Showcasing Smarter Sheep Science

A collaborative event between SRUC, the Texel Sheep Society, the University of Edinburgh and AbacusBio UK

With international guest speakers

7th December 2022

Roslin Institute Auditorium, Easter Bush campus, Midlothian EH25 9RG

Coffee from 9.45am

Session 1: Small Ruminant snapshots: Breeding for efficiency and resilience Chair: Joanne Conington, SRUC		
Session 1	**Topics**	
10.15	Breeding to improve lamb survival	Noirin McHugh Teagasc, Ireland
10.45	Body condition score in hill ewes – what does it tell us about future lamb survival? Is maternal performance affected by high faecal egg counts in early life?	Ann McLaren, SRUC
11.05	Does including genomic information improve breeding values for production and health traits?	Karolina Kaseja, SRUC
11.25	What is a resilient sheep?	Andrea Doeschl-Wilson, UofE
11.40	How selection for resilient and efficiency (R&E) traits impact small ruminant breeding programmes – a case study from France	Tim Byrne, AbacusBio
12.00	A story of feed efficiency and rumen size	Nicola Lambe, SRUC
12.15	Breeding to reduce methane in sheep	Jette Jakobsen, Norway
12.30	**Sum-up session 1**	

FREE LUNCH!

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Session 2: Bridging the gap between science and practise Chair: John Yates, Texel Sheep Society		
14.00	Setting breeding goals	Ed Smith, Texel Sheep Society
14.15	Development of economic indexes	Caeli Richardson, AbacusBio UK
14.30	Economic & environmental impact of genetic improvement	Tom Kirk, AbacusBio UK
14.45	Creating valuable information	Ed Smith, Texel Sheep Society
15.00	Knowledge exchange for best practice	Katie Thorley, Texel Sheep Society
15.15	Can we do international evaluations for sheep?	Georgios Banos, SRUC
15.30	Sum up Session 2	

Description of the event

Cutting edge science in sheep breeding is being presented at the " Showcasing Smarter Sheep Science" event to be held on 7th December at the Roslin Institute building, Easter Bush Campus, Midlothian EH25 9RG. The new work has been generated as part of EU- ('Smarter') and nationally-funded research by an international team of experts, some of whom will be presenting at the event. The conference is targeted towards the engagement of farmers and farming industry professionals interested in learning about some of the latest research and its application in the sheep industry.

Link to register for the event is below

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/showcasing-smarter-sheep-science-tickets-424009392507