June 2022





Half way through the year already, and despite adversities we do hope you can join us at the Driffield Show again this year.

We have our usual stand, number U345, which is located in the second field, near the Activity Area.

We will be providing our usual hospitality – cold drinks and snacks along with the chance for you to have a welcome sit down and a chat with our team.

We look forward to seeing you there.

The Next Nuffield Scholar: Could it be you?

Applications are now open for the 2022 Nuffield Scholarship, a programme which aims to, in their own words, "bring positive change to agriculture through the development of its future leaders, sending them overseas to learn from others and helping them share their brilliant ideas when they return home."

To achieve this, successful applicants are provided funding to complete a minimum of 8 weeks travel, either in the UK or overseas, visiting others in the industry to study a topic area of their choice. Once completed, they must write a report on their findings and complete a short presentation at the organisation's annual conference.

The pig industry has not had a successful applicant for a number of years and the programme is keen to hear from anyone, either working directly in pig farming or any allied industry who will be under the age of 45 as of the 31st July this year.

For more information and to apply visit https://www.nuffieldscholar.org/ or visit them at the CLA stand at the Yorkshire show on Wednesday 13th July between 3:30 and 4:30pm.

It would be really great to see someone from the industry bring back some useful insights into what people are doing elsewhere, as well as hopefully being an enjoyable project for the individual themselves. The deadline for this year's applications is the 31st July so if you are interested then don't delay!

DEFRA PbR Scheme Online Survey for Welfare



ADAS and Defra are inviting dairy, beef, laying hens, sheep, and pig farmers to take part in a Defra-funded survey on animal welfare standards. Your views will be used to develop a future Defra funded payment-by-results scheme which will reward farmers for achieving better standards of animal welfare on farm.

The survey will ask you to consider a range of options aimed at delivering welfare improvements that are specific to your main farming enterprise. We would like you to complete a survey on your preferences for different scheme formats and payment prices offered. This will inform future policy and help Defra understand which options you prefer. The options could be an action to take (such as reducing stocking density) or a final outcome (reduced mortality), or a combination of both.

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Your participation in this survey is voluntary and you're free to withdraw at any time during or after you submit your responses. The survey should take around 20 minutes to complete and can be accessed here https://surveys.garesearch.co.uk/public.asp.

Promotional links:

ADAS Website: https://adas.co.uk/news/have-your-say-on-future-animal-welfare-schemes/
Twitter:

https://twitter.com/ADASGroup/status/153378729 2577542146?cxt=HHwWhMC98dHajckqAAAA Linkedin:

https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6939558619419955200/

New strain of Type 1 PRRS

PRRS is well known worldwide in the pig industry causing huge economic losses every year. A new strain of Type 1 PRRS (the EU Strain) has been found in Catalonia that appears to have been caused by a recombination between the farms native strain and a second strain brought onsite via a group of weaners imported from Italy. This new strain has been called 'Rosalie' and has been found to be significantly more virulent than other EU strains reporting a 30-70% mortality rate in weaners, growers, and finishers as well as a 40% abortion rate at 20 weeks in pig. This recombination effect shows how important it is not to import PRRS positive pigs from another country due to the difference in genetics that can develop between native PRRS strains even if they are of the same original strain. Therefore, only buying PRRS positive pigs from British farms will keep the genetic differences to a minimum and therefore minimise the risk of recombination. An effective vaccine programme with input from your vet will also help in this regard as well as a good biosecurity protocol which will reduce the risk of PRRS getting onto your unit whether it is PRRS positive or negative.

Meet the Team

This month we would like to introduce you to our newest member of the team, Emma Rasmussen who works at Integra Veterinary Services, Norfolk.



Hi, I've lived in Norfolk nearly all of my life. After A'levels I started working for Barclays Bank in Norwich and ended up working for them for nearly 30 years with a short break in the middle to have children.

My husband and I live in Swaffham with our cat Sochi.

I enjoy cooking, reading, exercise and also socialising and travelling and I am finding it all very interesting and different from banking.

YOU ARE NOT ON YOUR OWN.

These are the hardest times the pig industry has experienced for over 20 years, and everyone is under incredible pressure. Please remember that there is help if you need it, and do not be afraid to reach out.

RABI is a leading farming charity and has announced immediate availability of additional support to anyone who needs it. They have a dedicated, professionally trained team who understand the pressures and challenges you face.

If you, or anyone you know could benefit from talking to RABI, or request a call back from a councillor, the charity can be contacted 24 hours a day on a confidential free helpline.

RABI 24-hour helpline: 0800 188 4444

help@rabi.org.uk