**Understanding ram breeding traits and improving
lamb selection to target market specification**

**Thornton Farm, Norham, Berwick on Tweed, TD15 2LP**

**Thursday 21 June 2018, 4:00pm – 7:00pm**

Join AHDB Beef & Lamb for an event hosted by Duncan Nelless at Thornton Farm, one of nine commercial farms involved in the RamCompare project.

RamCompare is the UK's first commercial progeny test and has been testing performance-recorded rams from terminal sire breeds since 2015. Initial results, including new estimated breeding values (EBVs), were launched in November 2017.

The third crop of project lambs at Thornton Farm were born in March/April and this event is an opportunity to see them alongside their sires. A lamb selection expert will also be there to explain the importance of selection to target market specification.

We will be discussing Duncan's rearing system and the performance of RamCompare lambs, the growth rates that have been achieved and how their carcase composition relates back to individual sire EBVs for the well-known growth traits and newly developed carcase traits.

**Programme:**

**4.00pm** - Arrival (refreshments provided)

**4.15pm** - Welcome and introductions

**4.30pm** - What is RamCompare?

**4.45pm** - The performance of rams on test based on their breeding values

**5.15pm** - Farm walk

- Lamb selection demonstration and discussion

- View natural service rams alongside their breeding value charts

- Review of the new EBVs

**6.15pm** - Summary including how to get involved

**6.30pm** - Refreshments & Questions

**7.00pm** - Finish

**To register your FREE place ring the AHDB Events Hub on 01904 771212 or email
ke.events@ahdb.org.uk**

*Due to the risk of zoonotic diseases we advise ladies who are pregnant not to attend the event, if attending at your own risk please notify the relevant AHDB personnel on arrival.*

*If you have any special dietary requirements please contact us as soon as possible*

*In the event of adverse weather conditions close to the venue AHDB will contact you, at latest by the evening before, to cancel this event*