



MAY 2016



EVENTS AND TRAINING

Exmoor Women in Farming Group- Visit to a Deer Farm on Exmoor –Wednesday 15th June at Lower Hook Hill Farm, Roadwater Watchet TA23 0QP 7pm -9pm

Join us at Lower Hook Hill Farm by kind permission of Mr and Mrs J Westcott and family. A Exmoor hill farming family farming deer for 31 years and beef and sheep. We will hear about the reasons behind diversifying into deer, the challenges faced over the years. Areas to be covered: herd structure, breeding, nutrition and feeding, handling, health care, fencing, buying stock, transportation, market for meat, tagging and movement regulations for deer. There will be an opportunity for plenty of questions and answers. Booking essential by Friday 10th June. **Peer Support Group Contribution:** £5pp made payable on the night.

Sheep Scab Controls – SAVE THE DATE – Tuesday 21st June at 7pm at The Sportsman Inn, Sandyway

Representatives David Mead and Rachel Mallet MRCVS from Bimeda the manufacturers of Gold Fleece Dip, Bill Hill from Bridgmans and Dawn Clarke from Zoetis the manufacturers of Cydectin are joining us to discuss current treatment options for scab mites, and Ectoparasites. Areas to be covered: scab prevalence and diagnostics, control strategies, a review of the products available to treat scab. Can we make scab control easier to achieve? followed by a question and answer session and opportunity to meet with the representatives individually. Hot Carvery supper available £5 per head **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.**

Beginners Guide to Financial Forecasting – Wednesday 29th June 2016 at 18.45 for 7pm start – 9pm FREE

We are delighted to work with Cosmic and West Somerset District Council to deliver the following training at Cutcombe Market canteen. This workshop covers what to consider for the 'money' side of your business and will include: What the different key terms mean, Factors affecting sales forecasts and how to make them accurate as possible, Identifying direct and indirect expenses, Understanding gross profit, cash flow forecasts *and* profit and loss forecasts. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. We are currently in the process of arranging a Book Keeping basics workshop in July.

Safe Use of Rodenticides – Course arranged on Thursday 7th July 9.15am -4.30pm at Molland Village Hall

From June 2016 the regulations affecting the use of rodenticides will mean that only people who hold certificates of competence in rodent control will be able to buy more than 1.5Kg of rodenticides at a time for professional use. There is, however, a derogation until December 2017 for those in farm assurance schemes with a rodent control requirement. For further information please visit <http://www.hse.gov.uk/biocides/eu-bpr/rodenticides.htm> The network will be co-ordinating delivery of the above training. Cost per person £105 (no VAT) To express your interest or to book please contact the office

EXMOOR NEWS

Exmoor Hedgelaying 2015/2016 Competition – poster attached

Hosted by The Exmoor National Park Authority, The Exmoor Trust, Somerset and Devon Hedge Groups. Prizes to be won for farmers, landowners and contractors on Exmoor who carry out good quality work on hedges for the benefit of farming, wildlife and the landscape. **Class 1:** Best laid Exmoor hedge, Open Class. **Class 2:** Best laid Exmoor hedge, Novice Class. Entries by Monday 6th June 2016. See poster attached for information and entry form.

The Exmoor Society Pinnacle Award- poster attached

Open to young people aged between 16 and 25 who live, work or study in the Greater Exmoor area, the Pinnacle Award offers up to £3,000 to an individual or group who have an idea for an Exmoor-based business venture in relation to agriculture, forestry, conservation, horticulture, craft, tourism, etc. The Award was set up in 2011 by The Exmoor Society for young entrepreneurs who wish to live and work on Exmoor. As a conservation body, we fully recognize the importance of providing opportunities for young people to remain on the moor when they enter the world of work. We want to show that beautiful landscapes *and* livelihoods can go together to keep the very essence of Exmoor alive. For further information <http://www.exmoorsociety.com/content/get-involved/awards/pinnacle-youth-award> **Closing date for applications: 30 June 2016.**

WORK EXPERIENCE – PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITY

Are you or someone you know (aged 16 + above) looking for some work experience? Do you have an interest in farming, Exmoor and helping farmers succeed?

The Exmoor Hill Farming Network is a farmer led Network bringing information, training, demonstrations, skills and opportunities to upland farmers across Exmoor. We work in partnership with local farmers, local agencies and the wider Exmoor community to provide a long term information and support 'hub' for Exmoor's farming community. This is a fantastic voluntary opportunity to gain real work experience in an area that interests you and also help develop the work of the network. You will assist with the day to day running of the Exmoor Hill Farming Network Office based at Cutcombe Market, working alongside the Network Officer.

Duration: 2 weeks to 4 weeks (flexible to meet your needs)

Based at : EHFN Office, Cutcombe Market, Wheddon Cross (with some offsite time dependant on training, peer groups, markets etc..)

Hours: flexible with some evening meetings

Voluntary work placement

The role includes

- Supporting the facilitation of monthly peer support group meetings
- Arranging training courses
- Developing our engagement with the next generation
- Understanding the challenges faced by Exmoor farmers
- Working with local partnerships and organisations plus developing new partner links
- Working with our sponsors and potential sponsors
- Attending livestock markets and outside events
- Office Admin including call handling
- Shadowing the Network Officer
- The potential to undertake day visits to partner organisations

Agricultural / farming knowledge and an understanding of the Exmoor area is preferred. The Cutcombe office is rurally located and own transport will be required.

To apply please send a covering letter and CV to Katherine Williams, Exmoor Hill Farming Network, Cutcombe Market, Wheddon Cross, Minehead, TA24 7DT or for an informal chat please do call Katherine the Network Officer on 01643 84155 or KWilliams@northdevonplus.co.uk.

INDUSTRY NEWS

TB Hub

Did you know? The TB hub is the 'go-to' place for British beef and dairy farmers to find practical advice on dealing with bovine TB on their farm, covering everything from biosecurity measures to

understanding trading rules. The hub is a joint industry initiative, supported by the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB), the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA), the British Cattle Veterinary Association (BCVA), the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Landex and the National Farmers Union (NFU). For further information www.tbhub.co.uk

To book or for further information on any of the events above please contact the office on 01643 841455 or email KWilliams@northdevonplus.co.uk

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