

Welcome to the latest edition of AFBI News & Views, we hope you are continuing to enjoy reading about our activities.

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News & Views

from the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

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<http://www.afbini.gov.uk>



Young lambs at grass in the spring months are at risk of developing fatal scour due to infection with *Nematodirus* worms.

AFBI issues *Nematodirus* Warning - Spring 2015

The Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute Veterinary Sciences Division wishes to advise sheep farmers of the likely risk of *Nematodirus* worm infection in young lambs occurring at this time of year

..... [Full story here](#)



AFBI's Chris Johnston receives second prize from Andy Baird (MC of Planet Solar NI) at the recent Action Renewables Energy Awards

AFBI Renewable Energy Centre Wins Major Award

The Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) has received an award in the category of 'Best Renewables Installation within the Education, Healthcare and Public Sector' for its Environment and Renewable Energy Centre at Hillsborough at the recent Action Renewables Energy Awards [Full story here](#)



A European badger

AFBI Research Investigates Frequency of Badger/Cattle Contact

A recently completed AFBI research project that aimed to determine the level of close range contact between badgers and cattle at pasture in Northern Ireland has found little evidence that the species interact with each other directly [Full story here](#)

"Prioritising Catchments to Balance Agronomic and Water Quality Targets"

A lunchtime seminar entitled "Prioritising Catchments to Balance Agronomic and Water Quality Targets" will be held at AFBI Headquarters, 18a Newforge Lane, Malone Upper, Belfast, BT9 5PX on Tuesday 28th April at 1.30 pm [Full story here](#)



Dr Ziping Wu (AFBI) was a keynote speaker at a recent EU Experts Workshop on EU-China food safety management and agri-food trade issues.

AFBI expert helps EU identify research needs

Dr Ziping Wu, a Principal Agricultural Economist in the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute was an invited keynote speaker at a recent EU experts' workshop in Brussels [Full story here](#)



Efficient dairying reduces greenhouse gas emissions

AFBI develops Carbon Calculator for Northern Ireland Dairy Farms

Increasing concerns about the impact of climate change have focused the attention of government and policy makers on the need to develop accurate estimates of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from key sectors [Full story here](#)



Presenting the donation to Jude McCann of Rural Support were Barbara Waters and Jennifer Meeke. Also present were Trevor Gilliland, Head of Branch and Scott Laidlaw who is currently working at AFBI Hillsborough and is also a volunteer with Rural Support

AFBI Hillsborough staff support Rural Support Charity

Every year, staff at AFBI Hillsborough hold a number of events at which they take the opportunity to raise money for charity causes. This year was no different but instead of supporting some of the more well known charities, it was decided to change focus and support a farmers charity [Full story here](#)



AFBI researchers have created a unique Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy (SERS) substrate which can amplify the Raman signal significantly

The SERS nano-structured metal surface allows for high sensitivity, reproducibility and signal-to-noise ratio [Full story here](#)

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