

CLOSING DATE IS
30 APRIL 2009

Sheep Farmer of the Year

Are you a dynamic, successful sheep farmer carving a profitable future for yourself in the UK sheep industry? If so then you could be just the person we're looking for to join the growing band of Farmers Weekly Award winners championing all that's great about British farming.

Complete your contact and business details on this form – and attach your achievements and plans for the following 5 areas. Then send them to Farmers Weekly at the address below.



CONTACT DETAILS

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone (land line and mobile) _____

Email _____

BUSINESS DETAILS

Farm business description _____

Farm size _____

Flock size _____

WHEN COMPILING YOUR ENTRY, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING FIVE AREAS

- 1. Business.** Please give an overview of your business plan for your sheep enterprise, outlining your future aims and aspirations, together with details of how your business has grown. Where possible please explain cost management and fixed and variable costs. Please also give details of how your flock fits into your whole-farm system.
- 2. Technical.** Please outline your breeding, rearing and finishing policies, providing evidence of health management, breeding and feeding programmes and grassland and forage management. Please make reference to use of technologies such as performance recording or flock recording systems where appropriate.
- 3. Marketing.** Please explain your marketing policy, providing, where possible, information on prices achieved, carcass weights and grades, abattoir/auctioneer cooperation and evidence of adding value and marketing vision.
- 4. Social responsibilities.** Farming is increasingly being called to account over its role in environmental management. Please outline how your sheep enterprise works within its natural environment, including evidence of protecting natural resources, aiding biodiversity, meeting legislative requirements and engaging with the local community.
- 5. Leadership.** Farming needs leaders and visionaries. You may be involved with discussion groups, steering bodies, industry organisations or breed societies. Can you and your sheep enterprise deliver something for the future of the industry?

Send your entry to Farmers Weekly Awards, Quadrant House, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS or attach to an email to marion.phillips@rbi.co.uk by 30 April 2009



THE PROCESS

How do I enter?

1. Complete the entry form with your name, address and basic farm facts
2. Answer the questions in the five key areas outlined above
3. Forward evidence supporting your answers, e.g. business plans, accounts, environmental/biodiversity audits/research etc
4. Send your entry to Farmers Weekly Awards, Quadrant House, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS or attach to an email to marion.phillips@rbi.co.uk by 30 April 2009

How am I judged?

1. All entries will be judged on the above criteria
2. A shortlist of three entries will be selected from each category
3. The short-list will be visited by a panel of judges during June and July. This visit will take a minimum of 3 hours.
4. A winner for each category will be selected after the on-farm judging visits and the winner's name will be revealed at the Awards Night on 8th October 2009
5. The overall winner will be selected from the category winners by a panel of judges, including FW Editor Jane King, NFU Dir Gen Richard MacDonald and Sir Don Curry.

What are the rules?

1. The entrant and partner should be available to attend the Awards Night on 8th October 2009 at the London Grosvenor House
2. The judges will need to meet the person, or persons, named on the entry form during the farm judging visits which will take place during June and July
3. The finalists' stories, and their photographs, will appear in Farmers Weekly and its related products as well as local and national press
4. The winner receiving their trophy should be the person(s) named on the entry form

Data protection

By registering your details you indicate your consent for us to email you information about selected products, events and services from the FW Group, our parent company, our affiliated companies and from carefully chosen third parties unless you object to receiving such messages by ticking the boxes below: I do not want to receive other emails from:

- FW Group Parent Company
 Third Parties Affiliated Companies