



Newsletter # 3 2023

Dear friends of WOOLUME, here's a quick update and wish of a wonderful, wooly Christmas!

A busy fall!

The WOOLUME team have had a busy fall going on into winter. The final project conference found place in October, and we will come back to this, but here is a summary of what conferences the project has been present at and delivered papers and posters:

1/ The 22nd Autex World Textile Conference, 26-28.6.2023, Melbourne (Australia)

Oral presentation: M. Rom, *Biodegradation of Sheep Wool Intended for Plant Fertilization*

2/ The 92nd Textile Institute World Conference 3-6.6.2023, Huddersfield (Great Britain)

Oral presentation: M. Rom, *Wool from local sheep breeds - zero waste plan for local communities*

Poster presentation: *Sustainability and safety of Polish mountain sheep wool* (Poster prize awarded by organizers).



3/ Woolly Thinking Shetland 2023, 18-19.9.2023, Lerwick (Shetland, Great Britain)

Oral presentation: J. Broda, M. Rom, *From wool of Polish mountain sheep to the end products*

4/ The international conference of the International Ecological Engineering Society (IEES): Closed cycles and the Circular Society. The power of ecological engineering. 1-5.10.2023 Platania (Crete, Greece)

Oral presentation: J. Broda, *Application of sheep wool as slowly released organic fertilizer in tomato and winter wheat cultivation*

Oral presentation: K. Kobiela-Mendrek, *Wool of Mountain Sheep - Maximizing Resources Utilization*

5/ Aachen – Dresden – Denkerdorf. International Textile Conference; 30.11-1.12.2023, Dresden, (Germany)

Poster: *The utilisation of wool of mountain sheep*

Tone Tobiasson also gave a lecture during the Natural Fiber Connect Conference in Biella, Italy September 28th and 29th 2023, not related directly to WOOLUME, rather the Plastic Elephant report; however, the following day stakeholders from the European wool value chain met and discussed the opportunities for developing better cooperation within Europe on wool. The Plastic Elephant report was also presented during the end conference for WOOLUME a month later.

Award of the Center for Intelligent Development

A major Laureate prize has been awarded the WOOLUME project, more specifically the Polish Smart Development Award in the category “Project of the Future”, from the Polish Intelligent Development Forum Foundation, Center for Intelligent Development. This is the reason cited for the prize: “for the achievements of the project, which may result in a positive impact on social and economic development. The award is granted for an open approach to promotion and communication with society, in order to present the importance of the benefits resulting from the implemented solution, and an attitude focused on actively maintaining a positive and interesting image of Polish science and research and development works.”



The WOOLUME end conference in Istebna/Koniakow

The end-conference for the WOOLUME project was held on October 26th and 27th, with many attendees who came from all over Europe; a report from the busy days in Poland can be read here: <https://clothingresearch.oslomet.no/2023/10/30/woolume-coming-to-its-voluminous-end/> The first day was mainly dedicated to results from WOOLUME, but also an opening session on wool in policies and understanding of sustainability. At the end of the first day, we also heard from Simon Gill, European Wool Association. Day two brought other bilateral wool projects in to the room, including one with Estonia. It was also interesting to meet actor from Slovakia, to reengage with our Portuguese partners from hiWool, to learn more about the lace-making heritage in Koniakow and new applications for wool in green constructions. The day before the conference started, we also visited two interesting companies, one of which had a novel approach to using wool that is seen as waste. It was a very constructive and well-executed end conference! Thank you to the team!

