

PEMBROKESHIRE FARMER'S SON WINS PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL STUDENT AWARD

Pembrokeshire farmer's son and Harper Adams University (HAU) graduate Daniel Harries is the 2013 winner of the Rumenco Beef and Sheep Award for his exemplary business appraisal of a Shropshire farming estate.

Daniel, from Maerdy Farm, Penycwm near Haverfordwest, graduated last summer with a 2:1 BSc Honours degree in Agriculture. He won the award for the best BSc IV assignment submitted on a 'Beef and Sheep Enterprise Appraisal of Holdgate Hall, Much Wenlock' for the Sustainable Animal Production Systems module of his degree.



Daniel has now returned to the family farm and plans to put into practice much of what he learned at HAU. "We run a 650 acre mixed farm – milking 150 dairy cows and finishing around 100 head of beef cattle a year. We also carry 250 head of youngstock, including dairy followers and beef cattle. Crops grown on the farm include oilseed rape, winter barley and winter wheat – a percentage of which we crimp to finish the cattle. I'll certainly be looking to improve the cattle genetics and also plan to move away from 24-month beef finishing into intensive bull beef," he said.

The farm has also diversified to operate a caravan park and a number of holiday and long-term cottage lets, so Daniel has plenty of business potential to develop.

HAU senior lecturer Simon Marsh said that Daniel was a thoroughly deserving winner of the award. "Daniel always had the intention of returning home to improve the efficiency of the family business. He has the skills to do that and we wish him and his family every success as they embark on this new development," he said.

Daniel Harries is pictured receiving his award from Rumenco technical manager David Thornton.

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Picture supplied: Daniel Harries (left) with David Thornton.

Note to editors

1. Rumenco is a market leader in the ruminant feed supplement market. It is a successful company with strong brands. The well-established Rumevite, Supalyx and Lifeline products, in particular, are trusted and valued by livestock farmers in the UK. The company has forged robust partnership relationships with the agricultural merchant trade based on its branded products and contract manufacture.

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