

## **Better Returns West Midlands Forthcoming Events:-**

### **Preparations for lambing, reducing lamb losses and getting on top of lameness**

**Date: Wednesday 1st Feb**

**Time:** 2.00pm until 6.00pm

**Venue:** Lodge Farm, Garway, Hereford, HR2 8RQ

**Courtesy of** H J Sparey & Son

**Details:** As part of the Better Returns West Midlands Programme, join EBLEX and ADAS for this FREE informative session on preparing for lambing, reducing lamb losses and reducing lameness. There will be an update on the farm's activities in the last few months. Matt Pugh, Richard's vet, will also focus on lamb losses and how to reduce them – including a practical post mortem demonstration. Nerys Wright of ADAS will report on the latest research on how to tackle lameness and reduce the impact on flock profitability.

### **Cattle Handling & Housing Workshop**

**Date: Thursday 2nd Feb**

**Time:** 10.30am until 2.30pm

**Venue:** Upper Bentley, Redditch, B97 5TD

**Courtesy of** Phil and Martin Gibbs

**Details:** Cattle handling in practice. This will give the group an overview of the key requirements for an effective cattle handling system - Miriam Parker, a designer of livestock handling systems around the world. A review the current handling facilities, making suggestions for improvements , Cattle housing and health implications – Anne Gibbs, MacArthur, Barstow & Gibbs

### **Reducing lameness in sheep**

**Date: Monday 6th Feb**

**Time:** 6.30pm start

**Venue:** Shrewsbury Livestock Market, Bowman Way, Battlefield, Shrewsbury, SY4 3DR

**Details:** As part of the Better Returns West Midlands Programme, join EBLEX and ADAS for this informative session on reducing lameness in sheep and preparing for lambing. Discussions will focus on the latest research and approaches to treating and preventing lameness.

### **Better profitability from improved beef selection and marketing**

**Date: Tuesday 7th Feb**

**Time:** 6.30pm - 9.00pm

**Venue:** NFU Mutual HQ, Tiddington Road, Stratford Upon Avon, CV37 7BJ

**Courtesy of** Edward Muntz, Mows Hill Farm

**Details;** As part of the Better Returns West Midlands Programme, join EBLEX and ADAS for this FREE informative discussion. Nerys Wright, ADAS livestock will summarise the herd performance at Mows Hill Farm over the last two years. Kate Sutton from Dovecote Park will present on the outlook for the beef sector and marketing. Chris Graham, a local butcher, will do a practical butchery demonstration. Steve Borsberry will talk about local health issues.

### **Marketing beef and coping with forage shortages**

Date: **Wednesday 8th Feb**

Time: 11.00am until 2.45pm

Venue: Lydham Village Hall, Lydham, Bishops Castle, SY9 5HD

Courtesy of James Evans

Details: As part of the Better Returns West Midlands Programme, join EBLEX and ADAS to discuss marketing cattle through the supply chain, see a beef butchery demonstration and consider alternative feeds in the face of a forage shortage. There will also be an update on performance of the suckler herd at Partridge Farm. At the end of the event, for those who would like to James will take you around the cattle at Partridge Farm

### **Better returns from improving suckler herd fertility and controlling BVD**

Date: **Wednesday 8th Feb**

Time: 11.30am - 3.00pm

The Royal Oak, Hanging Bridge, Mayfield, Ashbourne DE6 2BN

Courtesy of Richard Toon, Lower Ground Farm

Details: Join EBLEX and ADAS for this informative discussion on improving suckler herd performance by assessing and improving bull fertility. Nerys Wright of ADAS will present an update on the farm's performance and progress on the farm's targets and Michael Colgan from Derbyshire Vets will talk about bull fertility. There will also be an opportunity for a farm walk around Lower Ground Farm to look at the farm's breeding bull in the handling facilities.

### **Improving lamb survival and post mortem workshop**

Date: **Thursday 9th Feb**

Time: 10.00am - 3.00pm

Venue: Walford & North Shropshire College, Baschurch Shrewsbury, SY4 2HL

Details; *Join EBLEX for this practical workshop on post-mortems. There will be a farm walk to view the housed ewes and lambing sheds/pens, discussing lambing techniques to improve lamb survival. This will include stomach tubing, injection points, lambing aids and keeping the uterus intact. In addition Helen Errington, a VLA vet, will open a general discussion on post mortems. Delegates will split into groups for a practical post-mortem session.*

**To register at any of the above events or for more details please do call Emma on 07584 036622 or email: [@betterreturnswm.org.uk](mailto:@betterreturnswm.org.uk). Look forward to hearing from you.**