

SBRT conference programme 15 – 17 November 2024



Friday 15 Nov	Breeding for the environment	Session 1
14:00–14:15	SBRT Chair opens conference	
14:15–14:20	Introduction	Kim Matthews, AHDB
14:20–14:45	Environmental breeding goals for maternal and terminal sheep – An international overview and do we have what we need in the UK?	Dr Caeli Richardson, AbacusBio
14:45–15:10	Big or small ruminants? Observations from research projects aimed at breeding for low methane emissions	Dr Nicola Lambe, SRUC
15:10–15:35	Environmental goals for the Irish sheep industry	Dr Nóirín McHugh, Teagasc, and Jaynell Anderson, Sheep Ireland
15:35–16:00	Q&A	
16:00–16:30	Refreshment break	

Friday 15 Nov	Breeding sheep in a sheep-producing country	Session 2
16:30–16:35	Introduction	Elan Davies, Farming Connect
16:35–16:55	Genomic and phenotypic advances in hill and maternal breeding programmes	Janet Roden, Innovis
16:55–17:15	Incorporating molecular phenotypes into breeding scheme designs	Suzanne Rowe, Agresearch, NZ
17:15–17:30	The changing face of genetic improvement in the Welsh hill sheep sector	Tim Tyne, ProHill Group Founder Member
17:30–17:45	Observations from the Falkland Islands – Breeding and genetics	Josh Brock, ADAS
17:45–18:00	Farming Connect: Welsh Anthelmintic Resistance Status project – The findings so far	Menna Williams, Farming Connect
18:00–18:15	Q&A	
20:00–Late	Conference dinner	

Saturday 16 Nov	Pasture to Plate – Delivering sustainable, high-quality lamb to our customers	Session 3
9:00–9:05	SBRT Chair – Welcome to conference	
9:05–9:15	Introduction and market overview	Tom Dracup, ABP
9:15–9:35	Delivering for our customers – Export and halal focus	Rizvan Khalid, Euro Quality Lamb Ltd
9:35–9:55	Taking leadership in sustainability: Gamechanger integrated beef and PRISM	Katie Thorley, ABP
9:55–10:10	Understanding the value of livestock data	Ian Hewett, Livestock Information Ltd, and Harriet Bunning, AHDB
10:10–10:30	Q&A	
10:30–11:00	Refreshment break	

Saturday 16 Nov	Breeding with a vision	Session 4
11:00–11:05	Introduction	Bruce McConachie, QMS
11:05–11:40	The Australian eating quality journey – Breeding to improve the consumer eating experience	Peta Bradley and Daniel Brown, Lambplan, Australia
11:40–12:05	Fabulous fibre: How to make wool profitable from white-woolled sheep	Frank Langrish, Langrish Farmers
12:05–12:30	Q&A	
12:30–14:00	Buffet lunch	

Saturday 16 Nov	Breeding drivers for the future	Session 5
14:00–14:05	Introduction	Chris Lloyd, Independent
14:05–15:25	Expert panel providing insight to various topics	Colin Bateman, Levy Board Daniel Brown, Lambplan Graham Lofthouse, Farmer Joseph Keating, Co-op Rizvan Khalid, Euro Quality
15:25–15:30	Closing comments	
15:30–16:00	Refreshment break	

Saturday 16 Nov	A genomic focus on the future for breeding	Session 6
16:00–16:05	Introduction	Mike Coffey, SRUC
16:05–16:20	What has dairy learnt from DNA?	Victoria Ashmore, AHDB
16:20–16:30	A major gene influencing MV resistance	Racheal Tarlington, Nottingham University
16:35–16:50	Adopting genomics	Ed Smith, British Texel Sheep Society
16:50–16:55	Genomic update from AHDB	Samuel Boon, AHDB
16:55–17:00	Genomic relationships between flocks: How are flocks connected?	Samir Id-Lahoucine, EGENES, and Samuel Boon, AHDB
17:05–17:10	Transmission ratio distortion on sheep genome: Finding the sheep that never existed	Samir Id-Lahoucine, EGENES
17:10–17:30	Summary and Q&A	
19:00–20:00	Drinks reception supported by SRUC	
20:00–Late	Conference dinner to include the NSA George Hedley Memorial Award presentation	

Sunday 17 Nov	Advances in reproductive technology	Session 7
9:00–9:10	Introduction	Phil Stocker, NSA
9:10–9:30	Where next for embryo transfer – Progress, developments and consequences	Ian McDougall, Farmgene
9:30–9:50	Sexed semen for sheep – A fresh approach	Ben Burton MRCVS, AB Europe
9:50–10:10	Using surrogate sires to disseminate high-value genetics	Emily Clark, The Roslin Institute
10:10–10:30	Q&A	
10:30–11:00	Refreshment break	

Sunday 17 Nov	Putting the E in GxE: Selecting sheep for systems	Session 8
11:00–11:10	Introduction – Focus on increasingly common systems in the UK and how commercial farmers are selecting resilient sheep for their systems, collaborating with similar businesses and adding value	Liz Genever, Independent
11:10–11:40	Finding the right sheep for my system which just happens to be a shedder	William Cawley, Farmer
11:40–12:10	Performance recording sheep in a high-forage system	James Drummond, Farmer
12:10–12:30	Q&A	
12:30–12:40	SBRT Chair closing remarks	
12:40–14:00	Buffet lunch – Departure afterwards	