
JULY 2000

Greetings

The New Zealand Society of Animal Production was formed 60 years ago and to mark this historic event I have reproduced the first Presidential address to the Society. The 1st Annual Conference was held at The Masonic Hall, The Terrace, Wellington in August 1941. The inaugural Executive consisted of Mr J.M. Ranstead (President), Professor C.P. McMeekan (Vice-President) and Mr A.H. Ward (Hon. Secretary-Treasurer). Fourteen papers were presented and there were 66 listed Society members.

The 60th Annual Conference was held at the Hamilton Gardens Pavilion recently and was attended by 170 registrants. Thanks must go to Steve Davis and the hard working local organising committee for a very successful conference, scientifically and socially.

On Monday evening at the Ruakura McMeekan Centre we enjoyed a Tribute to Dr Campbell Percy McMeekan, a founding member, past president and life member of NZSAP and the first research director of Ruakura (1941-1962). John Scott who worked at Ruakura during McMeekan's reign provided a fascinating and inspiring account of Dr McMeekan and his life. To make the evening complete 11 of the 20 McMeekan Memorial Award winners were also honoured with a small gift and a chance to say a few words.

There was a lively discussion at the AGM on the format of the conference talks (5 mins+3 mins for questions) and the age-old dilemma of having concurrent sessions. It was decided to transfer this debate to the NZSAP listserv (see the article on listservers by Neville Jopson in this newsletter).

On Tuesday evening we were entertained with a lively debate between teams consisting of politicians (Jeanette Fitzsimons and Gerry Eckhoff) and scientists on the topic "*Biotechnology is the key to the prosperity of N.Z.'s animal producers*". At times it wasn't always clear who was "for" and who was "against" the topic and the chairman, Dr Clive Dalton, declared a draw between the two teams based on the audience vote. On the Wednesday evening the conference social calendar closed with a fine meal at Vilagrad Restaurant and Wines and a series of hilarious after dinner tales by Dr Pat Shannon.

Three scientists with strong associations with Invermay have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to research, farmers and industry. At the 60th Jubilee Conference Geoff Asher was the recipient of the McMeekan Memorial Award and Jock Allison the Sir Arthur Ward Award (see article). In addition, Tony Pearse was recently honoured at the New Zealand Deer Farmers' Association 25th Jubilee Conference with the prestigious Deer Industry Award. Congratulations.

Please check your NZSAP membership subscription is current. The number in the top right hand corner of the address label on this newsletter indicates the year of last payment. Payments to NZSAP and sent to Lynne Smith, Executive Secretary will ensure your copy of the 2000 Proceedings. Finally, a reminder that applications for the Animal Science Award close July 31st.

Catherine Morrow

AWARDS RECIPIENTS 2000

McMEEKAN MEMORIAL AWARD:

The 20th McMeekan Memorial Award for 2000 was presented to **Dr Geoff Asher** in Hamilton 20 years (to the day) after he started work at the Ruakura Deer Unit. Geoff was the worthy recipient of this award for his fundamental and applied research on reproduction in New Zealand farmed deer. Geoff is well known throughout the deer industries of New Zealand, Australia and the USA particularly for research on reproductive technologies and improving genetic progress in farmed deer. Widely regarded as the world authority on all aspects of fallow deer biology and farming, he is also responsible for the breeding and conservation of the rare Mesopotamian Fallow deer in New Zealand. Geoff has also made a major contribution to the successful artificial insemination programme of the endangered Brow Antlered Eld's deer at the Smithsonian Institution, USA. Geoff is a good example of a scientist who holds firmly to the basic biology underlying livestock production, as evidenced by his flow of published papers in the leading scientific journals, but he also continues to pursue applied problems directly relevant to deer farmers. He has continued to provide leadership in the AgResearch deer research programme by developing reproductive technology for application to the deer industry and by maintaining a high level of technology transfer to deer farmers, veterinarians and advisors.

SIR ARTHUR WARD AWARD:

Dr Jock Allison was the popular recipient of this award for his contributions to agriculture, in particular his work in improving the reproductive efficiency of New Zealand sheep. Jock completed his PhD in reproductive studies. This work gave him a lifelong interest in improving the then low reproductive rate of New Zealand sheep and his initial studies at the Animal Production Unit at Invermay had immediate industry impact. The research on extended ram to ewe mating ratios saw "time honoured" mating ratios increasing from around 1:50 rams per ewe in the late 1960's to the current norm of 1:100. The benefits of this change of course were that farmers could afford fewer but better rams and this in turn stimulated the ram breeding industry. He is also well known for his efforts importing exotic breeds of sheep (Booroola Merinos, Texels, Finns, Oxford Down, East Friesian, German Mutton Headed Merinos and Gotland Pelts) to both New Zealand and Australia. His enterprise in importing the East Friesian breed in 1992 provided a new dimension to sheep farming, an ovine milk industry. Jock has consistently emphasised the importance of the extension and application of research results. In his role as director of Invermay (1979-1986), he was instrumental in the building of the present campus, and subsequently as a long serving inaugural board member for AgResearch, he constantly reinforced the message that research could not be divorced from its extension to the farming industry. To him success was measured in both scientific publication and industry adoption.

YOUNG MEMBERS AWARD:

Ian Tarbotton was the winner of the Young Members Award. Ian's paper was titled "*Technology attributes for farm decisions – management of endoparasites*" by I.S. Tarbotton, M.S. Paine and A. Heath from AgResearch, Ruakura. Ian has a BAgSc Honours degree from Lincoln University and is a member of the Social Research Unit within AgSystems at AgResearch, Ruakura. The Unit conducts social research in areas ranging from environmental management and the ethics of genetic engineering to attitudes to advanced information technology and organisational learning. As a result, Ian's work is quite different from most NZSAP members, for example earlier this year he was involved in co-leading a course for fisheries officers in Tonga.

JUBILEE UNIVERSITY AWARDS:

Jubilee University awards are given to the leading third year undergraduate students in Animal Science during 1999 at the two Agricultural Universities.

Massey University Student Award: Nicola Schreurs

Lincoln University Student Award: Ann Steidl

NZSAP SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD:

The innovation award is given to the paper presented at the annual conference which in the view of the judging panel shows greatest novelty and advancement in science and/or technology for animal production. The winner of the NZSAP Innovation Award for 2000 will be announced in the next newsletter.

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

26 June 2000 saw the announcement of a major phase of completion in the Human Genome Project – the ‘first draft’ of the human genome. It was also the first day of the 60th Annual Conference of this Society. These two events may even be connected in the sense that involvement of genomics, gene manipulation and the wider aspects of biotechnology in animal production is entering a heightened phase of public discussion. This was evident at the Conference in some of the presentations and in the lively evening debate. Likewise, environmental and sustainability issues appeared on the agenda, animal welfare was featured and we had a glimpse of future global food markets. There was the usual solid core of livestock science presentations as well, but it is clear that the concerns of animal production science these days roam over a wider range of topics than used to be the traditional scope of these meetings. This evolution of interests bodes well for the Society. It helps to focus attention on the relevance of research programmes and it enables members to shift their footing and thus re-position themselves to tackle changes in personal goals and in research programme objectives.

Each year we seem to re-visit the question of the future of the Society and the role of the Annual Conference. It is clear that the future will include greater demand, and certainly a greater need, for livestock and their products. It will include increased use of biotechnology in this industry and there will be more confrontation with pressure groups opposing such progress. All of these effects will have an impact on animal livestock science in New Zealand, and will place increasing demands on the science practitioners and on the communicators of scientific knowledge. In that case, the first Annual Conference of the 21st century provided a taste of what can be expected in future meetings and re-asserted my faith in the continuing well being of the Society.

Graham Barrell

NZSAP ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2001

The 61st Annual Conference will be held in the last week of June which conveniently coincides with the South Island Dairy Event. Of course in the true Anglo custom this event has to have an acronym, and the acronym is SIDE. Both of these conferences will be held at Lincoln University and we are in discussions with the SIDE committee on sharing speakers and sessions, so note it down in your diary dairy devotees. The Local Organising Committee can be contacted through scobied@agresearch.cri.nz. The call for abstracts will be in the October newsletter.

Scobie
Conference Convenor

OBITUARIES

Emeritus Professor **J.W. (Jack) McLean** died in Christchurch on 7 May, 1998, aged 88. Prof. McLean was a foundation member of NZSAP and his research extended over a wide range of practical problems concerning New Zealand livestock farmers. His research included progeny testing of sheep, growth and carcass quality of lambs, ill thrift in sheep, selenium administration and the interaction between the composition of pasture species and the growth rates and health of animals. Dr McLean was head of the Veterinary Department at Lincoln College from 1947 and was an active member of the Veterinary Association and the New Zealand Institute of Agricultural Science in addition to NZSAP. He will be best remembered by those who knew him as a very skilled lecturer with a friendly personality and a ready wit.

Emeritus Professor **Robert Leslie Weir (Bob) Averill** died in Wellington on 7 November 1999. Dr Averill began his science career at Lincoln College in 1949 graduating with MAgrSc under the guidance of Prof. Ian Coop. His masters thesis (1952) described work on the physiological effects of flushing of ewes on ovulation and embryo survival. He completed his PhD in endocrinology at Cambridge in 1956 and returned to a position at Otago University. He published studies of seasonality of reproduction in Romney ewes in Otago whilst he was employed as a medical researcher at Otago University. In 1968 he became a faculty member of the University of Tennessee at Memphis. After three years in the USA he returned to New Zealand at Victoria University as Professor of Physiology where he was a well-respected lecturer and researcher. Dr Averill retired in 1994 and was granted Emeritus Professor status by Victoria University in recognition of his long and valued service.

NZSAP 1ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1941

President's Opening address: Mr J.M. Ranstead.

I think I had better open this meeting with a few words regarding the beginnings of this Society.

Last June a small band of enthusiasts gathered together in Wellington to consider the advisability of forming a new society on the lines of the American Genetic Association. This is an incorporated organisation devoted to promoting a knowledge of the laws of heredity and their application to the improvement of plants, animals, and human racial stocks. After considerable discussion, the original proposal was abandoned, and in its place it was decided to form the New Zealand Society of Animal Production on the general lines of the American Society of that name.

As convenor and chairman of the preliminary meeting, it now falls to my lot to take the chair at this, the first annual general meeting of the new Society. We are now assembled to confirm or amend the proposed constitution, and to finalise other matters in connection with the formation of the Society.

The organising committee appointed at the preliminary meeting is to be congratulated on the very fine programme that has been drawn up and which has, so far, been so successfully carried out.

We have with us here tonight, and I hope they will become permanent members of our new Society, some gentlemen whose chief interest lies in matters which one would not, at first thought, connect with animal production. In the old Roman Empire all roads led to Rome. In animal production all roads lead back to the soil, and so I hope the Animal Production Society will embrace as wide a field as possible. We need information from the geologist, the soil chemist, and plant research workers in connection with many of our problems. Especially in the field of genetics is this true. Animal genetics is closely linked with plant genetics, and the animal breeder may learn much by familiarising himself with the methods of the plant breeder.

The man who is primarily concerned with animal production is, of course, the farmer, and he can only improve his animal production by better attention to the health of his stock, by better feeding and management, and by breeding better animals. In all these matters the time-lag between new discoveries and their application has to be admitted.

It appears to me that our new Society can perform a most useful service to the farming community if the results of workers, in this and other countries, in the fields of animal health and husbandry are immediately brought before the public.

In addition, there is the matter of animal breeding to be considered. The farmer requires improved pedigree animals, for by the use of pedigree sires most of our high-producing grade herds are ranking level in production with the pedigree stock that have been used to grade them up. In these herds no further improvement along these lines can be expected till improved pedigree stock are available.

For this improvement we must look to the breeder, but look in vain unless there are placed before him clearly, and in a manner that he can easily understand, the results of the workers in recent years in the field of animal genetics.

For instance, I have suggested to the Conference the title, "Should a Breeder Tell?", for my own paper, and a member has already asked whether the title ought more aptly to be "Does a Breeder Know?". Perhaps the purpose of the Society can best be interpreted in the title, "Should a Breeder be Told and How?".

The value of our Society here becomes apparent. Here is a body that can review operations as at present being conducted, pick out what is faulty, and suggest remedies. How to hammer home this advice is a very important problem which requires our immediate attention. By arriving at some method of reducing the aforementioned time-lag we shall be doing a service to our country.

NZSAP MILLENNIUM CD-ROM

The CD-Rom of the complete set of conference proceedings from 1941 to 2000 (Vol. 1-60) will be available to members in the next month or so at the cost of \$20 and to non-members for \$120. This is outstanding value as the cost of purchasing the last 3 years proceedings is currently \$160. This is a chance to have the complete set of NZSAP conference proceedings on file. The CD-Roms will be available from the Executive Secretary, Lynne Smith.

AAAP REPORT

Several NZSAP members attended the 9th Animal Science Congress of the Asian Australasian Association of Animal Production (AAAP) Societies in conjunction with the 23rd Biennial Conference of the Australian Society of Animal Production (ASAP) held in Sydney (2-7 July 2000). NZSAP were asked by the AAAP organising committee to put on two contracts on deer production, here's the social event report ...

Disgraceful performance by NZSAP contingent at AAAP

Often, as part of the social calendar of an international conference, delegates from each country are requested to perform an item as part of the entertainment at the formal dinner. This request threw NZers at the recent AAAP Congress in Sydney into disarray or an impromptu visit to the toilet. The result was an appalling excuse for a haka. It is obviously imperative that NZSAP commission the production of an official NZSAP haka/waiata and workshops are held at NZSAP Conferences to train members to perform these items. This would prevent the recurrence of the embarrassment of Sydney. [fortunately the All Blacks more than made up for it later in the month – Ed.]

Australian beef on display at AAAP

The choice of mains at the AAAP Congress dinner was chicken or lamb. However beef had its moment during the Sydney harbour evening cruise. Dispel any image of sitting down to a white tablecloth dinner with a medium-rare fillet washed down with a full-bodied Australian red. Instead, delegates found themselves fighting for, wait for it, hamburgers which appeared in trays of 12 for the 250-300 on board. This may have been a clever way of disposing of some of the considerable proportion of Australian beef which, we heard earlier in the day, failed to meet eating quality standards.

Sykes influence international

The name Sykes is well recognised in the international world of animal science, but 'that's not all'. Sydney is abuzz with preparations for the Olympics and much of this involves protecting the public from staying onto building sites by erecting pre-formed, interlocking plastic barriers blazoned of course with the name of the manufacturer – SHORTCO SYKES

*Dr Alastair Nicol
Animal and Food Sciences Division, Lincoln University*

AWARD APPLICATIONS

The **NZSAP Animal Science Award** is to promote and advance Animal Science and Production. Specifically it encourages early career development and supports contact with AAAP activities. Applicants must normally have been a member of NZSAP for at least one year prior to application and be a current financial member. The application format is available on the NZSAP website <http://nzsap.rsnz.govt.nz> and from the Executive Secretary. Applications should be sent to the Executive Secretary by **31 July 2000**.

If you were successful in obtaining a travel award recently don't forget to get your report to the Executive Secretary.

The **Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST)** is calling for nominations for the 14th Khwarizmi International Award (KIA). The aim of the award is to afford recognition to outstanding contributions in fields such as engineering, agriculture, basic sciences, medical sciences, humanities, etc. The purpose of the award is to reward and honour the scientists whose contributions provide solutions to major problems. The winners receive a monetary prize and a round trip air ticket to Iran for the official ceremony. The deadline for submission is 25 August 2000. Application forms and details are available from the Executive Secretary or Andy Bray. Dr Anis Rahman of the Grazing Ecology Group in Grasslands Division of AgResearch was the second winner of the 12th Khwarizmi International Award in 1999.

MEMBERSHIP

The New Zealand Society of Animal Production warmly welcomes the following 15 new members:

Koos Baars	Hamilton	Jennifer Burke	Palmerston North
Richard Spelman	LIC, Hamilton	Robin Campbell	Winton
Justine Stewart	Auckland	Peter Gore	DRC, Hamilton
Charles Thurston	Otago	Melinda Wheeler	Papakura
Belinda Hopson	Wrightson, Hamilton	Simone Hoskin	Lower Hutt
Chris McMahon	AgResearch, Hamilton	Lorna McNaughton	Massey University
Charlotte Westward	Wrightson, Christchurch	Scott Loeffler	The Netherlands
Wayne Nicol	Wrightson, Christchurch		

The Animal Production Society has a current membership of 528.

Can anyone supply current addresses for the following members? Please contact the Executive Secretary if you know how these members can be contacted.

Mr J V Reid	Patea	Keren Wilson	Palmerston North
Aaron Meikle	Alexandra	Rob Flett	Hamilton

LISTSERVERS

A listserv is a simple kind of bulletin board that works through email. A message can be emailed to the 'bulletin board' (email address "nzsap@lists.earthlight.co.nz") by anyone. The listserv has a distribution list of all the members email addresses. It takes the incoming message, and forwards it on to all the email addresses in its list. In other words, it works exactly the same as an email group. The difference is that with an email group, when you reply to the message, the reply goes to the person who sent the message, but with the listserv, the reply goes back to the server and is sent out to all the members on the list again. So, if we want a discussion on e.g. genetic engineering in NZ, someone writes the first email (preferably with some inflammatory remarks to generate some responses) and posts it to the listserv. All NZSAP members with email receive the message. People will respond to this new 'thread' (i.e. topic) using the reply button. The reply again goes to all 500 odd members [and the 28 members that are not so odd – Ed]. If the topic is a good one, we get a large public (well, confined to NZSAP membership) conversation going on. If it is not a good topic, it dies a death by no-one posting followup messages. It is an ideal way to gauge public opinion on the five minute presentations given the low turnout at the AGM.

People either love or hate listservers. Some of the big ones (e.g. the Animal Breeders Discussion Group (ABDG) listserv) pass around dozens of messages a day on a range of topics. You read the threads you are interested in, and delete messages for threads you aren't interested in without reading. If you hate lots of email turning up, then you can get yourself removed from the distribution list.

Neville Jopson
Website Manager

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

At the 1998 AGM, a motion was carried that Special Interest Groups (SIGs) be formed, which would have an active role in determining the structure of the Annual Conference and providing expert commentary on behalf of the Society. Such discipline groups have already existed in an ad-hoc and informal manner, sometimes even arranging meetings to coincide with participation at the NZSAP Annual Conference. While the Management Committee agreed to trial SIGs for a period of two years there was insufficient interest to get these started. Below is a listing of listservers that already exist in the Special Interest Group Areas. Thanks to those members who responded to my pleas for information.

If you are new to listservers try subscribing to the Royal Society science news and Science alert or have a look at www.egroups.com to see what is out there. **ALWAYS** keep the first message you receive from the group that tells you how to send messages to the group and how to unsubscribe.

Catherine Morrow

- The Royal Society of New Zealand publishes a daily science news (science headlines) and a weekly science alert. To join, send a message to subscribe@rsnz.govt.nz and you will receive both the science news and Royal Society Alert. Back issues of distributed Royal Society Alerts are accessible and searchable from our home page at <http://www.rsnz.govt.nz>

Breeding and genetics (generates a few emails a day from each)

- Animal Geneticists Discussion Group (AGDG). The listserver address for AGDG is: breeders@ops.agsci.colostate.edu
- Gene Mapping Discussion Group (AnGenMap). Mail distributed to 706 members for information: <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/community/discuss.html>

Dairy production

- www.dairygateway.co.nz
- Dairy-L is a global list dedicated to dissemination of factual-based information relative to the managing of dairy cows and dairy herds for people in the dairy industry. It has a very large membership and generates quite a few messages each day (you can select a digest form so you only receive one big message per day). To subscribe send email to : LISTSERV@UMDD.UMD.EDU and enter the following in the message: subscribe Dairy-L

Deer

- Deermail is a group dedicated to research on the biology and management of hoofed mammals, particularly deer. On average it generates 1-2 messages per day. To subscribe email the moderator at deermail2-owner@egroups.com.
- Deertalk is a new deer news group you can subscribe either by going to www.egroups.com and looking up deertalk or by emailing Judy Watson at www.idiamondi.com

Nutrition

- [//www.agrinutrition.com/links.html](http://www.agrinutrition.com/links.html)
- [//www.nutrition.org](http://www.nutrition.org) (website for the Journal of Nutrition. You receive monthly updates containing the table of contents of the current issue of this journal).

Health and welfare

- Applied Ethology - to subscribe send email to applied-ethology-REQUEST@sask.usask.ca and type the following on the first line of the message (leave the subject line blank): subscribe applied-ethology username@useraddress (enter your email address)

Communication/extension

- Farming Systems Development (FSD) electronic news. FSDnews is published via an e-mail list on the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) computer that is called FSDnews-L. To subscribe to FSDnews send an e-mail message to: Mailserv@Mailserv.FAO.org. This message should have only one line of text in the message area (what you put in the subject line is optional) that should read: Subscribe FSDnews-L.
- Farm management and production economics service of FAO, includes previous issues of FSDnews <http://www.fao.org/waicent/faoinfo/agricult/ags/AGSP/default.htm>
- Participatory, Learning and Action (PLA) Update is an irregular email update of news, resource materials, seminars, workshops, websites, electronic newsletters and upcoming events about participatory approaches to development compiled by the Development Resource Centre. Send an email to: gbedi@drc.org.nz
- Sustainability and Economics in Agriculture (SEA) News is a Newsletter on bioeconomic and social research on Sustainability and Economics in Agriculture. Editor: Dave Pannell, University of Western Australia, email: David.Pannell@uwa.edu.au to subscribe. web site: <http://welcome.to/seanews> Also has a page with papers that focus on agricultural extension, and adoption and diffusion of innovations in agriculture: Web page: <http://www.general.uwa.edu.au/u/dpannell/adoppprs.htm>
- Newsletter of Sustainable Livestock & Agriculture Production (SLAP) <http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/Canopy/3770/>
- On-line magazine of the New Agriculturist <http://www.new-agri.co.uk>

NEW ZEALAND VETERINARY JOURNAL

New Editor talks Animal Science; No more page charges; Fast publication times

The new Editor of the New Zealand Veterinary Journal, Dr Peter Jolly, attended the recent conference of the Society of Animal Production in Hamilton last month to hear what animal scientists had to say, and to explore opportunities for increasing animal science submissions to the veterinary journal. Veterinarians are often regarded by farmers as a key link in the transfer of information and technology from scientists to the farming communities. Dr Jolly believes the New Zealand Veterinary Journal is ideally positioned to serve a role in the technology transfer process by conveying scientific information related to animal health, productivity and welfare to veterinarians and animal scientists in both New Zealand and overseas. In this way he sees that the role of the Journal could extend well beyond that of traditional veterinary science, reflecting the increasing inter-relationships that exist between the veterinary and animal science communities today.

The New Zealand Veterinary Journal has become a highly authoritative venue for the publication of original research findings, clinical observations, correspondence and review articles, specialising in articles related to grassland farming of cattle, sheep and deer. However, submissions from all disciplines are welcome. Now in its 48th year of publication, the Journal has over 1650 subscribers comprising veterinarians, researchers, academics, government, agricultural and pharmaceutical industry representatives, and private consultants in more than 35 countries around the world. All scientific papers submitted for publication are independently refereed, regardless of source. Page charges no longer apply, in a welcome move that aims to stimulate submissions across a broad range of disciplines.

The New Zealand Veterinary Journal has a high citation index, and is currently ranked in the top quartile of veterinary science journals in the world, similar to the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, slightly below Veterinary Record, and above the (British) Veterinary Journal, the Australian Veterinary Journal, and the Canadian Veterinary Journal.

The New Zealand Veterinary Journal is now able to offer some terrific publication opportunities for quality manuscripts and correspondence that move quickly through the refereeing and review processes. In some cases, the interval from receipt to publication can be as short as 3-4 months. Dr Jolly is also available for discussion on any matters relating to suitability of material for submission, or journal content, and welcomes any input on how the New Zealand Veterinary Journal can better serve your publication requirements.

The editorial office is now located in the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences (IVABS) at Massey University. The intention of this move has been to stimulate communication and increase the accessibility of the Editor to both the veterinary and animal science communities, and to take advantage of opportunities within this environment for expertise and resource sharing.

The New Zealand Veterinary Journal now has a new website, posting up-to-date guidelines for authors and referees, manuscript release forms, subscription and advertising details, citation and indexing information, and links to related sites. This site is under active development, and will soon post tables of contents for each issue and searchable indices for past issues, aimed at facilitating location of articles for those without access to other electronic databases. Inclusion of abstracts and feature articles is under review. You can visit this site at: <http://www.vetjournal.org.nz>.

Contacts should be addressed to:

Dr Peter Jolly

Editor, New Zealand Veterinary Journal

Institute of Animal, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences,

Massey University Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Tel. +64 6 329 4045; Mobile: 025 210 1455; Fax: +64 6 329 4047; Email: nzvj@massey.ac.nz

NEW ZEALAND LIFE SCIENCES NETWORK

The New Zealand Life Sciences Network (Inc) brings together organisations and individuals involved or interested in responsible research and the application of biotechnology. The Network actively participates in the public policy process and advocates increasing the community's awareness and understanding of the value biotechnology programmes and initiatives contribute to our national well being. Dr William Rolleston (MD, Chairman of BIOTENZ) is the Interim Chairman and Francis Wevers, formerly of Consultus, is the Executive Director. Further information is available from Francis Wevers, New Zealand Life Sciences Network, PO Box 715, Wellington; Tel +64 4 916 0100; Fax +64 4 473 1081; email: fwevers@lifesciencenz.com

DAIRYING CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

On the 28th of June the New Zealand Dairy Board announced the formation of an organisation focused on improving dairy farm productivity. In the interim it will be called the Centre of Excellence (C.O.E.). The purpose of the C.O.E. will be to secure research, extension and education for dairy farmers. The C.O.E. will undertake such "core" functions as extension, economic modelling, strategic planning and whole farm systems research – and will co-ordinate and fund a number of other functions such as animal improvement, forage and feeding research, education and animal welfare. The Dairying Research Corporation (DRC) along with education and extension expertise, from Livestock Improvement Corporation (LIC), will form the nucleus of the C.O.E. which will be headquartered at LIC Newstead.

A Transition Board has been appointed and Dr Rob Pringle has been seconded from DRC to manage the initial establishment phase. For further information contact Rob Pringle:
Tel: 07 856 0848; Mobile: 025 241 4022; email: centreofexcellence@hotmail.com

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

**** MEMBERSHIP FEES ****

Members: The 2000 annual subscription is now due!

For full members from New Zealand and Australia the fee is NZ\$55.00 (reduced to NZ\$ 27.50 for students and retired members). Members residing overseas (except Australia) pay US\$55.00.

A personal membership fee invoice was enclosed with the March newsletter. If you haven't already done so please return the form with your payment. Students must have the form signed by their academic supervisor.

**** CREDIT CARD PAYMENT ****

NZSAP now has the facilities to accept payment via credit cards.

VISA and MASTERCARD only.

This can be done by submission of the **Name** on the card; card **Number**; card **Type** and card **Expiry Date** by either mail, fax, or E-mail to the NZSAP Executive Secretary detailing what and who the payment is for and including contact postal addresses and phone/fax numbers etc.

CARD SWIPE facilities for these two cards also exist and will be available at future meetings.

Payment by Electronic transfer is also available to some clients. These are only accepted under strict conditions. Please contact Lynne Smith for further details.

Non-members: An invitation is extended to those involved in the field of Animal Production to apply for membership in the New Zealand Society of Animal Production. The Society is concerned with all aspects of Animal Production and in particular:

- promoting communication and collaboration between those involved in animal production;
- promoting the application of sound practices in animal production;
- promoting the scientific study of animal production;
- holding a regular conference as a forum for presentation of technical and applied topics in animal production; and
- publishing conference proceedings and other occasional publications relevant to animal production.

Application forms can be found on the society web site:- <http://nzsap.rsnz.govt.nz> or from a member of the committee.

NZSAP Occasional Publication #12

'Reproductive Management of Grazing Ruminants in New Zealand'

Substantial knowledge from New Zealand based research on managing reproductive performance within the herd or flock is a key element to the improved efficiency of New

This knowledge is drawn together within this publication .

A multi-author approach has been used and all authors are experts in their particular field.

Hormonal Control of the Reproductive Processes; Comparative Reproductive Performance; Seasonal Factors Influencing Reproductive Management; Modifying Reproductive Processes;

Monitoring Reproductive Performance as an Aid to Management; Future Developments in Reproductive Technology for Livestock Species;

serious interest in the efficient reproductive management of domestic ruminants in New Zealand.

New Zealand	NZ \$
Australia	AUS \$
Other countries	US \$

**** SPECIAL OFFER ****

The NZSAP is offering a special package deal of:-

Occ. Pub. # 11 "Meat Production and Processing"

plus

Occ. Pub. # 12 "Reproductive Management of Grazing Ruminants in NZ"

plus

Occ. Pub. # 13 "Labcoats to Gumboots"

NZ\$50 (Australia, NZ and Pacific)

US\$50 (Rest of The World)

This is a saving of \$25

Orders to: New Zealand Society of Animal Production,
C/- AgResearch,
Ruakura Research Centre,
Private Bag 3123,
Hamilton,
New Zealand
Email: nzsap.animal@xtra.co.nz

Details of all publications available can be seen on the Societies Web site at <http://nzsap.rsnz.govt.nz/>

CALLING ALL CANTERBRIANS

The Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand (founded in 1862) welcomes new members to: join them at monthly sponsored science lectures, interesting day trips and weekend excursions, make use of borrowing privileges at University of Canterbury libraries, to keep up to date with local events through the monthly newsletter and to help young graduate students with travel or study through Branch Awards. Annual membership is \$37 and more information is available from Branch Secretary Dr Alistair Campbell, P.O. Box 52, Lincoln University, Canterbury 8150. Tel 03 325 2811 extn 8236 or email: campbell@lincoln.ac.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS

Events are listed on the Royal Society Events Calendar see <http://www.rsnz.govt.nz/news/events/index.php>

International Conference on Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine Towards the 21st Century (ICASVM 2000), Beijing, China, 12-15 Aug 2000. For more information contact: Ms Xu Jinhua, Tel: +86-10-62895371, +86-10-62895371; email: xmskyczy@public3.bta.net.cn; <http://www.cicst.org.cn/icasvm>

The European Association for Animal Production The Netherlands, 21-24 August 2000. The 51st Annual Meeting of the EAAP, which will be held at the Netherlands Congress Centre in The Hague, at which study commissions will organise in total 40 different sessions on Genetics, Animal Nutrition, Animal Physiology, Cattle Production, Sheep and Goat Production, Pig Production and Horse Production. Full details on the programme and registration can be found on <http://eaap2000.wau.nl>

World Dairy Expo 2000 Madison, Wisconsin, USA, 4-8 Oct 2000. For information Tel +001 608 224 6455; 001 608 224 0300; email: wde@wdexpo.com; <http://www.world-dairy-expo.com>

New Zealand Grassland Association Annual Conference, Invercargill, New Zealand, 31 Oct-2 Nov 2000. For more information contact Tania Horton, 2 RD, Invercargill; email: Horton@southnet.co.nz <http://www.grassland.org.nz>

SciTech 2000 - An Exhibition of Science and Technology, Christchurch, New Zealand, 15-18 Nov 2000. Contact Martin.Svehla@ccc.govt.nz; <http://www.tp2000.org.nz/>

10th International Wool Textile Research Conference, Aachen, Germany. 26 Nov-1 Dec 2000. For more information contact Dr Brigitte Kuppers, Deutsches Wollforschungsinstitut; www.dwi.rwth-aachen.de/

Australasian Society for Immunology 30th Annual Conference, Sydney, Australia, 10-15 Dec 2000. Contact PO Box 991, Rockdale, NSW 2216; Tel +61 2 9567 9322; email: admin@asi2000.org; <http://www.asi2000.org>

Society for the Study of Fertility Winter Meeting, Utrecht, The Netherlands, 15-16 Dec 2000. SSF Winter Meeting is a joint meeting with VFS. Includes a Symposium: "The Rise and Decline of Ovarian Follicles" Delegates are encouraged to submit an abstract for presentation, deadline 31 August 2000 <http://www.ssf.org.uk> ; registration: a.denis@fbu.uu.nl For more information contact Jan Uilenbroek, Endocrinology and Reproduction, Erasmus University, P.O. Box 173; Tel +31 10 408 7581; Fax +31 10 408 9461; email: uilenbroek@endov.fgg.eur.nl or visit the <http://www.eur.nl/fgg/endov/SSF2000/>

XXXIV International Congress of Physiological Sciences Christchurch, New Zealand, 26-31 Aug 2001. "From Molecule to Malady" Abstract and registration deadline is 31 January 2001. For more information about the Congress or the 40+ satellite meetings in Australia and New Zealand Tel +64 9 360 1240; email: info@tcc.co.nz or visit the website <http://www.iups2001.org.nz>

5th International Deer Biology Congress Québec City, Canada, 25-30 Aug. 2002

The International Association of Food Safety Professionals (IAFSP) cordially invites NZSAP members to join other New Zealand IAFSP members: <http://maxpages.com/iafsp>

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The current Management Committee is:

		Phone	Fax	Email	Location
PRESIDENT	Graham Barrell	03 325 3803	03 325 3851	barrell@lincoln.ac.nz	Lincoln University
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mark Fisher	06 874 8757	06 874 8703	fisherm@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Poukawa
PAST-PRESIDENT	Andy Bray	03 325 6900	03 325 2946	braya@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Lincoln
SECRETARY	Roland Sumner	07 838 5272	07 838 5117	sumnerr@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Ruakura
TREASURER	John Smith	07 838 5533	07 838 5658	smithj@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Ruakura
EDITOR	Sam Peterson	06 356 9099	06 350 5674	s.peterson@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
NEWSLETTER	Catherine Morrow	07 838 5574	07 838 5012	morrowc@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Ruakura
PUBLICATIONS	Garry Waghorn	06 351 8051	06 351 8003	waghorn@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Grasslands
WEB SITE	Neville Jopson	03 489 3809	03 489 9024	jopsonn@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Invermay
CONFERENCE	David Scobie	03 983 3921	03 325 3194	scobied@agresearch.cri.nz	AgResearch Lincoln
EXEC. SEC.	Lynne Smith	07 856 9150	07 856 9150	nzsap.animal@xtra.co.nz	Hamilton

An electronic version of this newsletter and other information on the Society is available at:

<http://nzsap.rsnz.govt.nz/>

Any contributions to the Newsletter should be forwarded to: Catherine Morrow, AgResearch Ruakura, Private Bag 3123, Hamilton. Email: morrowc@agresearch.cri.nz

RETURN MAIL ADDRESS Executive Secretary
New Zealand Society of Animal Production
AgResearch, Ruakura
Private Bag 3123,
Hamilton, New Zealand.