

# SPRING 2009

# NEWSLETTER



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## Committee Report

Below is a short report of the first committee meeting of 2009 held at the beginning of February and points of interest. The following topics were discussed:

- **Beltex Scotland Yearbook Page** - It was decided to use the same picture again in the yearbook as we have not taken any photos this year good enough to replace the current Highland show photo. For the handbook next year a picture of the line-up of all the 1st prize winners from the first National Show could be used as a good advert for Beltex Scotland. Wayne Hutchinson will be invited along to take pictures on the show day of the winners. There will be three articles from Scotland in the yearbook and these will be; Michael Dunlop, John Guthrie and David Cunningham's son in the young breeders part.

**Flock Open Day 2009** – It was decided that because there is no Scotsheep that we will organise another flock/farm visit. Calla in Lanarkshire will be the venue courtesy of Andrew Ballie and family. The date for the open day will be Sunday 12th of July 2009 with a meal and social night at the Robertson Arms, Carnwath the evening before the open day. If you are travelling from some distance and would like accommodation if you contact Andrew Ballie on **07801 657397** he will give you details for accommodation in the area. There will be a stock judging, a farm tour and many other thing to do on the day.

- **Highland Show** – It has been felt by many people that with the large classes that are now being put forward of Beltex sheep that the judging time should be brought forward. The Highland show committee was asked to bring the start time of the judging forward to either 12pm or 1pm straight after the committee meeting. Unfortunately they said it was too late for 2009 but some members of the committee would meet shortly with the head sheep steward to discuss this for 2010. The post judging lamb rolls and drinks are being held straight after the judging on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of June as usual.

- **NSA Tent at Highland Show** – It was decided not to have a Beltex sheep in the NSA Tent as the large entry of sheep would be good enough advertising for the breed along with the Beltex society material.

- **1<sup>st</sup> National Beltex Show** – The judge for the first National show to be held this year at Dumfries is going to be Kevin Buckle. This will be open to all breeders in Scotland and there will be a few addition classes to the normal schedule. The National show will move around Scotland every year and probably be in the North next year. We will be looking for sponsorship for prize money and so any potential sponsorship suggestions should be passed on to Ross Williams. It was decided that the National Show would be a good opportunity to run a judges assessment day once the classes of the show had finished. It was point out that the judges list needs brought up to date and it was proposed that from this year any additions to the official judges list have to go through a judges assessment day prior to be put on the list. It was also suggested that the existing members of the list could also have a refresher judging day over the next four to five years and this proposal has been put in a letter to council.

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- **Letter to Auction Marts** – A letter has been sent to several Scottish Auction Marts asking them to stop recording Beltex lambs as Texel or other breeds. This issue has been brought up by several breeders who sell prime lambs and have had them recorded in the press as Texels in the report .
- **Beltex Merchandise** – Beltex Scotland fleeces, t-shirts, caps, ties and rugby shirts can be still ordered and the order form can be downloaded from the Scotland Club page of the website or by contacting Ross Williams directly. There is a delay from ordering to receiving merchandise of around three to six weeks depending on how busy the printing company are.

### Lanark in Lamb Sale Summary

The sale was topped at 1,600 gns by Drumrash Lexy a gimmer consigned by J Cruikshank, Broomisle, Castle Douglas, selling to R Montgomerie, Hazelglen, Glenconner Farm, Ochiltree, Ayrshire. This gimmer is a Brickrow Knockout daughter out of Drumrash Jordan and is in-lamb to the Belgian-bred Wonderboy. From the same pen, Drumrash Lassie, another Knockout daughter out of Drumrash Georgina and also in-lamb to Wonderboy, went under the hammer at 1,300gns to G Cropper, 358 Manchester Rd, Baxenden, Accrington, Lancashire.

A 1,300gns bid from J Young, Muirton, Corse, Alford, Aberdeenshire secured Horseclose Lulu, a Cookstown Hamish daughter out of Horseclose Fanatsia and in-lamb to Broughton Lachlan. The seller was J McGarva, Horseclose, Cummertrees, Annan, Dumfries. Mr Young also bought Longley Joy, the sole entry from J Barclay, Mid Brockloch Farm, Maybole, Ayrshire. This Beachy Full Throttle-sired one-crop ewe is out of Beltex Viola and was sold at 1000gns in-lamb to Clary Kaiser Chief.

John Cowan, 3 Brickrow, Auchincruive, Ayr received 1,300gns for his pen topper, Brickrow Luv, a Cookstown Hamish daughter out of Brickrow Happy and in-lamb to the Belgian-bred stock sire, Mustang. Buyer of this gimmer was Karen Shuttleworth, Heben House, Home Farm, Gargrave, Skipton, Yorks. At the same money, D McVicar, Lephinchapel, Strachur, Argyll took Newton Looker, a gimmer consigned by Ryder Farming Co, Newton Farm, Moffat, Dumfriesshire. She is by Livetside Gibby out of Newton Hilary and is in-lamb to Newton Kracker.

The show was judged by D Aitken, Upper Cleugh, Lockerbie who chose as his champion Inveresk Loch Awe, a gimmer from Gavin Shanks Bowmanhurst Estate, Carluke. This gimmer is by Van Ophoverveld King Kong out of an imported ewe and is in-lamb to the 10,000gns Artnagullion Lethal Weapon. She left the ring unsold.

Aged ewes sold to 1,000gns for the reserve champion, Clary Katch-up, a one-crop ewe consigned by J McMillan Carse of Clary, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire. This ewe is by Viagrow out of a Corstane-bred ewe and is in-lamb to Borderesk Leap Frog. She was knocked down to A Morton, Lochend Farm, Denny, Stirlingshire.

Aberdeenshire breeders Williams & Watson, 20 Balmellie St, Turriff paid the top price for ewe lambs when they bid to 950gns for J McGarva's Horseclose Maid Marion, a Viagrow daughter out of the record price Belgium in lamb ewe.

# SPRING 2008 NEWSLETTER



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## Averages:

**20 Aged Ewes** - £380.63 (2007 - N/A) **72 Gimmers** - £499.77 (2007 - £287.10 for 51)

**9 Ewe Lambs** - £396.67 (2007 - £271.69 for 8)

## Show Results:

Judge: *D Aitken, Uppercleuch Farm, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire*

**Class 1 (AGED EWE)**- **1st** JL McMillan CLARY Lot 10, **2nd** Ryder Farming NEWTON Lot 19, **3rd** J Barclay BEACHY Lot 24

**Class 2 (SHEARLING GIMMER)**- **1st** G Shanks INVERESK Lot 62, **2nd** J L McMillan CLARY Lot 50, **3rd** A Baillie CALLACRAG Lot 116, **4th** J McGarva HORSECLOSE Lot 94, **5th** J Cowan BRICKROW Lot 31

**Class 3 (EWE LAMB)**- **1st** J McGarva HORSECLOSE Lot 136, **2nd** G Shanks INVERESK Lot 143, **3rd** A & M Dunlop BROUGHTON Lot 141

**CHAMPION** – G Shanks, with Lot 62

**RESERVE CHAMPION** – J L McMillan, with Lot 10

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

- **Calla Open Day** – Sunday 12th of July 2009 at Calla, Carnwath, Lanarkshire.
- **Royal Highland Show** – Beltex judging starts on Friday at 2.00pm and the post show lamb rolls and drinks follow the judging on Friday 26th June.
- **National Show** – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2009 at Dumfries Show.

## Sale Dates

CARLISLE PREMIER 13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> August	CARLISLE IN LAMB 4 <sup>th</sup> December
LANARK 17 <sup>th</sup> September	LANARK IN LAMB 12 <sup>th</sup> December
KELSO RAM SALE 11 <sup>th</sup> September	

**Chairman:** Donald Douglas, Braes of Coulmore, North Kessock, Inverness, IV1 3XB.

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