

North Sheep 7th June 2023

A Uniquely Important Event for the Sheep Industry

Hosted by J E Woodman & Son, at Bradford House Farm, Ponteland Northumberland

The 2023 NSA North Sheep guarantees a tremendous show of livestock and a platform to discuss and debate the future of a sustainable sheep industry and The Farmer Network are delighted to be attending the event.

There has never been a more crucial time for the sheep industry to find inspiration and encouragement, and the NSA Northern Region Committee have created a landmark event which will provide both.

Through visiting the trade exhibitions and attending seminars, visitors will be brought up to speed with latest industry trends, technologies, and information to help improve profitability and reduce environmental and climate footprints of their businesses. Of course, for many attending the highlight will be the tour of the Woodman family's farm.

Willie Woodman and his wife and son farm 2,130 acres across two holdings 30 miles apart: Great Chesters, a 1,200-acre hill farm in the shadow of Hadrian's Wall, and the 930-acre Bradford House Farm a traditional Northumberland livestock and arable farm home to a lowland flock of 250 Mule ewes and 200 Texel cross ewes.

Improving the sheep flock quality increases value and efficiency, and potentially carbon footprint, breeders attending will be able to see a range of sheep breeds, which will help to develop a breeding objective aligned with their geographical environment for their own flocks. NNSA North Sheep will showcase than 30 breed societies, associations and societies will be represented.

Sponsored by Virgin Money, the host farm has undertaken a Carbon Audit, in association with <u>Carbon Metrics</u>. The results will be presented in a dedicated presentation "Carbon - Understanding the Journey to Net Zero - The journey for farmers to a Net Zero future and turning the challenge to opportunity".

The event's seminar programme, will see the team from <u>Youngs RPS</u>, explain support schemes available under the UK Government's post-Brexit policy, and how farmers can maximise funding to replace outgoing payment systems, in their seminar **Resilience to Change**.

The **Looking Beyond Our Shores** seminar will debate opportunities for exports and the pros and cons of working collaboratively with global sheep farming counterparts. Getting a foothold on **The Sheep Farming Ladder** is difficult, and in this seminar a panel will outline the many current opportunities for young people.

This year's demonstrations include a Post-mortem demonstration by Professor Ben Strugnell, an all-female line up in the sheep shearing, spinning & felting, crook making, and lamb selection.

Further details about NSA North Sheep can be found at www.northsheep.org.uk, or by following their social media: Facebook – @NSA North Sheep Instagram - @nsa_northsheep