

THE WOOL PRESS

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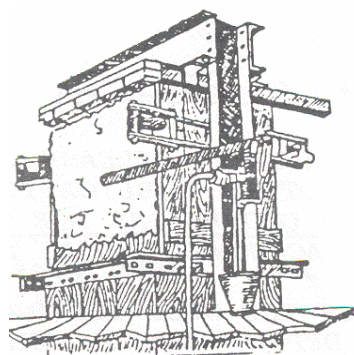
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Edited By Teenie Ross

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EDITORIAL

For those of you who I have not yet seen, happy new year! Welcome to the latest edition of the wool press.

2017 is a variable season in the Falklands in terms of rainfall and pasture growth. Sue Street has an excellent article on managing grazing of reseeds and greens to optimise both animal performance and pasture growth.

Wool prices continue to remain high, on account of a buoyant market and low exchange rates in the wake of Brexit. Michael Betts has written an article on a project that FIDC are leading to identify ways of adding value to Falkland Islands Wool. As a key part of the project Michael Blake and Mark Rodda from Australia will be visiting in the week commencing 13th February. I would encourage everyone to attend one of the workshops being held at Goose Green and Fox Bay during their visit.

I had the pleasure of attending and judging the Fox Bay Ram and Fleece Show over the Christmas break and was extremely impressed with the quality of fleeces and rams (and lambs) put forward, I noticed a marked improvement in the quality of fleeces compared to the 2015 show. Full credit goes to the organisers of the Show (past and present) and to all those who entered fleeces and rams. It's pleasing to see the influence that improved genetics, both through the National Stud Flock and individual farm AI programmes, are having on the quality of wool produced in the Falklands. The article written by Nigel Knight on the history of the NSF gives a great insight into the efforts undertaken in the past to improve our genetics. It goes to show that anything is possible when the right people receive the support they need; I'm looking forward to 'Part 2' of Nigel's article in the next edition of the Wool Press.

Regi has written a great article on events at Saladero over the past few months. This year we achieved 78% lambing, the best since 1999 and the highest number of lambs ever born within the National Stud Flock (>700)! While seasonal conditions at Saladero have been favourable, it's fair to say that the feeding of lupins and iodine supplementation may have helped and will continue to be explored next season.

The coming months remain busy with East and West Sports (programmes inside), the Saladero Ram Sale (10th March) and the RBA Show (1st April) keeping the diary full.

We've almost finalised recruitment for the Saladero manager's position as well as the veterinarian and agronomy posts. I look forward to updating you more on our new staff members in the next edition of the Wool Press

Adam Dawes
Senior Agricultural Advisor

For Sale

Saunders Island has for sale good quality heifers. Various breeds & ages.
More information contact Tel. 41298 or e-mail saunders@horizon.co.fk

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GRAZING FOR OPTIMAL PLANT GROWTH / PASTURE YIELD

By Sue Street

Grazing pastures such as valley greens and re-seeds such as ryegrass and oats is not just a great way to feed livestock, but when done correctly, grazing helps to optimise plant growth and maximise recovery rate of the plant.

Optimising pasture yield is achieved by grazing plants when they reach a height corresponding to a high point in energy reserves, then grazing the pasture to a height in which removes much of the forage but leaves adequate residual leaf for the plant to grow again. Certain plants can cope with heavy, continuous grazing during their growing period. These plants are able to maintain some leaf for photosynthesis even when grazed very short, and hence are able to survive, while other species plants are less resilient to heavy continuous grazing.

So how can you measure and manage pasture for optimal plant growth? There are many different methods used, such as pasture rulers, rising plate meters, electronic pasture probes and photo standards, but a good pair of elastic sided boots can be used as a good 'rule of thumb' for pasture assessments.

For example if you wanted to graze both cattle and sheep on a pasture the general rule of thumb is as follows:



If you would like more anymore information on how to optimize grazing for plant growth, please get in contact with either myself on ssstreet@doa.gov.fk or Adam Dawes on adawes@doa.gov.fk.

AN OLD REMEDY - WILL WE HAVE TO RESORT TO IT IN THE FUTURE?

By Zoe Fowler

While having a sort out of some of the neglected (and outdated) books in the DoA library some time ago I came across a small booklet entitled 'Diseases and Pests Affecting Sheep – and how to cure and prevent them'. This was obtained by the Grasslands Trials Unit in Jan 1979 but sadly there was no date in the leaflet to say when it was first published. I reckon it was some time ago

as there is no mention of antibiotics but I suspect that is because Cooper, McDougall and Robertson Ltd were specialists in producing such remedies as Terebene Balsam (antiseptic), Coopers worm tablets (for sheep) and Kerol ('the guaranteed disinfectant'), not to mention something called Improved Lavene (a horse and cattle dressing). I often marvel at the development and discoveries that have been made over the years in medicine and am certainly relieved that we don't have to rely on the following treatment that was noted for Pneumonia in sheep in the booklet:

Treatment: keep warm and give the following in a cupful of linseed tea

Sweet spirits of Nitre.....2 drachms.

Whisky or Gin.....2 tablespoons

Repeat in 6 hours if not better

Of course for true bacterial pneumonia it would be unlikely that this remedy ever worked and these days we'd use an intramuscular injection of antibiotic and have the gin ourselves (plus I have no idea what a drachm. is so I'm no help with this anyway). A frightening thought, however, is that if the 'antibiotic apocalypse' that is predicted does occur, will we have to resort to potions and prayer for some previously easily treatable conditions?

In the news this week an American woman died due to a bacterial infection in her hip (from sustaining a broken leg in India). The bacteria that was isolated was *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and it was resistant to everything – even the 'last chance' antibiotic Colistin. A reason, if you ever needed one, to use antibiotics prudently.

The Thirtieth West Falkland Ram & Fleece Show 2016 Report

**By Keith and Nuala Knight
Organisers WFR&FS**

Wednesday 28th December 2016 dawned under a clear blue sky and very little wind on West Falkland. This glorious daybreak provided even more encouragement to the residents and visitors to Fox Bay Village, who were once again anticipating a good day out and were not to be disappointed.

Keith, Nigel, Justin and Adam had already been working hard transforming the Woolshed prior to the event. In the morning Keith, ably assisted by Adam, Lisa and Harold were there to take entries. Some of the fleeces had already arrived by FIGAS, but all rams and most fleeces were delivered on the day. As usual they started as a trickle but it soon became quite hectic as the deadline for entries approached.

Once the entries were all in, Adam Dawes and Susie Hansen set about the daunting and onerous task of selecting the Fleeces having



the highest estimated commercial value. Once this was complete, the next task was to select, from all the rams that were entered in the three ram classes, the two they considered to be the champion ram and reserve champion.

A total of sixty-nine fleeces from fourteen farms and thirty-seven rams from six different farms were exhibited this year. All the entries had been carefully selected from tens of thousands of fleeces and hundreds of Rams, every one was a credit to its owner.

By now the barbecue, which had already been



set up by Justin and Harold using the usual gas fired barbeque pits was in full swing. In addition to the usual fare Nuala had made punch and cooked cakes especially for this special year. This fortified all those that intended judging the three classes of rams and the three classes of fleeces, as well as the additional competitions which now awaited them in the sheep holding areas of the woolshed.

As well as the usual ram classes this year there was a pet lamb class which proved very popular.

Once judging was complete the time consuming job of counting up the judging slips took place. The sheep used in the fleece weight competition was then skilfully shorn of its fleece by Scott and both the fleece and the sheep were then weighed. The fleece weight, sheep weight and micron guess competition produced some very accurate results.

At 5.30pm, a good crowd once again assembled in the woolshed for the prize giving. MLA Edwards, in his capacity as spokesperson for MLA's, gave a short history about the thirty years of the Ram and Fleeces Show. It was good to see all Camp MLA's in attendance.

This year's prizes were once again presented by H.E. the Governor who had flown to Fox Bay especially for the event. Special thanks to Captain Clarke and the FIGAS staff back in Town for making this possible.

There were, as usual, some excellent trophies and cash prizes for the winning entries.



Special mention must go to our various sponsors, most of whom have generously and loyally supported the Ram & Fleece Show for many years.

The Prize-giving brought this years show to a close, after which the focus of attention now moved back again to the Social Club for more socialising until late that night.

As usual the Southern Cross Social Club Committee did an excellent Job of quenching the thirst of the visitors at the bar. This brought to an end another successful Ram and Fleece Show.

Please see page 16 & 17 for the results.

ADDING VALUE TO FALKLANDS WOOL

By Michael Betts

In the pursuit of applying for grant funding from the Overseas Countries and Territories Association of the European Union under its 'Territorial Strategies for Innovation' project, FIDC held an Innovation Workshop in October 2015. The aim of this workshop, which was attended by over 40 individuals from the public and private sectors, was to better understand the opportunities for and constraints of innovation in the islands. The results of the workshop formed the Falkland Islands Innovation Strategy, which was approved by Executive Council in March 2016, but it also helped identify an opportunity for Falkland businesses that would become the FIDC Innovation Pilot Project.

The workshop identified a lack of information that prevented businesses from making strategic decisions regarding options to add value to their product, namely Falklands' wool, meat, and fish and squid. This lack of information was summarised into three areas; (1) unsure of the value adding opportunities, (2) unsure of new markets to sell to, and (3) unsure of the potential barriers preventing Falklands' products being sold in the newly identified markets (as identified in 2). The focus, however, is the first point – value adding opportunities. The project considers this as carrying out an activity that increases the selling price of a product by adding value in the eyes of the customer or consumer. This could involve processing, marketing, accreditation, certification, training, traceability, etc. Variations of this have been looked into and carried out in the past in the Falklands, from wool mills to processed Falklands' fish, so the idea is not new.

However, what is new with this project is its intended outcome, which is to provide publicly available reports that present detailed analysis and recommendations regarding the commercially viable and realistic value adding opportunities for Falklands' wool, meat, and fish and squid. These reports will provide credible information for stakeholders to make informed and strategic decisions regarding their future direction. The project has been split into four parts; value adding opportunities for Falklands' (1) wool, (2) meat, (3) fish and squid, and (4) the development of an international marketing strategy for Falklands' products.

The first part of the project to be looked at is Falklands' wool and FIDC have appointed highly

<p>Michael Blake Michael has 25 years' experience in the global wool industry working with Chargeurs, BWK Elders, Elders Limited, Elders Primary Wool (NZ) and Michell Wool. Michael has extensive and deep knowledge of the global wool supply chain and has strong relationships with major operatives in the downstream processing and marketing of wool products around the globe.</p>	<p>Mark Rodda Mark has 15 years' experience with wool brokering, handling and selling. GM wool for Elders, the largest wool broker/handler in the world, and currently working with Australia Wool Innovation leading wool selling innovation. An Agribusiness Executive experienced in managing relationships with farmers across diverse agricultural industries through to Directors of Boards.</p>
<p>Dennis Wignall Dennis has 30 years' experience in Australian agriculture with a focus on industry research, supply chain management, and financial analysis. Dennis spent eight years consulting to Bremer Woll-Kämmerei (BWK) and two years as a director of Australian Wool Handlers.</p>	<p>Craig Finlay Craig has 20 years' experience in the Australian wool industry and CEO of Australian Wool Handlers for 14 years up to 2015. Craig has deep experience in wool preparation, testing, handling and marketing and is the subject matter expert in relation to raw wool handling, processing and logistics.</p>

experienced and qualified consultants after a competitive tender process to undertake a study to identify value adding options, new and niche markets, and the logistical export challenges for Falklands' wool. The consultants are Michael Blake, Mark Rodda, Dennis Wignall and Craig Finlay, and are based in Australia. The biographies of the consultants can be found below. Each member of this team brings a wealth of experience in differing areas of the wool industry, however all four have significant experience in wool value adding.

Michael Blake and Mark Rodda will be in the Falklands for a weeklong visit from the 11th February to carry out onsite research into Falklands' wool and its industry. The aim of their visit is to meet with a diverse range of wool stakeholders to fully understand the workings of the Falklands' wool industry. The aim is to hold open workshops with all interested wool producers and stakeholders on East and West Falkland. Dates and locations for these workshops will be announced once they have been confirmed.

If you would like to know more about this project or would like to take part in it, please contact Michael Betts at FIDC (telephone: 27211 or email: mbetts@fidc.co.fk).

Rural Development Strategy Update

By Andrew Crighton, Rural Energy Advisor



All members of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation, our Strategic Partners and the RDS steering group have been working hard over the last twelve months in close relationship with the rural business community to assist in the development of rural businesses. This approach has proven successful, with significant achievements across the different projects. The work that has been carried out in the last twelve months includes amongst others, Business Advice and Mentoring, Training Courses, Energy Advice, Waste Management Advice and Conservation Advice. In the last twelve months FIDC and their Strategic Partners have worked with over 70% of the Rural Businesses and have carried out site visits at almost 40% of these. This work has been well received as surveys show that 89% of customers were satisfied or very satisfied with the advice and support they have gained.

To aid the development of Rural Businesses, funding and other forms of support are available through FIDC, and we would be delighted to help you develop your Business or Energy project.

The RDS Action Plan 2014-2017 is now in its last six months and will be reviewed, in relation with the on-going review of the Economic Development Strategy, before proposals for the new RDS Action Plan are put forward.

Please note the upcoming business events that might be of interest to you:

- Customer Care Training Course and other business related courses;
- Rural Energy Partnership Project Case Studies Launch;
- Horticulture Project.

Contact Details

If you would like to speak to our friendly and knowledgeable team about an upcoming event, a business project or an energy project, FIDC would be delighted to help. Call in the FIDC office in Stanley, call us on 27211 or email info@fidc.co.fk.

NATIONAL STUD FLOCK, 25 YEARS OF PROGRESS PART 1

By Nigel Knight

In the early hours of Wednesday 8th January 1992 an Antonov 124 Airplane landed at MPA.

This plane had just completed an almost 20 hour flight from Hobart, Tasmania to the Falklands.

On-board were 500 ewes and 25 Polwarth rams which would form a nucleus National Stud Flock (NSF). In addition to this flock were 85 privately purchased sheep of various breeds.

The total cost of importing the NSF was £240,809. However, the General Manager of FIDC, in his letter to farmers on 18th June 1991, made this important comment, quote: "all the evidence from the Wool Markets, even during these difficult times, is that in the 25-30 micron range, wool values increase by 10p/kg for each one micron decrease. A reduction of two micron in the 25-30 micron range in the National Flock would increase the annual income by £350,000", unquote.

The arrival in the Falklands of the NSF was the culmination of almost four years work by a small number of dedicated individuals who received little credit for their efforts.

The idea of a NSF was not new, in fact the concept of a pool of genetic excellence was proposed and achieved by Monroe in 1924. Regrettably, it was reported as being short lived and having little success.

The present scheme found fruition at the 1988 Farmers Week meetings when it was decided to set up a Pedigree Sheep Breeding Company. Elected to the committee were: N. Knight (Chair) with D. Donnelly, J. Forster and R. Bain from A.R.C. (Agricultural Research Centre) as members. At the inaugural meeting of the Farmers Association (FA) on 14th December 1988, N. Knight proposed that the Sheep Breeding Association should be affiliated with the F.A. The name was also changed to the Falkland Flock Improvement Association (FFIA) to better reflect its aims.

This committee set about canvassing all farms

to get feedback on their views on flock improvement. The results from this initiative led to the group obtaining funding from FIDC to set up an Individual Sheep and Flock Summary recording system. This system and a proposal, titled "The Best Way Forward for the Wool Growing Industry" was presented to farmers during Farmers Week on the 5th July 1990 by N. Knight.

As a direct result from this the Farmers Association booked the town Hall on 25th September 1990 for a meeting to discuss a NSF to which all farmers were invited. It was the unanimous view of all present (35 Farmers) that to remain competitive and try to increase income for future years, a National Stud Flock of Polwarth sheep should be set up as soon as possible. Subsequently a National Stud Flock committee of farmers was appointed. These were N. Knight (chair) J. Forster, D. Donnelly, N. Pitaluga, R. Hall (Wool Advisor DoA.) J. Summers (Secretary, FA).

Their remit was to establish a NSF of Polwarth sheep, this required organising and securing funding for the purchase, selection, quarantine, transportation, lease of land, infrastructure and equipment and the management of the NSF for the first 5 years. They were also asked to arrange the purchase, selection, quarantine and transportation of private sheep importations at the same time.

It should be noted that a NSF could be established by a number of methods; selective breeding with existing Falkland flocks, the import of rams from outside the F.I., artificial insemination, embryo transplant and the import of breeding stock.

Two papers on the NSF were discussed by Exco in May and July of 1991. These were followed by a further paper on the 16th August 1991.

In this latest paper, ExCo were asked to consider establishing a NSF by;

- 1) Various sized imports of live sheep - 6 main options

- 2) Various sized imports of frozen embryos
- 2 main options

Council agreed to the purchase of 500 stud ewes and 25 rams, all Polwarth, to comprise the NSF and 85 private purchases on behalf of a number of Falkland Farmers.

It should be recognised that although the initiative for a NSF was farmer led we did receive substantial support from FIG's recently created Department of Agriculture. Director, Owen Summers and Department staff, in particular Robert Hall (Wool Advisor) and Andrew Henworth (Agricultural Economist) provided a wealth of supportive information at this crucial time.

Shortly after this decision was reached in October 1991 Robert Hall, Bill Luxton and Pat Short flew to Tasmania to select the sheep.

Work continued on site selection and a management contract. Six sites were shortlisted with Swan Inlet being the favourite. Negotiations with the land owners, FIC, were progressing well but then FIC sold all their farms to FIG. This transfer of land to government should have made the site at Swan Inlet easier to procure but unfortunately, the ensuing debate about the suitability of Swan Inlet clouded judgment and it was soon dropped as an option. Sea Lion Island and Burnside then became the front runners.

At an ExCo meeting on 17th September 1991 it was agreed that the NSF site should be Sea Lion Island and would be managed by Falkland Landholdings which was the company set up to run the FIC farms purchased by government. Ownership of the NSF would remain with FIG and the Department of Agriculture would have overall responsibility for the flock.

In a final twist, four days before the NSF were due to leave Tasmania, the Department of Agriculture in Stanley were contacted by the Department of Primary Industries in Tasmania to report that there had been an outbreak of orf in the quarantined sheep destined for the Falklands. High level meetings with top officials and councillors in Stanley decided to delegate the question of whether to accept the infected animals or not to the Director of Agriculture. This, in my opinion, was very unfair and was a decision that councillors themselves should have made, with advice from the Director of Agriculture.

As we now know, the shipment went ahead and the sheep arrived in the Islands on 8th January 1992. After being unloaded they were moved to Mare Harbour overland where a further few days' quarantine they were loaded onto M.V. Monsunen and shipped to Sea Lion Island, this shipment also included the privately purchased animals.

Dates for the Diary

<i>14th February</i>	<i>Valentines Day</i>
<i>27th Feb –3rd March</i>	<i>Sports Week programmes on page 12</i>
<i>28th February</i>	<i>Shrove Tuesday</i>
<i>10th March</i>	<i>Department of Agriculture Annual Ram Sale at Saladero, advert on page 10</i>
<i>26th March</i>	<i>Mothering Sunday</i>
<i>1st April</i>	<i>RBA Show, Goose Green, details on page 11</i>
<i>14th April</i>	<i>Good Friday, Public Holiday</i>
<i>16th April</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
<i>Dog dosing dates on page 15</i>	



*Falkland Islands Government
Department of Agriculture*

National Stud Flock Ram Sale in the Saladero Shearing Shed

10th March 2017

Stock for sale:

- * Ex elite rams*
- * Shearling rams*
- * Merino X Polwarth shearling rams*



*Stock inspection commences at
9.00am*

*Helmsman auction commences at
11:30am*

Ferry Times:

Leaving Port Howard: 8.00am

Return Loading: 5.30pm

Leaving New Haven: 6.00pm

Bookings to be made through Workboat Services Ltd

Please note: if the ferry is cancelled due to bad weather, the sale will be postponed to 24th March 2017

Please contact the DoA in advance if you require transport to and from New Haven. Please also ensure you have organised transport for any stock you may purchase.

More details will be released closer to the date.

*Any queries, please ring: 27355 or email
lellis@doa.gov.fk*



*There will be hot food and drinks throughout the day.
Everyone is welcome, we hope to see you there!*

Rural Business Association's **AGRICULTURAL SHOW** **2017**



Goose Green 1st April 11am

Sheep & Cattle Competition | Agricultural Displays | Licensed Bar
Hot Food & Soft Drinks | Locally Made Gifts & Crafts | Country Dance
Livestock Auction | Children's Activities | Traditional Asado

A great day out for all the family!

**Please email livestock entries and stall reservations by
the 24th March to rba.events@horizon.co.fk**

Biosecurity Update

By Ross James

It's been a busy time in Biosecurity. Steve McLean has joined us a part time Biosecurity Officer and has been busy processing a backlog of insect specimens to send away to the UK for identification. Steve has also been dealing with imports, trawling through cargo manifests and clambering through shipping containers.

The New Year started for us with the arrival of the FIRS (MOD ship) with the usual assortment of vehicles and cargo. The Harlequin Ladybird (page 13) was just one of the things that tried to sneak in among cargo. Several vehicles failed biosecurity inspections and needed decontamination before they could leave the port, and one vehicle was fumigated as a precaution against a cat flea infestation.

The post-Christmas shortage of fresh fruit and vegetables was quashed with the arrival of the M.V Scout, with voyages from Punta Arenas and Montevideo. This meant a lot of fresh produce inspections for us to deal with and among them we found a few potentially harmful pests.

I had the opportunity to visit Kidney Island to help check rodent bait boxes and deploy an earwig monitoring station so that if earwigs do manage to sneak onto the island, we can detect them early.

One of the main projects I'm working on at the moment is to improve the system surrounding the import of used vehicles. I hope that by the next edition of Wool Press we will have some more news to report on that.

On the 1st March we will be taking the Watch Group (Falkland Conservation) out to map the out lying calafate plants that are popping up behind the racecourse. The Watch Group will plot the position of each plant with GPS, which will help save time when it comes to spraying and allow us to keep a close eye on how they react to the treatment.

Finally I'll leave you with a request. A couple of people have reported that they have had weeds growing in grow bags or compost. If you have a weed growing from freshly opened bags of compost or grow bags, and it's something you didn't plant, we would be interested to hear about it! Please make a note of the brand of the compost, when and where you purchased it from.

SPORTS WEEK PROGRAMMES



West Sports - Fox Bay

Saturday 25th February

Foot events at Fox Bay East followed by 5 aside football with a BBQ & truck pull competition
Gold Cup Racing in the evening

Sunday 26th February

Shearing competition, in the Rincon Ridge shearing shed with a BBQ
7:00pm Darts competition in the evening

Monday 27th February

Dog trials at Spring Point, children's sports, games and a picnic, BBQ in the afternoon
Mechanical Bull in the evening

Tuesday 28th February

Peat Cutting competition in the Dip Paddock, Fox Bay East with a BBQ, followed by bike agility ride and a treasure hunt (on foot)
Prize giving at 8:30pm

*For more information contact Donna Evans.
Daytime events will begin at 10am and evening events at 8pm unless otherwise stated.*

*There will be a BBQ each day starting at 2pm
All times are given in Stanley time.
If the shearing can not take place on Sunday then the programmes for Sunday and Monday will be swapped.*

East Sports - Goose Green

Saturday 25th February

Horse racing (senior & junior) and gymkhana
Dance in the evening

Sunday 26th February

Horse racing (senior & Junior) and gymkhana
Club open

Monday 27th February

10.00am AGM at GG Social Club
11:00am Children's sports, fun events, football & mechanical bull competition
BBQ/ASADO at 7.00pm followed by a dance (Fancy Dress Sheikhs/Shaykhahs & Arabs)

Tuesday 28th February

Dog trails
3.00pm Shearing followed by team event to be held at the race course

Wednesday 1st March

9.00pm Dance in the evening & prize giving at 10.30pm

*For more information contact Lucille McMullen.
Daytime events will begin at 9:30am unless otherwise stated.*

*All times are given in Stanley time.
The Goose Green Social club will be open each night.*

In case of bad weather:

*Monday's fun events will be at the Shearing Shed
Monday's evening event will be at the club, otherwise it will be held at the Galapon.*

At the beginning of January biosecurity intercepted a friendly looking foe – the Harlequin Ladybird.

Harlequin Ladybirds (Harmonia axyridis) are the most invasive species of ladybird in the world. They arrived in the UK in 2004 and within 10 years they had spread to all corners. They are ferocious predators and not too fussy about what they eat, furthermore they are well adapted to thrive in our chilly climates. If they established here they could have negative effects on our native insects and ecosystems. Although they are not dangerous to humans they do hibernate in large numbers in houses and other buildings. There are cases of tens of thousands of ladybirds being found in homes during the winter.

Their habit of hibernating for winter means they can wonder into shipping containers or vehicles, especially in the UK Autumn, and then find themselves transported here as was the case today.

Harlequin Ladybirds come in many colours and patterns as shown in the photograph. The best way to distinguish them from the 11 spot ladybird which is already established in the Falklands, is by the distinctive black W shape on their pronotum (the bit between the head and their wing covers). If you find one please report your sightings to the Department of Agriculture.

Follow us on Facebook for more Biosecurity updates



Falkland Islands Government | Department of Agriculture bugDatabase

www.bugs.co.fk

Synergy Information Systems

Department of Agriculture *Webpage*



Falkland Islands Government
www.fig.gov.fk/agriculture/

Saladero News

By Regitze Petersen

The past few months has been a busy time out at Saladero with the managers position remaining vacant , it's been all hands on deck!

The National Stuck Flock

Much of December was spent mothering up lambs in order to keep track of pedigrees. We were lucky with the weather and had some good (but long) days catching, tagging and weighing lambs. A total of 706 lambs were tagged with the average weight being 12.7 kg. It sure is a good workout catching sheep! It's at times like this I wish sheep could talk and you could simply ask the ewe which lamb is hers!

Lamb marking was the 16th December on another glorious day. All lambs were also vaccinated with Glanvac 6 in 1.

Lambing results this year were pleasing lambing percentage at mothering up was 92% (excluding dry ewes) and 80% (including dry ewes). At lamb marking the percentage was 90% (excluding dry ewes) and 78% (including



Moata ryegrass ready for weaned lambs



Students helping at weaning

dry ewes).

The lambs were weaned on the 18th January 2017. They were weighed and had a Glanvac 6 in 1 booster before going out on one of the reseeds. They are looking good with an average weaning weight of 21 kg. The heaviest being 32 kg and the lightest 10 kg.

In January it was also time for the girls' annual hair cut and shearing took place between the 19th and 21st January. The 2013 and 2014 drop ewes were mid-side sampled and fleeces weighed for ASBV's.

The National Beef Herd

December and January has not only been busy with sheep but also with the National Beef Herd. A total of 15 calves have been born and we even had a pair of twins this year, with 13 calves from AI and 2 from the cover bull.

On the 6th of January it was all fun and games when seven bulls were fertility tested



Moata ryegrass

and were all given a clean bill of health.

On the 15th January 9 cows and 1 heifer were AI'd with a selection of Bulliac and Stabilizer sires. The cover bull will be put out on the 26th February.

Agronomy

The Moata ryegrass at Saladero is looking excellent this season. It currently stands at 6000-7000kg/dm/ha and will be used for the

weaned lambs. It is anticipated that we will achieve weight gains in excess of 200g/hd/day through until the end of March.

With the dry spell before Christmas the 2 fields of swedes that were planted at the end of November have had a staggered germination, thankfully the gaps are now filling in with a late germination. Both fields should yield >5t/DM/ha, which will give us an excellent feed resource to take the hogs into winter and boost the ewes in late pregnancy.

The pasture and fodder crop variety trial is coming on well with some obvious results coming out of the cereals section. Dry matter assessments will take place in February with a view to hosting an open day in March.



Mothering up twin lambs

Dog Dosing Dates 2017/18

Wednesday 8 February - Droncit
 Wednesday 15 March - Droncit
 Wednesday 19 April - Droncit
 Wednesday 24 May - Droncit
 Wednesday 28 June - **Drontal**
 Wednesday 2 August - Droncit
 Wednesday 6th September - Droncit
 Wednesday 11th October - Droncit
 Wednesday 15th November - Droncit
 Wednesday 20th December - Droncit
 Wednesday 24th January 2018 - **Drontal**

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After normal working hours, please leave a message or email.



All dog owners are responsible for worming their own pets. Please remember to contact the Veterinary Office and confirm this has been done.

Regular weighing - it is important to keep a check on dog's weights to ensure correct dosage is being given.

FOX BAY RAM AND FLEECE PRIZE WINNERS - 2016

Prize	Donated By	Won By	Points
<u>Class 1 - Full Wool Ram Hogget</u>			
1st	Engraved Challenge Shield presented by Mr & Mrs Austin Davies & £100 donated by Falkland Landholdings Limited	<i>Shallow Harbour</i>	78
2nd	£75 donated by Standard Chartered Bank	<i>Green Hill</i>	56
3rd	£50 donated by the Wool Company	<i>Spring Point</i>	49
4th	£25 donated by R M Pitaluga	<i>Spring Point</i>	46
<u>Class 2 - Full Wool Shearling Ram</u>			
1st	Lyn Blake Perpetual Challenge Cup & £150 presented by FIMCo	<i>Spring Point</i>	70
2nd	£100 coat presented by Agri-Gap	<i>Green Hill</i>	61
3rd	£60 presented by FIMCo	<i>Spring Point</i>	59
4th	£40 presented by FIMCo	<i>Port Howard</i>	51
<u>Class 3 - Full Wool Mature Ram</u>			
1st	Falkland Islands Wool Marketing Challenge Cup & a replica & £50 presented by Port Howard Farm	<i>Port Howard</i>	60
2nd	£100 donated by the Falkland Islands Wool Company	<i>Spring point</i>	59
3rd	£60 presented by Argos Ltd	<i>Shallow Harbour</i>	57
4th	£40 presented by Argos Ltd	<i>Spring Point</i>	40
<u>Class 4 - Hogget Fleece</u>			
1st	Silver Challenge Cup & replica presented by Mr R A Edwards & RBC Ltd & £50 voucher donated by RBC Limited	<i>Mount Kent</i>	72
2nd	£75 fuel voucher presented by Stanley Services	<i>Coast Ridge</i>	64
3rd	£50 voucher donated by Falkland Farmers	<i>Coast Ridge</i>	45
4th	£25 voucher donated by RBA	<i>Mount Kent</i>	44
<u>Class 5 - Any fine wool fleece other than hogget</u>			
1st	Governors Cup Challenge Cup presented by HE the Governor & replica & a return ferry trip for vehicle & 2 people from Workboat Services	<i>Rincon Ridge</i>	66
2nd	£75 from Newton Investment	<i>Shallow Harbour</i>	58
3rd	£50 from Newton Investment	<i>Mount Kent</i>	42
4th	£25 from Newton Investment	<i>NSF Saladero</i>	36
<u>Class 6 - Any B Type wether fleece</u>			
1st	Shirley Knight Challenge Cup presented by Coast Ridge Farm & replica presented by FISOA and £50 voucher from Falkland Farmers	<i>Lake Sullivan</i>	51
2nd	£80 donated by Mount Kent Farm	<i>Mount Kent</i>	51
3rd	£50 donated by SAAS	<i>Lake Sullivan</i>	46
4th	£45 presented by Mount Kent Farm	<i>Rincon Ridge</i>	41

ADDITIONAL PRIZES

The champion ram was owned by Port Howard Farm and won The Patricia Luxton Perpetual Challenge Cup and replica from the Luxton Family Chartres and £100 from MLA's. Reserve champion owned by Spring Point Farm won £50 from Southern Imports.

Rosettes were presented for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th prize winners in all six classes. A champion and reserve champion rosette is also given. These were all provided by Jim McAdam.

A silver challenge cup and £75 for the fleece with the highest commercial value. All prizes presented by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation won by Coast Ridge with a fleece having an estimated gross value of £42.38. Second prize went to Rincon Ridge winning £60 with a fleece value of £40.98, third prize went to Mount Kent winning £40, with a fleece value of £40.49 and in fourth prize went to Shallow Harbour winning £25 with a fleece value of £39.98

In the pet sheelp class 1st prize was won by Sammy Marsh with Pedro, 2nd prize was won by Jessica Lee with Chewbacca and 3rd prize was won by Oliver Lee with Solo.

A challenge cup for the farm with the most points in all classes is donated by Mr Owen Summers which was won by Spring Point.

ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS

In the guess the sheep weight competition the winner received £25 from Mr R A Edwards, won by Critta Lee who guessed closest with 42.3 Kilos. Actual weight was 42.2kgs.

The winner of the fleece weight competition received £25 from Newton Ltd was won by Ali Marsh who was the closest with a guess of 3.68kgs. The actual weight was 3.6kgs.

The winner of the micron estimate competition received £50 from Newton Ltd was Ruby Marsh who guessed 19mu. The actual micron was 18.95mu.

The sheep judging competition for the under 21's was won by Jessica Lee, she won a £60 voucher from the Department of Agriculture.

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

- ★ F.I.G.A.S. for once again generously agreeing to fly fleeces free of charge & arranging late flights on the day piloted by Derek Clarke.
- ★ The Southern Cross Social Club for financing the barbecue with meat supplied by Rincon Ridge & Coast Ridge, the cooking was by Justin and Harold, plus excellent cakes and punch from Nuala.
- ★ Keith for transforming the woolshed with assistance from Justin, Adam and Nigel in setting up pens and fleece tables. Susie and Adam for judging the special categories and all those who did the sums afterwards.
- ★ The Department of Agriculture for their assistance before and after the event, in particular Katrina, Sarah, Gordon & Adam.
- ★ H.E. The Governor for presenting the prizes.
- ★ The committee of the Southern Cross Social Club.



ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



Antibiotic resistance happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause.

The over-use and misuse of antibiotics in livestock, aquaculture and crops is one key factor contributing to antibiotic resistance and its spread into the environment, food chain and humans. This is compromising our ability to treat infectious diseases and undermining many advances in medicine.

We must handle antibiotics with care so they remain effective for as long as possible.

WHAT THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR CAN DO



- 1 Ensure that antibiotics given to animals—including food-producing and companion animals—are **only used to control or treat** infectious diseases and under veterinary supervision
- 2 **Vaccinate** animals to reduce the need for antibiotics and **develop alternatives** to the use of antibiotics in plants
- 3 Promote and apply **good practices** at all steps of production and processing of foods from animal and plant sources
- 4 Adopt **sustainable systems** with improved hygiene, biosecurity and stress-free handling of animals
- 5 Implement **international standards** for the responsible use of antibiotics and guidelines, set out by OIE, FAO and WHO

www.who.int/drugresistance
www.oie.int/antimicrobial-resistance
www.fao.org/antimicrobial-resistance



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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WORLD ORGANISATION
FOR ANIMAL HEALTH



World Health
Organization

#AntibioticResistance

Christmas Puzzle Page

Answers

Holiday Tunes

- Away in a Manger
- Choir of the Bells
- Dominick the Donkey
- Frosty the Snowman
- Holly Jolly Christmas
- Jingle Bell Rock
- Jingle Bells
- Let it Snow
- Little Drummer Boy
- Little St Nick
- O Holy Night
- Rudolph
- Santa Baby
- Silent Nigh
- Silver Bells
- The Christmas Song
- The First Noel
- Winter Wonderland



S	G	R	D	A	M	A	F	C	I	F	Z	Z	X	F	K	U	H	J	X	
W	A	W	A	Y	O	B	R	E	M	M	U	R	D	E	L	T	T	L		
C	K	M	B	H	P	L	O	D	U	R	J	T	G	J	I	H	Z	N	O	
Z	D	W	T	Z	E	D	S	Y	E	L	C	B	Y	K	T	G	C	G	K	
G	N	O	S	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	E	H	T	I	J	L	L	
Q	A	N	K	O	I	D	Y	A	L	F	D	G	I	R	L	N	B	E	D	
X	L	S	O	X	Q	R	T	B	T	I	N	W	X	N	E	T	O	B	J	
D	R	T	J	T	I	R	N	V	A	A	H	X	I	P	S	N	A	E	W	
F	E	I	F	W	V	T	E	C	M	B	E	U	U	B	T	E	S	L	S	
N	D	T	U	C	H	S	A	Y	A	A	I	N	S	N	L	C	L	Q		
B	N	E	V	X	E	G	N	X	I	L	M	T	R	I	T	I	Y	R	W	
F	O	L	N	I	A	Z	O	Z	T	K	L	I	N	X	C	S	J	O	U	
B	W	V	E	S	Y	N	W	K	M	G	F	O	A	K	T	E	C	N		
G	R	O	K	A	C	Y	M	V	Z	E	U	A	J	Y	S	L	D	K	U	
M	E	Q	W	Q	O	L	A	O	H	K	P	I	T	Y	K	B	N	M	Q	
G	T	A	P	U	I	O	N	T	S	L	L	E	B	E	L	G	N	T	J	
L	N	F	G	C	Z	H	N	S	L	L	E	B	R	E	V	E	L	I	S	E
I	I	Y	E	K	N	O	D	E	H	T	K	C	I	N	I	M	O	D	S	
L	W	B	T	K	S	L	L	E	B	E	H	T	F	O	R	T	O	N	C	
U	I	M	U	Y	F	C	J	H	B	X	B	V	R	U	M	Q	C	Y	B	

Chicken Scratch NY

REINDEER SUDOKU

B	X	E	I	M	L
I	L	M	E	B	X
L	M	X	B	E	I
E	B	I	L	X	M
M	E	L	X	I	B
X	I	B	M	L	E

BLIXEM

H	E	D	S	R	A
A	S	R	H	D	E
D	H	A	E	S	R
E	R	S	D	A	H
R	D	H	A	E	S
S	A	E	R	H	D

DASHER

DANCER

R	C	D	A	N	E
N	A	E	D	R	C
C	R	A	E	D	N
E	D	N	C	A	R
D	N	C	R	E	A
A	E	R	N	C	D

SLEIGH

S	H	E	L	G	I
L	G	I	S	E	H
I	L	H	E	S	G
G	E	S	H	I	L
H	S	G	I	L	E
E	I	L	G	H	S



Christmas Circle words



Christmas words have been written in a circle. The words can go clockwise or anticlockwise. Work out what each word is and write it on the line below the circle.

 ANGEL	 HOLLY	 CANDY	 ELVES
 FAMILY	 CANDLE	 SLEIGH	 JOYFUL
 SNOWMAN	 HOLIDAY	 FESTIVE	 MITTENS
 STOCKING	 DECORATE	 REINDEER	 SNOWBALL

WOOL PRICE TREND OVER TIME

Based on weekly DoA Wool Reports

AWEX Wool Price Summary 2002 - 2017

