

APRIL 2001

Scobie and his team have done a brilliant job organising the **61st Annual Conference** at Lincoln (June 25-27). All the details and information you require is contained in this newsletter. There will be a feast of sessions not only from the Society but also in conjunction with the South Island Dairy Event and the NZ Institute of Agricultural Science/NZ Society of Horticultural Science/Primary Resource Forum.

There are three important forms enclosed with this newsletter that require your attention – now! The **YELLOW** form is your personalised subscription renewal notice. The **BLUE** form is your Conference Registration and payment form. Note that this is different from previous years and the separate payments for membership and conference registration are required for accounting purposes. The **PINK** form is a survey to help the Committee plan the future format of the Proceedings (printed vs. electronic). All members should return the Yellow and Pink forms to the Exec. Secretary and Conference attendees should send the completed Blue form to Stuart Young by June 1. Please don't let these forms languish in your In-Tray! Additionally, nominations for the Management Committee are due on April 16 and there is an opening for the Publications Manager.

Finally, an Animal Production Society newsletter would not be complete without mentioning the devastating outbreak of PanAsia strain of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the UK and EU. Six weeks after the first diagnosis of FMD in pigs in Essex the increase in cases is unrelenting and has affected sheep, cattle and deer. Due to the doubt over the quality of information provided by the media, I recommend two informative websites (listed later) and the Special Report published in The Veterinary Record.

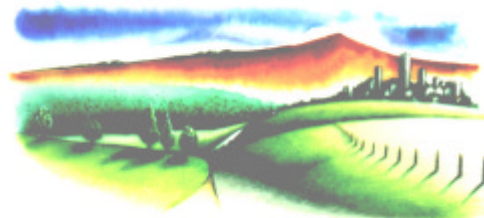
Catherine Morrow

PRESIDENTIAL COMMENT

Life is never dull. As a small-scale Banks Peninsula farmer I spend my days anxiously looking for non-existent rain clouds. However, in spite of the dry weather, my view that the so-called 'global warming' issue has no solid basis remains unshaken. Most of the concern about this topic is based on media hype. Also, I have just received an email from a person who is working within the foot and mouth disease outbreak in the United Kingdom. The message is that British news media appear to have distorted the facts, misinformed the public and have shown lack of willingness to publish objective and authoritative statements on the topic. Maybe this year's NZSAP conference will offer you some new insight into how the media function – I suggest you come along and find out. There is, of course, much more on the agenda than media issues. As Scobie suggests below, look under some stones. You never know what you will find.

Graham Barrell

The Society is grateful for the sponsorship provided by



Landcorp
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The members of the Society follow current trends in the same fashion as Journalists chase a story. The association between Lincoln University and Dexcel is in concert with the maniacal growth of dairying in the South Island. The shared sessions with SIDE attracted an outstanding number of contributed papers on a range of dairy related topics. There will only be three contributed papers on wool when we are opposite the doors of the Wool Research Organisation, and where once the conference had whole sessions on wool. Indeed such is the contraction in contributions related to some of our traditional sectors, we can run just one session on Sheep and Beef. Despite the growth of the deer industry, just as many equine papers were contributed as cervine. What is going on? The inevitable – Change!

It is my hope that the 2001 conference will prepare you for these changes, and help you to look under previously unturned stones, to unearth some stones to look under and indeed to look under stones that once did not even look like stones.

Joint session with South Island Dairy Event (SIDE)

“Management of Dairy Cow Fertility”

The highlight of the conjoint NZSAP/SIDE session will be the **LIC Lecture** presented by Professor Matt Lucy of the University of Missouri. Following the LIC lecture this session will break up into 2 rounds of ‘workshops’. These will consist of a leading address followed by guided discussion involving all participants. Some of the speakers giving leading addresses: Professor Colin Holmes will discuss management of the NZ dairy herd, Professor Andrew Sykes will explain some of the trace element issues in dairy cows, Dr Charlotte Westwood will review the topic of cattle lameness, Dr Eric Kolver will discuss “cows for courses”, matching cow type to dairy system, Dr Lewis Griffiths will discuss synchronisation treatments, other speakers will discuss the Lincoln University/Dexcel development of the new dairy farm at Lincoln University.

New Zealand Institute of Agricultural Science conference

The New Zealand Institute of Agricultural Science went to great lengths to cancel their conference plans in Hamilton and move their conference to Lincoln University. This also includes the Primary Resources Forum where the activities of agricultural scientists will be advocated and demonstrated at political and strategic levels.

Novel Species and products: beyond cattle and sheep meat, milk and fibre.

The deer industry is booming. It was born in New Zealand within the lifetime of this Society and most of its teething problems were worked out (or caused by!) members of NZSAP. Within this contract you might see the embryo of the next major boom. Indeed, John Smith, treasurer and stalwart of the Society is working on the embryos of one of the recent growth industries and will present a paper on Cryopreservation of shell fish sperm, eggs and embryos. This will be prefaced by an overview of the Aquaculture industry by Henry Kasper of the Cawthron Institute, and accompanied by a presentation on the genetics of salmon farming by Peter Amer and Neville Jopson. Limbo Thompson will provide some insight on the question “Will the big birds [ostriches] fly?” and Geoff Asher and Tony Pearse will present an overview of the farming of game species throughout the world. Ross Keeley will present a paper on “Nutriceuticals”, new products from traditional species.

Feral vectors of livestock diseases and their control

Bovine tuberculosis is a huge problem for New Zealand in terms of image and saleability of the products most of the society is interested in. Paul Livingstone from the Animal Health Board will provide an update of NZ's current Tb status and then a team from Landcare Research will present a group of papers on the various feral hosts of the disease. Jim Coleman will discuss possums, which are the long-standing enemy in the fight against Tb, but the new problem on the block are the ferrets and Andrea Byrom will review some of the issues of infection and transmission from these mustelids. Feral deer are also affected by Tb and Graham Nugent will explore their host status and discuss the role of feral pigs, which are often the most heavily infected species raising the possibility of using them as sentinels for detecting the presence of Tb.

Another disease *Salmonella brandenburg* is a recent challenge to the sheep industry causing abortions in sheep and sickness in shepherds. Gary Clark will present information on the spread of the disease by black-backed gulls, and Ashraf Khalil will present some information on preliminary developments of vaccines against *Salmonella* using an attenuated strain of *Salmonella typhimurium*.

“Scientists and the Media”

This session was born from the truth or myth that the cupboard is full of technologies just waiting to be released. Ian Johnstone will present his views on scientists obligation to keep the public informed, and how to manage it by “Attracting and avoiding attention”. In his own words Ian suspects “that there are two common views about the media among scientists. Most of them actively dislike the media, but some merely mistrust the media”. Frank Fernandez, Corporate Communications Manager for AgResearch will present the ways that companies use to promote and defend research with “Is PR just Spin Doctoring or is it Reputational Risk Management”. Tony Leggett of Country Wide will share his knowledge on how to get an article published in the print media, with some tips for the written word. Brett Tompkins of the Gibson Group perhaps the most famous for the production of the television show Number 8 Wired, will give similar insight into television media with “Honey the film crew is here”. Steve Wynn-Harris is a columnist for the New Zealand Farmer, but will be sharing his experience in talk back and interviews for Rural radio on the Cockies Hour working for Central FM. Marie Taylor is a journalist who has taken the dare and stepped onto science turf! she will present a research paper on “Biotechnology, farmers and the media”. Marie dispels my hypothesis that scientists are not well heard in the media, showing they get a lot more exposure than farmers and consumers! It is my hope that this will give you the skills, then it is up to you muster the courage to get your story out there on their turf. Have it publicly refereed and bring some due credit to you, the deserving members of the Society.

Scobie

The Programme Committee received 52 abstracts, two were rejected and two were subsequently withdrawn and 46 manuscripts have been received for review. This year, papers are reviewed by two referees and the editor. The aim in selecting referees has been to get one "senior expert" in the field and one "junior member" or someone in a "closely related" field. This gives experience to people who might not have the opportunity to review a paper until they are "senior scientists" and it allows a different perspective. The editor is very grateful to those who accepted the challenge this year. Most referees reports have now been received and your typescripts and reports will be in the post to you by April 2. Please don't contact me to ask where your paper is because replying to each request prevents me from processing and returning a paper. The deadline for the receipt of the non-contract manuscripts is **April 13** to ensure the proceedings are available at the conference. Before submitting final documents, authors should consult the document “**Format for Electronic transfer of papers presented at NZSAP meetings**” which will be sent to corresponding authors or is available from the Editor (Contract organisers should supply these to authors of contract papers). In the case of unavoidable withdrawal of a paper, the author must advise the Secretary in writing at the earliest possible date.

Sam Peterson

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| REMEMBER | 2 April | Receipt of revised manuscripts by Editor (Contract) |
| | 13 April | Receipt of revised manuscripts by Editor (Submitted) |
| YES, THAT IS EASTER FRIDAY AND BLACK FRIDAY AND ALL THAT: IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE IT BY THEN DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT YOU WILL GET IT DONE OVER EASTER?? | | |
| | 16 April | Nominations for Committee to Exec. Secretary |
| | 1 June | Conference Registration to Stuart Young |
| | 25-27 June | 61st Jubilee Conference at Lincoln |
| | 31 July | Animal Science Award applications to Exec. Sec. |

NZSAP INNOVATION AWARD (SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) _____

The NZSAP Innovation Award recognises the paper presented at the annual conference, which in the view of the judging panel represents the greatest advance in science and/or technology for animal production. All papers presented at the annual conference are eligible for the Award.

Programme Outline

	Monday 25 June	Tuesday 26 June	Wednesday 27 June
Morning	Conference Opening Pastures Novel Species	Presidential Address Young Members Session Disease vectors	LIC Lecture SIDE workshops Dairy: Mineral nutrition
Afternoon	Endocrinology AGM	Boffins and Broadcasters Sheep and Beef Awards Ceremonies	Dairy: Reproduction Dairy: Cow size Dairy: Pastures
Evening	Tour, wine and cheese	Conference Dinner	Fly home or stay for PRAC and NZIAS**

**See "Upcoming Events" for more details

NZSAP SURVEY: PRINTED VS. ELECTRONIC PROCEEDINGS

The committee would like to know if, in future years, members would prefer to have the Conference Proceedings in a printed or electronic format or both. The Executive Secretary has enclosed a **PINK** survey form, so it is time to have your say, fill it in and return it.

This year, along with the printed Conference Proceedings for all financial members, there is the option to purchase the full set of Proceedings on CD-ROM (\$20) or the CD-ROM (1986-2001) to replace the CD-ROM 2 in the original set (\$10). Orders are on the **YELLOW** Membership subscription notice.

The CD-ROM of the complete set of conference proceedings from 1941 to 2000 (Vol. 1-60) became available to members last year after an extraordinary amount of work by Neville Jopson and Rhonda Mitchell. My set of CD-ROMs has proven extremely useful (once I learned to drive it!). The CD-ROMs are outstanding value as the cost of purchasing the last three years proceedings is currently \$160. Not to mention the savings on shelf space.

WEBSITE LINKS

British Society of Animal Science
American Veterinary Medical Assoc. (+ links)
New Zealand sites (+ links)
AgVetLink
ANZCCART

<http://www.bsas.org.uk/>
<http://www.avma.org/resources/vetorg.asp>
<http://www.maf.govt.nz/MAFnet/issues/animal/>
<http://www.maf.govt.nz/ACVM/agvetlnk/index.html>
<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ANZCCART/index.html>

Foot and Mouth Disease websites:

- <http://www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/default.htm>
- http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/uk/newsid_1190000/1190408.stm

25-27 June 2001

**Keep this copy for your records
GST No. 17 722 670**

(This is not a tax invoice until payment is made)

Registrations will not be confirmed by mail but receipts will be issued at the conference

Name:	Name for badge:
Address:	
E-mail:	

Conference Fee Schedule (GST inclusive)

Conference Fees		
Full Conference (includes lunch Mon, Tue, Wed.)	\$130	\$
or Daily rate: tick appropriate days (includes lunch)		
(Half-price for retired members). Mon <input type="checkbox"/> Tues <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/>	\$60 per day	
Accommodation (bed & breakfast) (Tick days required and complete appropriate subtotal) Sun <input type="checkbox"/> Mon <input type="checkbox"/> Tues <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/>	\$48 per day	\$
Meals (dinner) (Tick days required and complete appropriate subtotal) (* Tues if not annual dinner) Sun <input type="checkbox"/> Mon <input type="checkbox"/> Tues* <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/>	\$13 per day	\$
Annual dinner (Tuesday) Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	\$
Pre-published Proceedings for Non-members	\$55	\$
Fees enclosed	Total	NZ \$
Please make cheques payable to: NZSAP Conference 2001. Visa/Mastercard payments need card type, expiry date, name and number.		
Address: Stuart Young, AgResearch, PO Box 60, Lincoln e-mail: stuart.young@agresearch.co.nz Ph. 03 983 3989.		
Registrations are due by Friday June 1st 2001.		



2001 AGM AGENDA

The 61st Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production Inc. will be held on Monday 25 June 2001.

Agenda

- Apologies
- Minutes from 2000 meeting
- Matters arising
- Presidential report
- Treasurer's report
- Editor's report
- Election of officers
- General business

Signed: Executive Secretary

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Under the current rules of the New Zealand society of Animal Production, all 10 members of the Management Committee have a specific portfolio. This is good in that it forces a degree of activity on each member. However, a negative feature which has emerged is that this strict formula limits the recruitment of new persons to the management arena. It is proposed that the Management Committee opens up its ability to co-opt members onto the Committee so that such co-opted members can develop experience with the operation of the Committee, making it easier for subsequent recruitment to portfolio positions. The current rules allow for co-option onto the Committee, but only for 'special tasks' and without voting rights. This is restricting, as the need to develop experience does not fit the concept of a 'special task' and lack of voting rights does not encourage active participation. It is suggested that the co-opting powers of the Management Committee be freed up so that the wish to provide willing members with experience at the helm of the Society with the view to their taking up office, becomes sufficient justification for co-opting.

The paragraph 7 of Rule 6 in the Society Rules currently reads:-

"The Management Committee may co-opt onto the Committee, no more than two members of the Society to undertake specific tasks on behalf of the Society for a period of up to the next Annual General Meeting. Any member co-opted to the Management Committee of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production may have speaking but not voting rights on any motion before that Committee."

NOTICE OF MOTION TO BE TABLED AT AGM

Moved by Graham Barrell (President) and seconded by Mark Fisher (Vice President), that paragraph 7 of Rule 6 in the Society's rules be deleted and replaced with the words:-

"The Management Committee may co-opt onto the Committee, no more than two members of the Society to develop experience in management of the Society's affairs or to carry out specific tasks on behalf of the Society for a period of up to the next Annual General Meeting. Any member co-opted to the Management Committee of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production may have speaking and voting rights on any motion before that Committee."

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NZSAP 27 JUNE 2000

Held at the Hamilton Gardens Pavilion, Hamilton.

President, Andy Bray, declared meeting open 5:35 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Twenty seven members in attendance. Minute Secretary Roland Sumner.

1. APOLOGIES

Ian Coop, Neville Grace, Colin Holmes, Alistair Nicol.

Moved Morrow/ Smith Carried.

2. That the 1999 AGM Minutes be taken as read.

Moved Elvidge/ Scobie. Carried.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. PRESIDENTS REPORT

Key points.

- Current membership 514.
- Accumulated funds of Society increased 5% during year with funding of 9 Animal Science Awards and support for 6 members to participate in the deer contract at the ASAP/AAAP Conference in Sydney and 5 members to attend the ICAR Conference in Stockholm.
- A CD ROM containing all papers presented to the Society during its 60 years of existence will be posted to members before end of July.
- List server available for communication between members.
- Awards
- McMeekan Memorial Award – Geoff Asher
- Sir Arthur Ward Award – Jock Allison
- NZSAP Jubilee Awards Nicole Schreurs (Massey) and Ann Steidl (Lincoln).
- Occasional Publication 9 “The mineral requirements of grazing ruminants” is to be revised, and Occasional Publication 10 “Livestock feeding on pasture” and Occasional Publication 7 “Supplementary feeding” to be revised and combined into a single volume.
- The Management Committee has addressed all the Society’s objectives. Shifts in the focus and direction of Government and industry investment in research are expected to require changes in operations to maintain a viable Society.
- Thanks to members of the Management Committee and the Organising Committee of the 60th Society Conference for their work during the year.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Presented.

That accounts as circulated be accepted as a true and accurate record of the financial accounts.

Moved Smith/ Peterson. Carried.

Cash reserves now invested in contributory mortgages are yielding higher rates of interest. While there were savings in 1999 from reductions in overall expenditure and from profits for the Mosgiel Conference, these have been offset in 2000 by increased expenditure in producing CD ROM 2000 and the special projects of assisting members to attend the ASAP/AAAP Conference in Sydney and the ICAR Conference in Stockholm.

That the subscription for 2000 to remain the same as for 1999 at \$55.00 (GST incl.) for Full members, \$27.50 (GST incl.) for Student and Retired members and US\$55.00 for Overseas members (outside New Zealand and Australia).

Moved Smith/ Jopson. Carried.

That KPMG be re-appointed as auditors for the Society accounts.

Moved Elvidge/ Purchas. Carried.

6. EDITOR'S REPORT

Key points.

- 91 “non-contract” Abstracts submitted with 82 of these published as papers and presented at the Conference.
- Thanks to authors and members who acted as referees.

- Large variation in standard of presentation of manuscripts. Instructions to authors will be updated with respect to format of text, tables and references.

That Editor's report be received.

Moved Peterson/ Smith. Carried.

7. NEWSLETTER MANAGER'S REPORT

Key points.

- Three Newsletters published.
- No feedback received.
- Contributions welcome.

That Newsletter Manager's report be received.

Moved Morrow/ Jopson. Carried.

8. WEB SITE MANAGER'S REPORT

Key points.

- Site maintained with little development.
- CD ROM 2000 posted by end of July.
- Demonstration of CD ROM 2000 given.

That Web Site Manager's report be received.

Moved Jopson/ Morrow. Carried.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations received for positions of:-

President	G K Barrell
Vice President	M W Fisher
Secretary	R M W Sumner
Treasurer	J F Smith
Editor of the Proceedings	S W Peterson
Newsletter Manager	C J Morrow
Web Site Manager	N B Jopson
Publications Manager	G C Waghorn
Chairman Conference Committee	D R Scobie

There being only one nomination for each position the nominated persons were declared elected.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Conditions for the McMeekan Memorial Award.

That the incoming Management Committee should examine and revise the rules of the McMeekan Memorial Award so that they allow for joint recipients if this is more appropriate when recognising a major scientific advance in animal production.

Moved McEwan/ Elvidge. Carried.

- Special Interest Groups (SIGS).

Feeling of meeting that if no "champions" come forward to lead each of the nominated areas the concept be allowed to lie,

- Links with kindred societies.

There has been communication with New Zealand Grassland Association (NZGA), New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA), New Zealand Institute of Agricultural Science (NZIAS) and New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry management (NZIPIM). Possibility of joint sessions or sharing publications has been discussed. Feeling of meeting that NZSAP to maintain dialogue with these and associated Societies at our own and their Conferences. That incoming Management Committee to investigate and report back to the next AGM as to the opportunities for collaboration.

Moved Brookes/ McEwan. Carried.

- Asian-Australasian Association of Animal Production Societies (AAAP).

That the NZSAP express an interest in offering to host a future AAAP Conference.

Moved Davis/ Waghorn. Carried.

- Length of presented papers and standard of visual aids at the NZSAP Conference.
That the incoming Management Committee consider contributed papers be 10 minutes in length with the inclusion of concurrent sessions when appropriate.

Moved Waghorn/ Jopson. Carried.

That the incoming Management Committee develop guidelines for visual aids with a view to their being included on the Society web site.

Moved Waghorn/ Morrow. Carried.

- Feedback re editorial policy for NZSAP Proceedings.

The meeting indicated a preference that there be two referees for each published paper while retaining the current format. Editor of the New Zealand Veterinary Journal (NZVJ) invited submissions for an Animal science section in the NZVJ. NZSAP Editor to prepare a discussion document for the Newsletter outlining available editorial options.

Meeting closed 7:05 pm.

MEMBERSHIP

The New Zealand Society of Animal Production warmly welcomes the following new national and international members:

Hugh Bentall	Levin	Chris Palliser	Dexcel, Hamilton
Kris Brownlee	Huntly	Sebastian Pino	Victoria, Australia
Theresa Craig	Singapore	John Roche	Dexcel, Hamilton
Vicki Eagles	Victoria, Australia	Francisco Sales Z	Chile
Jim Gibbs	Queensland, Australia	Tim Scotland	Bulls
Beatriz Goncalves	Brazil	Richard Tiddy	Te Awamutu
Sarah Johnston	AgResearch, Grasslands	Phil Tither	Agfirst, Hastings
John Mee	TEAGASC, Ireland	Debbie Twiss	Massey University
David Nation	Victoria, Australia	Jaden Welham	Outram
Takeyuki Ozawa	Palmerston North		

Resignations were accepted from four members, leaving a current membership of 531.

Is Membership Lapsing? A recent look at the membership records of the Society shows a large number of people have ignored their last three subscription reminders (21 members who haven't paid since 1997 have just had their membership deleted). Does this mean we are about to see a major drop in membership? If so, the long-term viability of the Society becomes doubtful. Consider the benefits of membership carefully. As well as the annual conference, the quality proceedings and the sought-after occasional publications, the Society is a very significant provider of financial support to members embarking on travel to conferences and other activities overseas. The issue of lapsing membership will be tabled at the AGM so that those attending can provide input about the value of the different functions of the Society and make comments about how they could be improved. Please give it some serious thought before the AGM. If you are not able to attend in person, convey your thoughts to a Committee member or someone else who will be at the meeting.

New Member Applications: Currently our membership application form includes spaces for two members of the Society alternately to propose and second the application, however these forms often arrive without any signatures apart from that of the applicant. The form states "If you do not know a proposer and seconder leave this blank and a committee member will act on your behalf." Members should, therefore, consider whether there is any need for proposers and seconders at all. This is being raised here so that members have time to develop their own views before this matter is raised at the AGM and so there can be some reasoned discussion.

Graham Barrell

NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mark Fisher has been reappointed (3 year term) to the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) (previously Animal Welfare Advisory Committee - AWAC), as a nominee of the NZSAP.

For website links to NAWAC and the National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) go to:
<http://www.maf.govt.nz/MAFnet/issues/animal/>

NOMINATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2001-2002

New Blood

Nominations for committee members are requested by **April 16**. The nominee, nominator and seconder must be members of the Society. The committee will be elected by postal ballot with the result announced at the Annual General Meeting except that current Vice-President automatically becomes President, and the current President automatically becomes Immediate Past President.

The management committee of the Society consists of the following:

President	Treasurer
Vice-President	Editor of Proceedings
Immediate Past-President	Publications Manager
Secretary	Web Site Manager
Convenor of the Conference Organising Committee	Newsletter Manager

All offices except the President and Immediate Past-President are open for election.

In particular, there is an opening for the **Publications Manager** position whose main duties include to: Initiate and coordinate development of new publications; assist in planning, organisation and printing of publications; promote and market the publications; maintain a book inventory and report to the Management Committee at each meeting and at the AGM.

Presently the committee meets three times each year - immediately before and immediately after the annual conference, and once in December to evaluate abstracts of papers submitted for presentation at the next conference. In addition to that it holds two or three telephone conferences each year. To understand how the various officers contribute to the strategy and operations of the Society, speak to current and past committee members. The nomination form can be found at the end of the newsletter.

McMEEKAN AND SIR ARTHUR WARD AWARDS

The **McMeekan Memorial Award** recognises an outstanding individual or *joint* contribution made to New Zealand animal production and/or the Society, during the previous five years. Nominations must be signed by two financial members of the Society and must contain documented evidence of the way or ways in which the nominee's efforts have made an outstanding contribution to New Zealand animal production and/or the Society during the five years before the nomination. A potential recipient need not be a current member of the Society. Following discussion at the 2000 AGM the committee has decided that the McMeekan Award may be awarded JOINTLY.

The Award is in honour of Dr C P McKeekan a foundation member, past president, life member and distinguished leader in animal production, research and administration in New Zealand and the world.

The **Sir Arthur Ward Award** recognises the successful application of scientific research or farmer experimentation through a series of trials or effective extension when applied to an aspect of animal production in New Zealand. The nominee may be an individual, a company or an organisation, and need not be a member of the Society. Nominations must be signed by two financial members of the Society and must contain documented evidence of how the nominee's efforts have made a substantial contribution towards the adoption of a practice(s) that has facilitated more efficient animal production in terms of output per animal, per labour unit or per farm. The phrase "adoption of a practice" is to be broadly interpreted and may relate to the development of a technique, a piece of equipment, or a husbandry practice; the effective encouragement of sound principles of animal production; or the development of a new aspect of animal production.

Don't leave it solely to the Committee - Nominations for both awards are due on April 16. Nominations must be submitted to the Executive Secretary and remain active for three years.

NZSAP AWARD APPLICATIONS

The **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. Applications should be sent to the Executive Secretary by **31 July 2001** for

consideration by the Management Committee in August/September 2001. The application format is available from the Executive Secretary and on the NZSAP website <http://nzsap.rsnz.govt.nz>

RECENT GRANT RECIPIENTS

ANIMAL SCIENCE AWARDS have been granted to the following members to attend the combined annual meetings of the American Association of Dairy Science, American Society of Animal Science, Reciprocal Meat Conference, American Society of Animal Production, and the American Poultry Association during July 2001 in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

Jennifer Burke to present a paper concerning methods for evaluating digestion and fermentation of fresh forages using *in vitro* and *in sacco* techniques. To be followed by visits with dairy cattle nutrition researchers at Cornell University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Wisconsin and Livestock Nutrition Center and Forage Research Center, Des Moines, Iowa.

Scott McDougall to present a paper entitled "The effects of induced oestrus on milk production and somatic cell counts in dairy goats".

Beverley Thomson to present a poster on her current research in Meat Science at the Reciprocal Meat Conference. Combined with visit to a Cincinnati laboratory using new methods of measuring protein degradation *in situ* in muscles.

In addition:

Warren McNabb received an award to partly fund a 4 week tenure (June/July 2001) in the laboratory of Dr H el ene Lapierre, Dairy and Swine Research and Development Center, Agriculture and Agr-Food Canada, Lennoxville, Quebec, Canada to study the effect of condensed tannins in sulla (*Hedysarum coronarium*) on the partitioning of amino acids to the mammary gland.

NZSAP is also assisting with travel and accommodation expenses for **Prof. Kerstin Uvn as-Moberg**, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, to the XXXIV International Congress of Physiological Sciences Satellite Symposium: Animal Digestion and Metabolism: Something to Absorb (Aug 2001). Prof. Uvn as-Moberg is to present an invited paper entitled "Neuro-endocrine control of digestive metabolism". More details on the satellite symposium later in this newsletter.

ANIMAL SCIENCE AWARD REPORTS

Greg Anderson, Massey University, attended the Neuroendo 2000 conference (a satellite meeting of the 11th International Congress of Endocrinology) in Coffs Harbour, Australia to present a poster titled "What is the site of action for thyroid hormones in mediating oestradiol negative feedback in the anoestrous ewe?". The conference consisted of a variety of symposia featuring not only neuroendocrinologists of international repute but also a number of young investigators, and a single poster session consisting of relaxed evening viewing session over wine and cheese. Such international meetings typically occur in the northern hemisphere making attendance difficult for New Zealanders; with this one being so close to home I was a little disappointed to see only four Kiwis in attendance whilst the USA and UK were well represented. The venue was superb and there was ample time set aside for discussing science on the beach, which made for a pleasant change from the bracing Manawatu springtime.

Stephanie Bluett, Dexcel, presented an oral paper at the 4th International *Neotyphodium*/Grass Interactions Symposium, September 2000 in Germany. In autumn 2001, a non-toxic endophyte called AR1 will be released onto the NZ market. Stephanie presented a paper entitled 'Milk production and composition from cows grazing perennial ryegrass infected with a novel endophyte (AR1)'. Other NZ research with AR1 (sheep performance; insect resistance; the risks of contamination of newly sown pastures from wild-type endophyte-infected buried seed or seed in cow dung) was also presented. A visit to Sylvie Bony (INRA, Lyon, France) to discuss the levels of endophyte toxicity in Europe indicated that endophyte infection is widespread throughout Europe, yet the incidence of acute toxicosis is low compared with NZ. Sylvie believes that this is due to most pastures containing a mixture of species, which dilutes endophyte effects. Ryegrass seed that is sold in Europe tends also to have a low endophyte infection level and grazing pasture is rare with a high use of supplementary feed. Europe also has a lower temperature-humidity index than NZ, so alkaloid levels tend to be lower. Veterinarians and farmers often do not correctly diagnose ryegrass staggers and in some cases staggers has been confused with BSE.

Eric Kolver and **Michael de Veth**, Dexcel, attended the combined ADSA/ASAS meeting in Baltimore, Maryland during July 2000. They presented two papers, "Short periods of sub-optimal pH reduce digestibility of pasture in vitro" and "A comparison of Holstein Friesian cows from the Northern Hemisphere and New Zealand grazing pasture or fed a total mixed ration" as well as co-authoring two other papers that were presented. The theme of the 2000 meeting was "From Research to Innovation" with more than 30 symposia. During the conference Michael also visited the Beltsville Agricultural Research Centre, USDA. A major challenge facing the US Dairy industry is the need to minimise the effect of excreted nutrients, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, on the environment. Research is placing a heavy emphasis on the recycling of nutrients in manure. Eric also visited PennState as part of ongoing collaboration, and Michael met and established contacts with scientists from several USA Universities and Wageningen University, the Netherlands. This has resulted in Michael being offered a stipend to pursue a PhD at Cornell University later this year. [Congratulations Michael].

David Pachecos-Rios, AgResearch Nutrition and Behaviour, visited Scotland and Canada during September 1999. David presented the paper "Amino acid uptake by the mammary gland of dairy cows fed fresh pasture" at the 8th International Symposium on Protein Metabolism and Nutrition, held in Aberdeen, Scotland. He also visited research centres (Rowett Research Centre) and universities (University of Edinburgh) in Scotland. On his way back home, David stopped in Lennoxville, Canada to visit the Dairy and Swine Research and Development Centre, where he was invited to present a seminar and discuss potential collaborative research in the area of metabolism of lactating dairy cows fed forages. Early this year, David was offered a position in a scientific team from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Guelph University. David will be starting his two-year Canadian experience in mid 2001. Besides freezing to death in the Canadian winter, David will be studying the mechanisms controlling the inter-organ fluxes of amino acid in lactating dairy cows.

Cesar Pinares-Patiño, Massey University, attended the 15th Symposium on Energy Metabolism in Animals held in Denmark, during September 2000, presenting the paper "Some rumen digestion characteristics of sheep differing in methane emission". Dr. Grete Thorbek, the host of the 1st Symposium in 1958 (Copenhagen), gave the opening lecture of the Symposium. She critically reviewed the achievements in the field of energy metabolism during the last Century. It was very inspiring to meet this lady, who despite of her age (over 90) is still actively involved in research.

Several members received awards to assist with expenses to attend the **14th International Congress on Animal Reproduction** (ICAR) in Stockholm, Sweden during July 2000. A report by Jeremy Thompson provided a summary of the scientific presentations in the October newsletter. Reports by other NZSAP sponsored attendees including **Susanne Meier**, **Sam Peterson**, **John Smith** and **Robin Tervit** are available from the Executive Secretary.

In addition, **John Smith** was elected to replace Dr Jock Macmillan as the NZSAP nominated NZ representative on the ICAR Congress Standing Committee. The number of representatives each country is allowed is based on the number of animals and the number of animal scientists-veterinarians active in that country. During the meetings presentations were made by representatives of each of the five countries (Brazil, Canada, Israel, Italy and Japan) proposing to host the 2004 ICAR congress. The proposal from Brazil – Salvador, was accepted as the site for the 15th ICAR. While lobbying of the members of the standing committee by delegates from the bidding countries occurred there was unfortunately no elaborate IOC type bribes on offer. The Brazilians held a cocktail party at their Embassy in Stockholm, the Israeli's held a lunch at the conference venue and the Canadians a Morning Tea (Champagne).

To would-be presenters and members of the audience at the annual conference in June ...

At the start of last year's conference I pointed out the obvious, that delivering a presentation to the conference gives you the chance to communicate directly to the audience more effectively than is possible with static displays or written material. I suggested that most presenters waste this opportunity by trying hard to provide a presentation that cannot be challenged. This inhibits interaction with the audience which I thought was the very purpose of a conference paper. So I ask, why do they choose to stand up?

The lack of stimulation is not because of poor preparation or lack of clarity or poor visual aids. NZSAP conferences have a high standard in these regards. It is just that presentations are boring when speakers become overcautious to avoid criticism.

I challenged speakers to include at least one provocative remark in their paper, and I challenged members of the audience to ask at least four questions during discussion time over the duration of the conference. I made my plea too late. I do not think that last year's presentations were any more stimulating than normal. So I am giving plenty of warning this year. Authors - when preparing your presentation please make sure that your excellent findings make an impact on the audience. And members of the audience, be prepared - do your part by asking rousing questions, constructive and concise.

Andy Bray

XXXIV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES _____

The 34th International Congress of Physiological Sciences is set to bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to NZ for both the main Conference and several associated Satellite Symposia.

From Molecule to Malady, Christchurch, 26-31 August, 2001.

Consult the Congress website: <http://www.iups2001.org.nz> for programme and registration details. Registrations (\$900) are accepted up until and during the Congress. Closing date for acceptance of all abstracts is 30 June, if submitted by 31 March publication of the abstract on the IUPS 2001 Congress website is guaranteed. Abstracts will be available to registered delegates on website from 30 May.

SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

Physiology of Pregnancy and Parturition, Auckland, 20-21 August, 2001.

Presentation and discussion of latest biomedical advances in pregnancy research: Early pregnancy and placental growth, Diseases of established pregnancy, Labour and delivery. Deadline for abstract submission is June 1. Contact Jeff Keelan for more information, E-mail: j.keelan@auckland.ac.nz

Regulation of Ovarian Function, Upper Hutt, 23-24 August, 2001.

An ovarian workshop to be held at AgResearch Wallaceville organised by K. McNatty, J. Juengel, M. Smith (USA) and H. Burger (Aust.). Featuring 16 invited international keynote speakers registration is limited to 100 people. Contact Sue Swaney Tel: 04 922 1401; Fax: 04 922 1380; E-mail: sue.swaney@agresearch.co.nz or check the website: <http://www.agresearch.cri.nz/conference/ovary>.

Actions and Interactions at the Pituitary, Christchurch, 24-25 August, 2001.

Website: http://www.chmeds.ac.nz/news_releases/pituitarysatellite.htm. Contact John Evans, Dept. Obst & Gyn, Christchurch School of Medicine, Private Bag 4711, Christchurch, NZ. Tel: 64 3 364 4642; Fax: 64 3 364 46 34; E-mail: john.evans@chmeds.ac.nz

Animal Digestion and Metabolism: Something to Absorb. Wellington 19-22 August 2001.

Contact Warren McNabb & Nicole Roy, AgResearch, Grasslands, Palmerston North for more information. N. Roy, Tel: 64 6 351 8051; Fax: 64 6 351 8003; Email: nicole.roy@agresearch.co.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS

South Island Dairy Event, Lincoln University, 25-27 June, 2001.

The full programme is designed to address the different and diverse needs of South Island dairy farmers. See www.lincoln.ac.nz/pdg/side for full details or contact Helen Shrewsbury Tel: 03 325 2811 (ext 8955); E-mail: Shrewsbh@lincoln.ac.nz.

NZ Institute of Agricultural Science & NZ Society of Horticultural Science Convention and Primary Resource Forum, Lincoln, 27-29 June, 2001.

The Thin Green Line? Enhancing our Primary Resource Advantages. For registration and information see <http://events.lincoln.ac.nz/aghort/> or contact Helen Shrewsbury Tel: 03 325 2811 (ext 8955); E-mail: Shrewsbh@lincoln.ac.nz or contact Helen Shrewsbury Tel: 03 325 2811 (ext 8955); E-mail: Shrewsbh@lincoln.ac.nz

New Zealand Society of Endocrinology, Wellington, 16-18 May 2001.

Deadline for submission of abstracts has been set at May 4, 2001. Please contact Dr John Delahunt, Wellington School of Medicine for further details. E-mail: delahunt@wnmeds.ac.nz

Dexcel Ruakura Dairy Farmers' Conference, Hamilton, 9 May 2000.

Waikato Convention Centre, Claudelands Showground, Hamilton. The theme is "Responding to Signals". NZDB Chairman John Roadley will open the conference at 9.45 am and founding director of Tasman Agriculture, Howard Paterson, will deliver the keynote address. Interactive workshop-style seminars occupy the rest of the day. Enquiries to Diane Young, Dexcel Ltd., Tel: 07 838 5731, Fax: 07 838 5670; E-mail diane.young@dexcel.co.nz

New Zealand Deer Farmers Association Conference, Masterton, 23-26 May 2001.

The conference will include technical sessions on deer performance and recent advances in reproduction, health and products. Enquiries to Rachael Mitchell: Tel: 06 370 1051 E-mail: Rodway@xtra.co.nz

NZ Veterinary Association Deer Branch Annual Conference, Palmerston North, 28-30 May 2001.

The Deer Branch of the NZVA welcomes researchers, farm consultants, and deer farmers to their Annual Conference. Technical papers and workshops on vaccination, exotic diseases, animal health, breeding and drugs, residues and velvetting. The cost of a full registration for the entire conference is \$425 incl GST. Registration form requests and enquiries to Peter Wilson, E-mail: P.R.Wilson@massey.ac.nz.

Joint ANZCCART/NAEAC Conference, Hamilton, 28-29 June 2001.

Learning, animals and the environment: changing the face of the future is the theme of the joint conference by the Australian and NZ Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART) and the National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC). Register (\$260) by 15 June 2001. Contact ANZCCART, c/- RSNZ, Tel: 04 472 7421; E-mail: anzccart@rsnz.govt.nz

Joint Meeting of the American Dairy Science Association, American Society of Animal Science, Poultry Science Association and the Reciprocal Meat Conference of the American Meat Science Association, Indianapolis, USA, 23-28 July 2001.

Full details on the programme and registration can be found on <http://www.fass.org/fass01>

NZ Grassland Association, Hamilton, 30 October – 1 November 2001.

The conference theme is "Grassland agriculture – leading New Zealand into the knowledge economy" with emphasis on viable farming systems. Deadline for papers was 28 Feb 2001. Contact Secretary of Grassland Association c/o AgResearch Grasslands, Palmerston North, NZ. Tel: 06 356 8019; Fax: 06 351 8032.

The 6th World Sheep and Wool Congress, Christchurch, 11-15 November 2001.

Delegates to past congresses have included sheep breed associations, individual farmers, meat and textile industries, research bodies and government agencies. Special sessions include CT scanning to improve meat yields, Ewe nutrition in early pregnancy, Pastoral sheep production in Ireland and the influence of the EU and Global trends in the sheepmeat value chain. Information on the Congress at: <http://www.exevents.co.nz/Events.htm#WSWC>

7th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, France, 19-23 August, 2002.

Jointly organised by INRA and CIRAD the conference will be in Montpellier. Details at www.wcgalp.org

**** MEMBERSHIP FEES ****

Members: The 2001 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 (**YELLOW form**) is enclosed with this newsletter. Please return this 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.

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NOMINATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2001-2002 _____

Committee positions for which nominations are requested are:

Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Editor of Proceedings
Publications Manager
Web Site Manager
Newsletter Manager
Convenor of the Conference Organising Committee

Nominations must be in the hands of the Executive Secretary by 16 April 2001.

Position Nominated _____

Name of Nominee (Print) _____

Signature of Nominee _____

Proposer (Print Name) _____

Signature of Proposer _____

Secunder (Print Name) _____

Signature of Secunder _____

Date _____

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The current Management Committee is:

		Phone	Fax	Email	Location
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PAST-PRESIDENT	Andy Bray	03 325 6900	03 325 2946	andy.bray@agresearch.co.nz	AgResearch Lincoln
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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: catherine.morrow@agresearch.co.nz

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