



Livestock

Our Farms



10 livestock farms have joined the network, increasing the total to **25 farms**

Number of projects:



6 focusing on improving animal health and welfare



5 focusing on livestock nutrition



2 focusing on **genomics** within dairy herds

Best Practice Showcase Farms:
Dairy farm expects £15,000/month feed savings by starling-proofing sheds

Try Out Fund:

3 Try Out Fund projects focusing on animal health & welfare, performance recording and the role of agri-tech in livestock management.



Masterclasses



8 Masterclasses including 'Optimising Parasite Control in Sheep' and 'Alternative Forages for Dairy and Beef'.

55

attendees supported

Benefits businesses reported that they will see on farms after attending include: Reduced external inputs | Increases productivity | Reduce environmental impacts | Improve animal health and welfare

Agrisgôp



9 Agrisgôp meetings have taken place:



58 total attendance of Agrisgôp meetings during this period



26 hours spent at Agrisgôp meetings during this period

One Agrisgôp group is addressing cattle mobility through the sharing of knowledge, ideas and most importantly, practical changes that can be implemented on-farm to address lameness challenges.

Discussion Groups



61 discussion group meetings completed

524

attendees



138 hours of knowledge transfer

Discussion Topics:

Lambing systems and feeding diet | Body condition scoring | Importance of FEC testing | Quarantine and biosecurity measures | Reducing the risk of diseases | Identification and treatment of lameness | Cow comfort

Knowledge Exchange Hub



2 Literature reviews during this period:

Control of Starlings on Farm

Red clover over tugging

Mentoring



80 Individuals



265 mentoring sessions

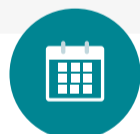


307 hours



68% of all mentoring sessions have been related to Livestock this period

Shows



Some of the shows that Farming Connect attended during this period to encourage engagement with livestock farmers were:

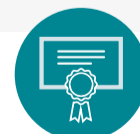


Welsh Dairy Show



Royal Welsh Winter Fair

Strategic Awareness Events



19 Events

275

attendees

Some examples of events: Feeding the modern dairy cow with 2023 silage – how to get more for less | Importance of Nutrition in Sheep

Accredited Training



24 individuals were supported in this period



23 businesses were supported



323 hours of training were delivered

Popular courses included:

Course	Individuals Supported
DIY AI	10
First aid for Feet (Cattle)	10
Safe Use of Vet & Med	2

Feedback from Individual Supported:
 "The training facilities and the delivery of the course was excellent." (Safe Use of Sheep Dip)

E-learning



105 individuals completed e-learning modules

67 businesses were supported

Popular courses included:

Course	Individuals Supported
Artificial Insemination	40
Cattle Lameness	23
Blowfly Strike	3

69 courses are now available on BOSS

Advisory Service



Instances of advice delivered:

9

Animal Health Plans

20

Specialist Veterinary advice

2

Technical Livestock advice

Customer Feedback:
 "Useful service to have an annual animal health review with our own vet practice."
 "Fantastic report and advice given."
 "Just what was needed / Very useful."

Animal Health and Welfare



30

Workshops delivered covering 15 topics

425

Individuals supported

230

Business supported

Popular workshop topics included:

Workshop topic	Individuals supported
Parasite Control in Cattle Part 2 – Liver Fluke, Protozoa & Ectoparasites	89
Sheep Parasite Control Part 2: Sheep Scab, Lice and Liver Fluke	74
Parasite Control in Cattle Part 1 – Roundworms & Ectoparasites	51
Feeding the Flock for Optimal Performance	34
Preparing for the Sustainable Farming Scheme: Animal Health Improvement in your Beef Herd	29
Antibiotic Resistance	28
Sheep Lameness	26

Welsh Sheep Genetics Programme



Knowledge transfer events delivered during this period included the following topics:

Topics	Events delivered	Attendees
Marketing your rams	1	17
Improving flock health	3	25
Introduction to performance recording	3	39
Breeding for reduced methane emissions	1	10

Projects underway within the programme include: **breeding for worm resistance** and **breeding for reduced methane emissions**.

