

# FREE Webinar: BCS and genetics to improve ewe fertility and breeding

Join AHDB Beef & Lamb, Signet Breeding Services and the **Sheep Veterinary Society** to hear the results of a recently completed PhD examining the impact of ewe BCS and liveweight on fertility and lamb performance through to weaning and about Signet's new mixed breed genetic evaluation for lowland maternal breeds.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022.  
From 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

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## Speakers

**Dr Nerys Wright, Knowledge Exchange Manager, AHDB beef & lamb**

*Nerys recently completed her PhD looking at the impact that ewe BCS and liveweight have on ewe fertility and lamb performance through to weaning. Ewe BCS and liveweight data was collected at weaning, mating, scanning, lambing and 8 weeks on three commercial sheep farms in England over three consecutive years. As part of her thesis, Nerys also surveyed farmers about their opinion on the importance of ewe condition for flock performance and asked how and when they assess ewe condition.*

**Sam Boon, Animal Breeding Senior Manager, Signet Breeding Services**

*In 2022 Signet will launch a new mixed breed genetic evaluation for lowland maternal breeds, which will include a number of new traits that influence the efficiency of the breeding flock. The new evaluation will generate breeding values for ewe longevity, ewe mature weight and body condition score and incorporate abattoir data. Our work in breeding sheep that are more resistant to worms will take a leap forward with the launch of EBVs for IgA levels in blood serum. Sam will talk about how this new information can enhance flock profitability, as well as reducing the carbon footprint of UK sheep production. Sam will also give a brief update about the National Hill Sheep Evaluation, with an update on the impact this project is making in Wales.*