carry the disease without any signs.

Spread: This infectious bacteria (*Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*) is spread by contact with pus from the abscesses, via cuts and abrasions, or airborne route. Pus from abscesses can contaminate equipment and feed troughs, where infection can survive for up to 55 days. A survey in 2000 concluded that 18% of the 745 flocks sampled tested positive for CLA.

Testing: By blood testing.

Monitoring and Prevention

- Bought-in sheep are the most likely source for introducing new disease. Closely inspect and monitor all new sheep for signs of disease during a quarantine period.
- New animals may not show signs of illness until the later stages of disease. Consider testing new sheep for infectious diseases (as far as possible) before introducing them into your flock.
- Know the disease status of your flock. There is only limited value in testing incoming animals if the diseases are already present in your flock. There are sometimes regional grants to help with the cost of flock health testing - ask your vet!
- Be aware that disease can be picked up whenever there is mixing of sheep, e.g. sales, shows, common ground.
- Take steps to improve biosecurity on your farm, eg double fencing between neighbouring sheep.
- Analysis of production and performance records can be crucial for early warning signs of disease incursion.
- Separate and test sheep that lose condition despite adequate feed. Test or post-mortem.
- Perform post-mortems for sheep that die on farm, including cases of sudden death.
- Cull sheep that test positive for iceberg diseases (PI lambs in the case of BD). Do not keep lambs born from known positive ewes.
- Take care with feeding pooled colostrum to lambs.
- If you have positive cases your vet will be able to assist in formulating an action plan to reduce spread and hopefully eradicate disease from your flock.

Sophie Gumble, MRCVS

Great Yorkshire Show 2022

Results.

Judge: JR Morgan

Aged ram

1. M Pink
2. A and D Mitchell
3. A Burton

Shearling ram

1. A and W Frazier
2. A Burton
3. A and D Mitchell

Ram lamb

1. S Hipps
2. A and D Mitchell
3. M Cook

Breeding ewe

1. T Atkinson
2. Ellis family
3. A and D Mitchell

Shearling ewe

1. A and W Frazier
2. A Burton
3. A and D Mitchell

Ewe lamb

1. M Cook
2. T Atkinson
3. S Hipps

Pairs

1. A and D Mitchell
2. S Hipps
3. Ellis family

Group of three

1. S Hipps
2. Ellis family
3. A and D Mitchell

Male champion M Pink

Res A and W Frazier

Fem champion A and W Frazier

Res M Cook

Breed champion A and W Frazier

Reserve. M Cook

Ryeland National Show

Results

Judge: R Howell

Senior ram:

1. Jack Deakins
2. Alison Robinson
3. Ellis Davies
4. J R Morgan

Shearling ram:

1. Alison Robinson
2. Justine Williams
3. Morgan Family
4. P. Howells

Ram Lamb:

1. Morgan Family
2. Wright Family
3. Morgan Family
4. Steph Burton

Ewe Lamb:

1. Wright family
2. Morgan family
3. S & Z Unwin
4. Steph Burton

Shearling ewe:

1. Alison Robinson
2. Sian and Andy Owen
3. Morgan family
4. Hillary (Jack) Deakins

Pair of lambs

1. Wright family
2. Morgan family
3. Alison Robinson
4. S & Z Unwin

Female champion:

Alison Robinson (shearling ewe)

Male Champion:

Morgan family (ram lamb)

National Champion;

Alison Robinson (shearling ewe)

Reserve National Champion;

Morgan family (ram lamb)



Above:

Left to Right: Great Yorkshire Champion, bred and exhibited by Andy Frazier. Judge, JR Morgan and reserve Champion, bred and exhibited by Molly Cook

Below:

Left to Right: Royal Welsh Champion, from Russell & Angela Howell, Judge, Stephen Hipps, and reserve champion from Alun and Eleanor Parry,



Royal Welsh Show

Results

Judge: S Hipps

Aged Ram

- 1 Mr R Howell
- 2 Mrs H Deakins
- 3 Mr S Bradbury

Shearling Ram

- 1 N & E Morgan
- 2 Mr R Howell
- 3 Mrs A Robinson

Ram Lamb

- 1 N & E Morgan
- 2 Mr R Howell
- 3 Mr & Mrs S Unwin

Breeding Ewe

- 1 Justine Williams
- 2 A & E Parry
- 3 Mrs A Robinson

Shearling Ewe

- 1 Mr R Howell
- 2 Cellardyke Ryelands
- 3 Mr D Lewis

Ewe Lamb

- 1 A & E Parry
- 2 N & E Morgan
- 3 Mr R Howell

Group of Three

- 1 Mr R Howell
- 2 N & E Morgan

Male Champion:

A & E Parry

Res:

N & E Morgan

Female Champion:

Mr R Howell

Res:

Cellardyke Ryelands

Champion

M R Howell

Reserve

A & E Parry

Royal Three Counties Show

Results

Judge: J Webb

Aged Ram

- 1 Mr J Deakins
- 2 Mr M Pink
- 3 Mr T Wright

Stock Ram

- 1 Mrs K James
- 2 Mr T Wright
- 3 Dinedor Cross Farm

Shearling Ram

- 1 Mr J Williams
- 2 Mr & Mrs S Unwin
- 3 Mr M Pink

Ram Lamb

- 1 Mr T Wright
- 2 Mr J Williams
- 3 Mrs S Burton

Shearling Ewe

- 1 Mr J Deakins
- 2 Mr J Williams
- 3 Mr J Williams

Ewe Lamb

- 1 Mrs S Quigley
- 2 Mr T Wright
- 3 Mr J Deakins

Breeding Ewe

- 1 Mrs S Quigley
- 2 Mrs K James
- 3 Dinedor Cross Farm

Best Group

- 1 Mr J Williams
- 2 Mr J Deakins

Overall Champion

Mr J Deakins

Reserve

Mr T Wright

Royal Highland Show

Results

Judge: A Morgan

Aged ram (9 entries):

- 1 Janice Milne
- 2 Annabel Burton
- 3 E & J Henderson
- 4 D and A Mitchell

Shearling ram (10 entries)

- 1 A & W Frazier
- 2 Susan Bryden
- 3 J Williams & D Dickson
- 4 A Hunter Blair

Ram lamb (7 entries):

- 1 J Williams & D Dickson
- 2 Annabel Burton
- 3 James Arthur
- 4 E & J Henderson

Breeding ewe (9 entries):

- 1 Raymond Aitken
- 2 Susan Bryden
- 3 J T Atkinson, Cragg
- 4 A and D Mitchell

Shearling ewe (21 entries):

- 1 A & W Frazier
- 2 A and D Mitchell
- 3 Susan Bryden
- 4 J T Atkinson

Ewe lamb (14 entries):

- 1 J T Atkinson
- 2 A Hunter Blair
- 3 Susan Bryden
- 4 Susan Bryden

Champion:

Wendy and Andy Frazier

Reserve champion:

Janice Milne.

Stafford County Show

Results

Judge: A Parry

Shearling Ram

- 1 M Varmen
- 2 J Williams & D Dickinson
- 3 P Gray
- 4 J Williams

Aged Ram

- 1st H Deakins
- 2nd P Grey
- 3rd Goodlife Ryelands
- 4th S Sue Quigley

Shearling Ewe

- 1st J Williams & D Dickinson
- 2nd J Williams & D Dickinson
- 3rd S J Bryden
- 4th M Varmen

Ewe with lambs at foot

- 1st S J Bryden
- 2nd J Williams
- 3rd J Maguire
- 4th S Briggs & M Whitehurst

Ewe Lamb

- 1st S Quigley
- 2nd J Williams & D Dickson
- 3rd S J Bryden
- 4th P Gray

Ram Lamb

- 1st J Williams & D Dickinson
- 2nd T & G Glover
- 3rd J Williams
- 4th J Maguire

Group of Three

- 1st J Williams & D Dickson
- 2nd S Quigley
- 3rd J Williams
- 4th S J Bryden

Best Lamb

S Quigley

Champion: J Williams & D Dickinson

Reserve: M Varmen



Above: Royal Highland show champion - shearling ewe bred and exhibited by Andy & Wendy Frazier.

Below: Stafford Show Champions. Left to right: Reserve Champion exhibited by Michele Varmen, judge Alun Parry and Champion exhibited by Jack & Dominic Dickson.



Royal Bath and West Show Result

Judge: T Bradbury

Ram 2 shear and upwards.

1st Mrs Sarah Rennie

2nd Mrs Leanne Cross

3rd Mrs Sarah Rennie

Shearling Ram

1st Ms Channon Preece

Ram Lamb.

1st Mr Richard Wear

2nd Ms Channon Preece

3rd Mr Jack Warman

Ewe 2 shear and upwards.

1st Mr Jack Warman

2nd Mrs Leanne Cross

3rd Mrs Leanne Cross

Ewe Lamb .

1st Mr Richard Wear

2nd Mr Jack Warman

3rd Ms Channon Preece

Group of Three

1st Mrs Leanne Cross

2nd Mr Richard Wear

3rd Ms Channon Preece

Champion

Mr Richard Wear

Reserve

Mrs Sarah Rennie

Reprinted in Full: An edited version of this article was originally printed in the RFBS Spring Newsletter. South East England Report

Pre-Christmas quiz

On Saturday 4th December we held a pre-Christmas Zoom coffee morning with a sheep-themed quiz. Participants wrestled with questions relating to the breed standard, lamb

cuisine, and veterinary knowledge (what *does* that 'P' in Heptavac P stand for?). Fittingly, the victor's crown went to our vice chairman, but we all came away from the exercise more well-informed on ovine trivia, if not wiser.

Post-Christmas Social

Just when we had publicised a post-Christmas pub lunch for members in January, buoyed up by the success of our re-launch event in October, Covid struck again to blight our plans, this time in the form of the Omicron variant. The committee decided that it would be sensible to postpone the event until March, but in the light of subsequent events (below), it has now been cancelled.

Tony Moore: a big thank you

The Council meeting in January saw our regional vice-chairman, Tony Moore, making his final appearance as South East regional committee representative. On behalf of the regional committee and all our members, I would like to thank him for carrying out the role of representing our interests at Council and keeping us abreast of Society business. Tony's long and distinguished contribution to the running of the Society, of which many newer members may not be aware, also deserves recognition and thanks. Tony joined Council as one of the representatives to the Central and Southern Region in 2009, in the far off days when there were only four regions. In 2014 he became vice-chairman of the Society, then President in 2017 and chairman from 2017 to 2020, a term which was extended due to the pandemic. Thank you for all that you have done for the RFBS, Tony.

Resignations

Sadly, certain items of expenditure genuinely and reasonably incurred for our regional event in October which could not be supported by receipts were declined for authorisation by Council when a claim for reimbursement was made. Whilst this was in accordance with the Society rules for claiming expenses, most of the committee considered that there was nonetheless a discretion for the signatories to allow such expenses, and that it should have been exercised in this case. In consequence, five of the six committee members decided to register their dissatisfaction with the decision by resigning in mid January. However, we all remain happy to answer queries relating to members' sheep and to help with any 'for sale and wanted' enquiries.

In concluding, I would like to thank the committee members - Tony Moore, Jack Pritty, Hugo Stuttford, Erin Denness, and Annette Reid - for their stalwart support, enthusiasm and good humour since 2018 in the often challenging task of endeavouring to build an active regional group here in the South East.

Laura Goldsmith

Chairman

Note:

- *The term "Council" has been used under GDPR protocols to protect individual identities*
- *The expenses & expenditure policy is published in the flock books under Society rules for all members to review. The policy is clear in that all requests by members for reimbursement of expenses incurred for and on behalf of the Society must be supported by itemised receipts to provide transparent audit records. When this claim was submitted no receipt had been included to cover the cash transaction. As is always the case in such circumstance, a request was made to the claimant for a receipt to be obtained to allow the reimbursement to be duly made in accordance with Council policy. The claimant did not wish to approach the provider of the services to obtain a receipt, the claimant was advised that Council would therefore need to consider the claim and determine if it would apply discretion to vary its policy in this case, the signatories were not empowered by Council to vary the policy. Unfortunately, the committee was not prepared to wait for Council to discuss under an agenda item at its next opportunity and some members of the Regional Committee resigned. Council has subsequently reviewed its expenses and expenditure policy, added some clarity where necessary but has determined not to delegate discretion for the signatories to vary the policy. This revised policy will be published in the 2022 flock books but is obtainable from the office on request. Council fully endorsed the signatories for their actions in this case and confirmed that the claim was not in accordance with prevailing Society rules.*

Sale Report: Worcester 20.08.22

Solid trade at RFBS 2022 Sale.

This year there were increased entry numbers and averages held steady in an uncertain world. There were high clearance rates in all categories, particularly the Ryeland shearling ewes of which 91% sold.

The top price of the day was for a Ryeland ram lamb from the Pembroke flock of N Morgan, Crymych, Pembrokeshire. Pembroke Crusader, sired by Highwood Xerxes out of a homebred ewe, had taken the male championship earlier in the day, judged by R Morgan, Presteigne sold for 1500gns to P Tyler, Thirsk. The reserve male champion was a 2 year old ram from the Mansel flock of R & A Howell. Born and bred on the Gower Peninsula, Mansel Atlas, sired by Cagedale Woodman out of a homebred ewe, was sold for 1000 gns to Andrew Pye, Lancashire. The top priced shearling ram of the day was the winner of the novice breeder class, P Howells, Llandysul. Cardi Blanco, sired by Bryn Caffo Wali out of a homebred ewe, he sold for 900gns to the Bowen flock of T & I Roberts, Melling.

The demand for Ryeland females was solid, with a good average and high clearance rate. The top priced female of the day was the 2nd placed ewe lamb, from A Davies, Brecon based Catherton flock. This smart ewe lamb was sired by Pembroke Aled from a home bred ewe. She made 1050gns and makes the trip to Ayrshire to join the flock of A Scott. The female champion was the winning ewe lamb, choice of J Webb, Ashford Carbonel, bred by J & S Donovan, Whitland. This Dolwen ewe lamb, sired by Dolwen Young Uther, sold for 520gns to C Statton, Launceston. The top priced shearling ewe was the reserve champion, from R & A Howell. Sired by Cagedale Woodman, she will join D Evans, Pontarddulais, Garddwr flock.

Coloured Ryeland females saw a slight drop in the average and clearance rates but the trade was far from disappointing. The top price of the day went to the Coloured Ryeland female champion. Judged by P Gray, Halifax, Night Star Camilla, bred by T & G Glover,



Above: Champion male and top priced lot, Pembroke Crusader. Bred and exhibited by Neville Morgan and family. Sold for 1500gns to P Tyler, Springwater flock.



Above left to right: Ryeland Female Champion from J & S Donovan and Ryeland Male Champion from N & E Morgan

in flock of Rh Davies, who sold for 780gns to P Wills, Penzance.

Trade on the Coloured Ryeland males was steadier than in previous years, and the top price of the day in this category was a Cynin shearling ram from Rh Davies, Carmarthen. Sired by Siandy Xtraordinary out of a Pigscot ewe, Cynin Brenin made 900gns and will join the Black-a-licious flock of K & D Turnbull, Swadlincote. The Male Champion, choice of D Smillie-Gray, was from the Pigscot flock of S & A Tilling. Sired by Allerdale Yacky Da, out of a homebred ewe, Pigscot Brenin made 580gns

and goes to V Chadwick's Bluebell flock. The top priced ram lamb was also the reserve male champion. Ashley Moor Hall Commander, bred by Brodie Summerfield, Ludlow sold for 850 gns. Sired by the home bred tup Xbert, he also went to the Thirsk based flock of O Reade.

Auctioneers: McCartneys



Above: Top price Coloured Ryeland. Champion Female , Night Star Camilla. Bred and exhibited by T & G Glover, sold for 900gns to J Wood, Bacup flock

York, was also reserve Breed Champion on the day. Sired by Gracewood Xplorer out of a Yorvik ewe, sold for 900gns and will go to Bacup, Lancashire to join the Nene's flock of J Wood. Top priced shearling ewe from the Teme flock of J Webb. Placed second in the show and sired by Snelson Zorik, she sold to O Reade for 800gns. Also notable was the 4th placed ewe from the Cyn-



Below left to right: Coloured Ryeland Male Champion from S & A Tilling and Reserve from B Summerfield.

Averages: Top Price gns (average gns)

Ryeland Shearling Ewe: 800 (331)

Ryeland Breeding Ewe: 500 (251)

Ryeland Ewe Lamb: 1050 (396)

Ryeland Shearling Ram: 900 (486)

Ryeland Aged Rams: 1000 (547)

Ryeland Ram Lambs: 1500 (510)

C Ryeland Shearling Ewe: 800 (330)

C Ryeland Breeding Ewe: 380 (258)

C Ryeland Ewe Lamb: 900 (316)

C Ryeland Sh Ram: 900 (459)

C Ryeland Ram Lamb: 850 (381)

Worcester Sale Show Results

Ryeland Females:

Judge – J Webb

Shearling Ewe

- 1 R & A Howell
- 2 J Nugent
- 3 A Wright
- 4 J Williams

Breeding Ewe

- 1 A Wright
- 2 J Walker

Ewe Lamb

- 1 J & S Donovan
- 2 A Davies
- 3 A & E Parry
- 4 D Evans

Female Champion

J & S Donovan

Reserve

R & A Howell

Ryeland Males

Judge – JR Morgan

Shearling Ram

- 1 D Lewis
- 2 W Laurie
- 3 R & A Howell
- 4 J & S Donovan

Breeding Ram

- 1 R & A Howell
- 2 A Davies
- 3 A & G Pink
- 4 M Bedford

Ram Lamb

- 1 N Morgan
- 2 J Williams & D Dickson
- 3 C Mitchell
- 4 A & E Parry

Male Champion:

N Morgan

Reserve:

R & A Howell

Grist Statuette

- 1 J & S Donovan
- 2 R & A Howell

Coloured Ryeland Males

Judge: D Smillie-Gray

Shearling Ram

- 1 S & A Tilling
- 2 P Tyler
- 3 B Summerfield
- 4 J Walker

Breeding Ram

- 1 J Walker
- 2 S Read

Ram Lamb

- 1 B Summerfield
- 2 S & J Wright
- 3 A Swankie
- 4 S & A Tilling

Male Champion:

S & S Tilling

Reserve:

B Summerfield.

Coloured Ryeland Females.

Judge P Gray

Shearling Ewe

- 1 M Varmen
- 2 J Webb
- 3 M Varmen
- 4 R Davies

Breeding Ewe

- 1 J & L Whittall
- 2 J & L Whittall
- 3 A Swankie

Ewe Lamb

- 1 T & G Glover
- 2 B Summerfield
- 3 S Quigley
- 4 R Davies
- 5 S & J Wright
- 6 T & G Glover

Female Champion:

T & G Glover

Reserve:

M Varmen

Champion: S & A Tilling

Reserve: B Summerfield

Wool on the Hoof

- 1 A Swankie
- 2 J Carter

Coloured Ryeland News

Welcome to the autumn edition of Coloured Ryeland News. The adjacent photo shows the Bob Webb Trophy, which this year has been won by **Jack Deakins** of the **Orchard Heights Flock** – HUGE congratulations to you, Jack!



I would like to put out another plea to members for articles for inclusion in the newsletter. Unfortunately, my request on the RFBS Facebook group for volunteers for a member's profile went unanswered, so there will not be one in this edition. If you would like to feature in one in the future, please let me know. Have you created something fabulous with your Coloured Ryeland fleeces? ...If so, I would love to hear from you (contact details below). Please be aware that the deadline for submissions for the next edition will be 26/11/2022.

Holly Price

Coloured Ryeland Committee

Chairman

Carol Bateman 01874 636549

Vice Chairman

Andy McVicar 01686 621977

Committee Members

Steve Bradbury 01437 563312

S McVicar (Treasurer) 01686 621977

Joanne Fisher 07899 076651

Jordan Stone 01953 851943

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Claire Weedall 07539 195580

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Coloured Ryeland Newsletter Editor

Holly Price 07543424805

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The National Show – Tenbury (Craft Tent)

Claire Weedall has kindly supplied several photos from the craft tent at Tenbury for your perusal. She wished to pass on her thanks to Judith Gray and Pam Bateman for providing craft demonstrations throughout the day, and to Alison Robinson and Justine Williams for their provision of woolly items and their assistance. It was a very hot day, in a very hot tent, but all your help was much appreciated!

If any crafty members would like to reserve a table in the craft tent next year (to sell Ryeland/Coloured Ryeland items, wool, or fleeces), please contact Claire Weedall: Claireweedall095@btinternet.com



RFBS Annual Handicraft Show – 19th November 2022

The Craft Competition is back for 2022 and will once again be held online. Entries close on 12th November 2022 and will be judged by Dee Tippett.

Entries: 1 entry per person, per class, maximum of 2 good, clear photos per item please. Photographs to be emailed no later than 12th November to claireweedall095@btinternet.com. All exhibits must be exhibitors own work and have not previously been entered in competition.

ALL HANDICRAFT ITEMS MADE FROM RYELAND OR COLOURED RYELAND WOOL ONLY

Class 1. Any knitted item

Class 2. Any needle felted item

Class 3. Any wet felted item

Class 4. Any woven item

Class 5. Any other woolly crafted item not listed above

Class 6. Under 16's (please include age)

Class 7. Any sheep related DIY creation (just for fun)

The RFBS Young Handlers Competition!

This year the Coloured Ryeland Committee are delighted to announce that there will be a Young Handlers Competition.



The poster features a teal background. At the top left, a red speech bubble contains the text 'Junior Shepherd 5-9 years and 10-16 years'. The main title '2022 RFBS National Young Handlers Competition' is centered in white. Below the title, the text 'Points awarded from Qualifying Shows' is written in white, with 'From' in a smaller font. Underneath, it says 'REGISTER NOW TO LEARN MORE!'. Two photographs are included: one on the left shows a young boy in a white shirt and blue shorts standing next to a white sheep; one on the right shows three young handlers in white coats and hats standing with several sheep in a field. At the bottom, registration details are provided in white text.

Junior Shepherd
5-9 years
and
10-16 years

2022 RFBS National Young Handlers Competition

Points awarded
from
Qualifying Shows
REGISTER NOW TO LEARN MORE!

To register email entrants name and age to
Justine Williams for Ryelands (justinewilliams16@gmail.com)
and Joanne Fisher for Coloured Ryelands (je.fisher@aol.com)
adding the subject heading 'RFBS 2022 YH Entrant'

The regional qualifying shows are as follows:

Royal Norfolk	Martletwy
Edenbridge & Oxted	Royal Three Counties
Great Yorkshire	Cumberland
Dumfries	Royal Lancs
Ryedale	Royal Welsh
Findon	Royal Cornwall
Tendring	Devon
Tenbury National Show	Royal Cheshire
Stafford	Wigtown

Points are accumulated and calculated as follows:

10 points for first prize

8 points for second prize

6 points for third prize

4 points for fourth prize

2 points for fifth prize

1 point for highly commended

Prize to be declared as awarded by the show for the whole class, not limited to Ryeland/Coloured Ryeland exhibitors within the class

Rules for competitors

- Free entry! Limited to competitors who are members of the RFBS or close friends/family
- Entry for each age category is taken from 1st January 2022
- Competitors can enter any of the qualifying shows not limited to their own region's shows
- Competitors must abide by the rules of the shows entering the Young Handler classes, including the requirement that the handler must gain experience in handling their animal prior to the show and wear a white coat whilst exhibiting
- Points are accumulated from the placings of the Young Handler class and NOT the breed classes for each show
- The onus is on each competitor to notify Justine (Ryelands) or Joanne (Coloured Ryelands) of their placings at these qualifying shows by the end of September 2022
- Prize winners will be notified directly
- By entering, the competitor/their parents' consent to related publicity being made including a requirement to submit a photo and/or image which can be used in connection with the competition for RFBS publicity and social media announcements

- The failure to comply with any of the above rules may result in disqualification
- The RFBS decision on placings is final

The National Show – Tenbury (Show Results)

Well done to all competitors at this year's National Show at Tenbury, where the Coloured Ryelands were judged by Steve Gray. Here are the results from the Coloured Ryeland classes, supplied by Caz Bateman and Doreen Smillie-Gray:

National Champion - Zoe & Stephen Unwin (photo 1)

Reserve National Champion - Fisher and Hogarth (photo 1)

Male Champion - Aged Ram - Fisher and Hogarth

Reserve Male Champion - Ram Lamb - Brodie Summerfield

Female Champion - Shearling ewe - Zoe Unwin, also shortlisted in the inter-breed (photo 2)

Reserve Female Champion - Breeding ewe - Harry Watson (photo 2)

Aged Ram:

1. Fisher and Hogarth
2. Thomas Nash
3. Harriet Hunt
4. A J Robinson
5. Efrem & Carol Bateman
6. Thomas Nash
7. Jack Deakins

Shearling Ram:

1. Jack Deakins
2. Claire Weedall
3. A J Robinson
4. Rhydian Davies
5. Fisher and Hogarth
6. Claire Weedall
7. Jack Deakins
8. Thomas Nash
9. Jennifer Hitchman
10. Jennifer Hitchman

Ram Lamb:

1. Brodie Summerfield
2. Jack Deakins
3. Thomas Nash
4. Zoe & Stephen Unwin
5. Andy & Sue McVicar
6. Jack Deakins
7. Richard Whitticase
8. Claire Morgan
9. Steff Burton
10. Avena Parker

Ewe, two shear and over:

1. Harry Watson
2. A J Robinson
3. Fisher and Hogarth
4. Brodie Summerfield
5. Thomas Nash

6. Alison Anderson

7. Fisher and Hogarth

Yearling ewe:

1. Zoe & Stephen Unwin
2. Nick Webb
3. Brodie Summerfield
4. Jack Williams & Domonic Dickson
5. Andrew & Sian Owen
6. Andy & Sue McVicar
7. Jack Deakins
8. Jack Deakins
9. A J Robinson
10. Sara Williams

Ewe lamb:

1. Nick Webb
2. Zoe & Stephen Unwin

3. Rhydian Davies
4. Richard Whitticase
5. Jack Deakins
6. Brodie Summerfield
7. Katie Macdonald
8. Thomas Nash
9. Jack Williams & Domonic Dickson
10. A J Robinson

Group of three:

1. Claire Weedall who went on to receive Interbreed Reserve Champion GoT (photo 3)
2. Jack Deakins
3. Andy & Sue McVicar
4. Fisher and Hogarth
5. Zoe & Stephen Unwin
6. Thomas Nash

7. Rhydian Davies
8. Harriet Hunt
9. A J Robinson

Pair of yearling ewes:

1. Andrew & Sian Owen (photo 4)
2. Brodie Summerfield
3. Claire Weedall
4. Andy & Sue McVicar
5. Fisher and Hogarth
6. Harriet Hunt
7. Sara Williams
8. Thomas Nash

Pair of lambs:

1. Brodie Summerfield
2. Richard Whitticase
3. Fisher and Hogarth
4. A J Robinson

5. Thomas Nash
6. Jack Deakins
7. Simon Ridge
8. Zoe & Stephen Unwin

Novice member:

1. Thomas Nash
2. Simon Ridge
3. Katie Macdonald
4. Nancy York
5. Alison Anderson

Wool on the Hoof:

1. Claire Weedall (photo 5)
2. Sara Williams
3. Sara Williams
4. Fisher and Hogarth
5. Thomas Nash
6. Simon Ridge





Judge, Steve Gray, has kindly provided the following report on the show:

I would like to thank the Coloured Ryeland Committee for nominating me to judge this section at the National Show, Tenbury. It was a great honour, and I thoroughly enjoyed the day.

I got up on the 6th of August and what a grand morning it was - very excited about the day ahead, going to Tenbury Show to judge a few Coloured Ryelands, well how wrong was I... On arrival at the showground and having a coffee, we met my fellow judge Russell Howell who was judging the Ryelands. He was equally looking forward to his judging on the day. We then met up with my Stewards who were having a big job issuing numbers at the time. Once my first class came in, everything got into stride.

This first class was the Senior Rams and from the entry of 11, 7 appeared in the ring to be judged. Good quality rams forward and my job was quite easy. The following class was the Shearling Ram with an entry of 17. In this class 11 came forward to be judged and again good quality rams and I was getting into my stride in readiness for the large number of entries to come. The Ram Lamb class came into the ring and kept coming and coming, giving me two lines to judge - 23 lambs in total. Just a note for future, I would perhaps suggest exhibitors judge the lambs before they enter the show. However, the overall quality was still good which bodes well for the future.

Next it was time for the girls with the Breeding Ewe. Those forward had done the job of rearing lambs and were of good standard. My face must have been a picture when I saw all the shearling ewes come into the ring, an amazing 36 ewes! What a task this was to judge them as so many top-drawer ewes, if I had been a millionaire, I would have bought the lot what a sight!!! I take my hat off to the exhibitors for the quality presented to be judged as it was exceptional, but it is just another day at the office. It was no easy task to reduce the 36 to my 10 prize-winners. Ewe lambs were next on the list and 26 came into the ring, again these youngsters were of excellent quality.

Thank everyone again for bringing along their sheep, old and new members, and it will be a day to remember for a long time.

Notices for Members

2022 Year Letter: The year letter for lambs born in 2020 is C. Advance notice that for 2023, it will be D. If you still have 2021 born animals to register, please remember applications must be submitted before 31st October, otherwise late registration rules will apply. Please remember that it is not possible to register any animals, under any circumstances after the 31st October, 2 years following birth.

Next Council Meeting: The next meeting of Council will take place on 22nd October 2022. If you have any issues you would like Council to discuss, please contact the office by Wednesday 5th October.

Transfers of Ownership: Members are reminded that it is the responsibility of the vendor to transfer ownership of sheep on the Grassroots online system. When you sell animals, please make an effort to log in and submit a transfer. It only takes a few moments reduces hassle for new owners and saves a lot of work in the office, if you can do this. If you don't know the membership number of the purchaser, you can still submit the transfer, marking the new owner as S2022 or ZZZZZ.

HM Queen Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022



HM Queen Elizabeth II attended the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Nottingham. Here, she inspects some Ryeland sheep that have won prizes. Date: 1955