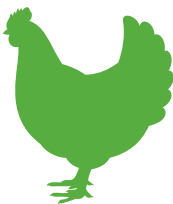


POULTRY DASHBOARD

October 2018 – September 2019

% of activity relevant to the Poultry sector:

22% POULTRY
ACTIVITY



328 BUSINESSES REGISTERED
with Farming Connect
are from the Poultry sector.

Demonstration Network

Red mite control in a free-range poultry unit

A Focus Site project on Wern Farm near Welshpool hosted a trial on the vaccine to control red mite. Red mite is a major issue in the UK layer industry; it can cause significant welfare issues to the birds and can result in an egg production drop of up to 25% and increased mortality rates.

The project assessed the current red mite situation on the farm through 'red mite traps' located within the unit. The 'Exzolt' vaccine was administered to the flock and the flock's performance was recorded. Red mite traps will continue to be monitored to indicate the number of red mites on the unit and the success of the vaccine.

Better biosecurity is key to reducing antibiotic use on Welsh poultry farms

Farming Connect hosted a series of events aimed at promoting responsible antibiotic usage on poultry farms. Specialist poultry vet Ian Jones, of the Hafren Veterinary Group, said strict on-farm biosecurity combined with vaccination will help Welsh egg and broiler producers continue their remarkable downward trend in antibiotic use. Poultry producers can have some influence on safeguarding humans against antimicrobial resistance by continuously reviewing biosecurity at all stages of production and by adopting disease management practices.

Pig and Poultry Event

Farming Connect, working in collaboration with Menter Moch Cymru, arranged Wales' first ever sector-specific one-day 'Pig and Poultry' event in June 2019. The morning session focused on poultry while the afternoon session focused on pigs.

Speakers included:

- Nathan Ward, Business Unit Director (Meat, Fish and Poultry) at Kantar; provided an overview on shopper and consumer market trends.
- Ian Jones, vet and poultry specialist from Hafren Vets
- David Hodson, poultry specialist from Rosehill Agricultural Trading
- Osian Williams, an egg producer; provided an update on the 'Controlling red mite in poultry units' project he is hosting as a Farming Connect Focus Site.

"Very good to learn about immunity."

"Learnt a lot about red mite and vaccines."

"Great event. We need to know more about our industry."



Click [here](#) or the TV screen to watch event highlights.

KE Hub

The following technical articles have been produced by the KE Hub:



USE OF MEMBRANE FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE AGRICULTURAL POLLUTION



THE USE OF THERMAL IMAGING TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Discussion Groups



3 POULTRY
DISCUSSION
GROUP MEETINGS

held with



35
ATTENDEES

Case Study

North Mont Poultry Discussion Group – Making the most of your energy

Back in June, the Poultry Group invited Chris from Westflight, an energy company in Mid Wales, to attend their meeting to review their current energy bills and provide advice and tips on how they can make cost savings. At the meeting, each member of the group brought their most recent energy bill so Chris could provide feedback and advice.

Chris then went through a presentation that informed the group members of what the different elements of the bill meant. The key thing for businesses is to be on the correct tariff. All businesses, apart from one, were on the correct tariff; the one business was on a tariff that had high charges so Chris advised the business what and how to change to the correct tariff to save costs.

Chris then noted the importance of measuring and recording electricity usage on an ongoing basis to ensure the business/es are being as efficient as they can be. The four key areas to focus on are:

- Total annual consumption
- Consumption per enterprise
- Consumption per stock unit
- Energy costs as a percentage of farm costs

After explaining how the national grid operates and how demand is met, Chris moved on to renewable energy, explaining that although FITs are now a thing of the past, installing renewable energy should be a viable option for every high energy consuming business such as poultry farms. With installation prices tumbling and electricity prices rising, renewable energy is again a viable, if not essential, option for farmers to look at.

Finally, data from the Farming Connect Focus Site, Trebared Farm, Cardigan were shown, with Chris outlining the 'Integrating renewable energy into a dairy farm' project and the fact that due to installation mistakes relating to connecting 3 phase wind turbines to single phase dairy equipment, the business was buying in electricity when they didn't need to, while at the same time exporting up to one third of their energy generation.

Since installing the renewables and ironing out initial problems, the business has halved its energy bills.

Strategic Awareness Events

114 Events Held

Key topics included:

WATER
MANAGEMENT
OPTIONS



FARMING FOR
THE FUTURE



*Strategic Awareness Event themes are often cross-sectoral that tend to attract farmers from all sectors.

Surgeries

129 Surgeries Held

Key topics included:



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SURGERIES

DIGITAL BUSINESS REVIEWS SURGERIES

PLANNING SURGERIES


SUCCESSION SURGERIES

MARKETING AND DIVERSIFICATION SURGERIES


A poultry business attended a Marketing and Diversification Surgery, wanting to discuss the option of selling multi-species poultry eggs, herbs, cut flowers, soft fruits, and asparagus to local markets and businesses. The business also wanted to discuss the possibility of opening the farm to youth groups for agricultural introduction and experience.

Mentoring


We have 4 Poultry Mentors on the framework




Click here for **Brian's profile**



Click here for **Helen's profile**



Click here for **Malcolm's profile**



Click here for **Mark's profile**

A further 2 mentors have Poultry experience
4% of mentees are being mentored on poultry issues (many include new entrants to poultry)



RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL POULTRY UNIT



DIVERSIFYING INTO EGG PRODUCTION



IMPROVING HEALTH AND SAFETY ON POULTRY SITE

Agrisgôp

58 MEETINGS HAVE BEEN RELATED TO THE POULTRY SECTOR

Some examples of group themes:



Pullet rearing



Farm and countryside education



Alternative uses of poultry manure



Poultry farm visit

Management Exchange

Sarah James' Management Exchange

Topic: Alternative Uses of Poultry Manure

Countries: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and The Netherlands

After diversifying into free-range egg production, Sarah became aware of the increasing issues with the disposal of poultry production waste litter and manure. With a growing need to find alternative uses to turn this waste product into an asset and add a further income stream, she decided to explore this further through the Management Exchange programme.

Click [here](#) to read Sarah's report.

Llŷr Jones' Management Exchange

Topic: Reducing Ammonia Levels in Free Range Units

Countries: Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and The Netherlands



Whilst applying for a second poultry shed on his farm, Llŷr became aware that ammonia levels produced in agriculture were high. He decided to look into what was the best practice to reduce ammonia levels but also maintain the same production level.

Click [here](#) to read Llŷr's report.

Training

There have been four application windows between October 2018 and September 2019 with 808 instances of training delivered during this period. Of this number, 42 instances were from businesses including Poultry as their primary or sub- sector:



BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT

8

INDIVIDUALS TRAINED



TECHNICAL TRAINING

20

INDIVIDUALS TRAINED



MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT USE


14

INDIVIDUALS TRAINED


E-learning

Some of the e-learning courses completed within this period relating to the Poultry sector:


INJURIOUS PECKING IN LAYING HENS



MANAGING POULTRY MANURE



POULTRY PARASITES



For more information on e-learning, please visit the [website](#).