

Sheep Farmer of the Year

Are you a successful sheep producer demonstrating excellence in production, stockmanship and management? The winning sheep farmer will need to demonstrate their achievements in the past few years to deliver a business that is profitable and sustainable.

CONTACT DETAILS (please complete all fields)

Name:	
Job Title/Position:	
Address 1:	
Address 2:	
Town:	
County:	
Postcode:	
Email:	
Telephone:	
Mobile:	
Website:	

What is the name(s) that should appear on the winning trophy? * :

BUSINESS DETAILS (please complete all fields)

Farm/Business Name:	
Size of Farm (area and herd/flock size):	
Owner/Tenant/Share or Contract:	
Turnover and pre-tax profit for the past two years (<i>this information is in confidence and not for publication</i>)	

Questions

Please answer the following questions as best you can, supported by data wherever possible.

1. Describe your system and how it has developed over the past few years. What have been your main challenges/opportunities and what have you done to tackle them? What do you think are your biggest achievements?

2. Tell us about your current flock performance and how it has improved over recent years (e.g. Rearing %, barren rates, kg of output/ha, gross margin per ewe). What have you done to improve flock performance?

3. Please tell us about your following policies (where relevant):
 - a. Breeding
 - b. Soil and grassland management
 - c. Feeding and nutrition
 - d. Flock health

4. What technology are you using on your farm to support day-to-day decision making? (e.g. EID, performance recording, computer programmes, weigh heads)

5. How do you benchmark your flock against other businesses? Do you know your cost of production or gross and net margins? Please include your figures if you have them (this will be kept confidential).

6. What people are involved in your business (e.g. staff, consultants), what roles do they play and how do you ensure you get the best from them?

7. Where and how do you sell/market your product? What do you do to make sure you understand the needs of your customers and how they are changing?

8. What are you doing to protect your natural resources? (e.g. renewables, stewardship schemes, biodiversity).

9. What animal welfare standards do you adhere to (red tractor, RSPCA, supermarket standards) and what do these entail?

10. What plans do you have for the future? Explain the opportunities and challenges ahead and how you plan to exploit or overcome them.

Is there anything else that marks you out as a winner? (e.g. wider industry/community role, collaboration with suppliers, customers or other farmers)