

## **Exlana Newsletter Spring 2016**

We hope you have all survived the exceptionally wet weather that seems to have flavored the UK winter, had a successful lambing and can now look on the bright side----at least our sheep don't have to put up with carrying a heavy sodden fleece

This year has been a cracker for the shedding sheep world and especially the Exlana, we hosted an exceptional ram sale, farmers visited us from as far afield as Germany, Lithuania, Holland, France, NZ, Australia and USA---all with an interest in wool shedding sheep and the rigorous breeding program that the Exlana is bred under.

Even the Kiwis are beginning to see the light <a href="http://farmersweekly.co.nz/article/wool-less-shears-costs">http://farmersweekly.co.nz/article/wool-less-shears-costs</a> an interesting article comparing costs for wool and cleanskin sheep

Trial work into feed efficiency in Exlana sheep has begun with data collected from 70 ram lambs in autumn 2015 & set to continue in 2016---this work has been funded by our partners ASDA & Dunbia . We hope this will lead to a comprehensive study into feed efficiency and allow us to select for this important trait.

We all know the benefits of shedding sheep, both economical and physical but it's always good to see this in hard data. Jake Hancock of Wessex Conservation Grazing has been breeding up his flock with Exlanas for a number of years and shared his AHDB Stocktake data with us. Jake runs a low input, grass only system

If you take part in Stocktake and would like to share your results please let us know

This year our ram sale will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> August at Westleigh, Tiverton EX167HL. Just 3 miles from Junction 27 on the M5, where we will be offering some of the best in proven, progressive wool shedding genetics. Full details available nearer the time, if you would like a catalogue please let us know

In addition to the sale we will be attending the following NSA events;

NSA Scotsheep 1/6/16NSA Southsheep 7/6/16 –and running tours of a local Exlana flock on the previous day NSA Sheep Event 27/7/16





The more profitable wool shedding sheep

## Ram Sale

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2016 Ayshford Sheep Shed, Westleigh, Tiverton, Devon. EX16 7HL Further details contact

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