

OCTOBER 2002

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Hi All

This newsletter, so hot on the heels of the last, is primarily to announce the call for abstracts for the **Annual Conference 25-27<sup>th</sup> June 2003**. The Dunedin organising committee, or maybe I should call that the Queenstown conference organising committee, are well under way. You will also find the publication deadlines in this Newsletter, and Sam Peterson tells me that he is going to be especially strict this year so get those abstracts sorted. There are also a number of announcements from the Committee seeking applications for Animal Science Awards and nominations for the 2003 Sir Arthur Ward and McMeekan Awards and nominations for Honorary Life Membership. Details for all these awards can be found later in this newsletter and on the website. The Management Committee looks forward to receiving your abstracts and award nominations.

Now for the soapbox. Last week I had a completely different take on this topic, then a bomb went off in Bali over the weekend. At the time of typing this, nobody really knows who dunnit, and given the lack of urgency that surrounds NZSAP Newsletters compared to your daily papers, things will probably be clearer by the time it arrives. By then the “knock-on” effects will have started to occur. Will stock markets plummet, will tourism and therefore New Zealand suffer? Will that be the last straw for the back of the national airline? If that is the case, how will we get to Queenstown for the conference next year? I will be there for sure, I will pack a snowboard, my conference presentation, a bullet proof vest and hitch if I have to.

Keep those letters and e-mails to the Editor coming in, I choose the best of them for publication, so I might have to edit your language but I try to leave them as in-tact as possible. I ran out of material this newsletter, so I slipped in a photograph and this might herald a new era for the newsletter – let me know what you think!

*Scobie*  
*Newsletter manager*

*The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the author and not necessarily those of the NZSAP.*

#### **DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY**

<b>15 Nov 2002</b>	<b>Closing date for 2002 Conference Abstracts</b>
<b>31 Jan 2003</b>	<b>Animal Science Award applications close</b>

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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*One happy reader commented on the "Land of the Long Black Cloud" article in the last issue.*

I really enjoyed your comments on Page 10 of the August newsletter, and agree wholeheartedly with the gist of your thoughts on the matter.

Colin Holmes  
Massey University

*There is always a diversity of opinion, and our proudly-Australian Executive Secretary was none too impressed with me sucking up to All Blacks supporters in the same article. The actual words have been with held (or more likely lost) but "traitor" was among them.*

*I probably should stress again: The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the author and not necessarily those of the NZSAP.*

*Yours Ed.*

## AAAP WENT OFF - WITHOUT A BANG!

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Dear NZSAP

I have just returned from the 10th AAAP Congress in New Delhi. I was extremely disappointed to find that no-one had come from NZ. In fact there were two members of our society there, myself from Papua New Guinea and Leydon Baker, from Kenya. I was extremely embarrassed when I was asked to attend the council meeting on behalf of the PNG Society to be then asked to represent NZ as well. In fact I could do neither but did say a few words about what I thought the two societies were doing, or not doing in the PNG case. Anyway, I thought I should tell you this and that the conference did happen and that the food was good. Scobie will be pleased to note that I have returned alive and that my paper was well received by the 20-30 people who were at that concurrent session.

The next AAAP meeting is to be held in Kuala Lumpur in September 2004 and is highly likely to be very well organised and supported. There is already a brochure available and they want ideas for themes/topics etc. The new President is Dr Zainal Jelani, email [aznam@agri.upm.edu.my](mailto:aznam@agri.upm.edu.my) and he will appreciate contact. So I've had my gripe and made a plug and now send my greetings and best wishes to all my friends. I am currently Principal Scientist in the Livestock Programme of the PNG National Agricultural Research Institute although I should have retired by now.

*Alan Quartermain.*

*Your intrepid newsletter manager was an invited speaker, but wimped out of the opportunity when New Delhi became a possible weapons target a few months prior to the conference. Some journalist I would make eh!*

## MEMBERSHIP

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The New Zealand Society of Animal Production warmly welcomes one new member since our recent newsletter:

Jack Fahey, Melbourne University

One resignation was accepted, leaving a current membership of 523.

## **NZSAP ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2003**

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Although we understand that many members wanted to return to the Mosgiel seminary, double booking has meant that we have had to resort to holding the 2003 Conference in Queenstown. The dates are 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> June and the venue is the Copthorne Hotel. The difference in cost is expected to be minimal. The main advantage is expected to be the potential for skiing as opposed to roller-blading the main street of Mosgiel

Currently, the projected highlights include

- An environmental contract session with respect to soil and water degradation organised by Jeff Morton of AgResearch Invermay
- A Sheep Improvement Limited contract organised by Peter Amer of Abacus Biotech
- A deer contract session organised by Geoff Asher of Invermay
- A half day field trip, followed by the Annual Dinner

It is highly likely that this conference will be one 'out of the box', so you are urged to plan now to attend.

*Grant Shackell*  
2003 Conference Publicity Officer  
grant.shackell@agresearch.co.nz

### **REMEMBER**

<b>15 NOVEMBER 2002</b>	<b>CLOSING DATE FOR ABSTRACTS</b>
<b>Mid December 2002</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE CONFIRMED</b>
<b>8 FEBRUARY 2003</b>	<b>SUBMISSION OF FULL PAPERS</b>
<b>8 MARCH 2003</b>	<b>REFEREES TO RETURN PAPERS</b>
<b>1 APRIL 2003</b>	<b>CONTRACT PAPERS (REVIEWED AND CORRECTED)</b>
<b>12 APRIL 2003</b>	<b>REVISED PAPERS DUE</b>
<b>10 MAY</b>	<b>COMPLETION OF SETTING</b>
<b>14 MAY</b>	<b>GALLEYS TO AUTHORS</b>
<b>01 JUNE</b>	<b>TO PRINTERS</b>
<b>15 JUNE</b>	<b>DELIVER TO RUAKURA</b>
<b>25 JUNE</b>	<b>CONFERENCE BEGINS</b>

The Society is grateful for the sponsorship provided by **Landcorp Farming Ltd.**



## **GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF ABSTRACTS**

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An abstract is the basis on which the Management Committee accepts or rejects your offer of a paper for presentation at the Conference. You will increase your chance of acceptance by complying with these guidelines. The abstract should be self contained, readable and easily understood by people not intimately involved in the field. You should emphasise not just the science of your work but also the value of it to the science and/or farming communities you are serving. The abstract should contain clear objectives, appropriate data (with statistical parameters such as standard error of means or probability estimates) and conclusions as appropriate. Unnecessary jargon and abbreviations, and information not relevant to the objectives and conclusions should be avoided.

Please ensure that:

1. The title and names of all authors are provided.
2. The name, address, phone, fax number and email address of the corresponding author are given to facilitate contact regarding your submission.
3. The abstract is set (excluding title and authors) in 12 point Times Roman. A maximum of **350 words** is allowed. **Do not include tables, equations or references.**
4. If possible please submit the abstract electronically to the Executive Secretary. The abstract form can be downloaded from the website or requested from the Secretary. E-mail the abstract in Microsoft WORD format to **nzsap.animal@xtra.co.nz**. The abstract may be mailed to the Executive Secretary if you do not have access to email.
5. Abstracts must be received **by 15 November 2002**.

## **THE YOUNG MEMBER AWARD**

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The purpose of the award is to encourage excellence in research planning and execution and communication of results by young members to the Society's annual conference. The applicants must submit an abstract which is acceptable to the committee, followed by a full paper for the annual conference which is acceptable to the editor. If the applicants do not meet the deadlines and satisfy all the eligibility criteria, they will not be considered by the committee. The decision of the committee is final and no correspondence will be entertained.

**Eligibility** for the Award is restricted to the following:

- full or student member of the Society; and
- under the age of 35 at 31 March 2002 and less than 2 years since completion of PhD (if PhD is held); and
- members who are the first senior author of the paper concerned, having made a substantial contribution to the planning, execution, analysis and preparation of the information; and
- to the first or second technical presentation by the member at the Society's annual conference.

A member is eligible to enter for the Award twice, provided that the Award was not received on the first occasion. Applicants must indicate on the abstract form the intention to compete and **a letter from the Supervisor/Head of Department confirming eligibility** conditions must be forwarded to the Secretary at the time of abstract submission. Failure to supply this information cancelled the chances of otherwise competitive abstracts at the 2001 and again at the 2002 conference.

Please check the full rules on the website: <http://nzsap.org.nz/young.html>

**New Zealand Society of Animal Production  
Abstract Submitted for 2003 Annual Conference**

<b>Title</b>			
<b>Authors</b>			
<b>Corresponding Author</b>			
<b>Address</b>		<b>Email</b>	
		<b>Fax</b>	
		<b>Phone</b>	

Do you wish to be considered for the Young Member Award? Yes/No

I have met all of the eligibility criteria outlined on the NZSAP website  
([nzsap.org.nz/sap1451.html](http://nzsap.org.nz/sap1451.html)) and in this newsletter. Yes/No

**Abstract** *(Maximum 350 words. Do not include tables, equations, or references)*

Abstracts will be selected on the basis of relevance and scientific merit. Judgement can only be made from what is presented in the abstract. Where appropriate, conclusions must be accompanied by data and appropriate statistical evaluation. Acceptance of an abstract by the Management Committee invokes a binding commitment upon the author, and the institute where the work was undertaken, to provide a written manuscript for publication in the Society's Proceedings. NZSAP will own copyright of material published in the Proceedings.

This form can be downloaded from the NZSAP website <http://nzsap.org.nz/con03/ab-frm03.rtf> in rich text format (compatible with a range of word processors) or email [nzsap.animal@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nzsap.animal@xtra.co.nz) for a copy.

## **McMEEKAN AND SIR ARTHUR WARD AWARDS, LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

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The **McMeekan Memorial Award** recognises an outstanding individual 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. The Award is in honour of Dr C P McMeekan 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.

The Management Committee is also seeking recommendations for the conferment of **Honorary Life Membership**. The Committee shall consider recommendations from members and a formal nomination will be read at the 2003 Annual General Meeting. **Honorary Life Members** shall be persons who have rendered significant service to the cause of animal production. In the past two years Life Membership has been conferred on Mac Hanna, Marc Ulyatt and Neil Clarke

Nominations for these awards should be sent to the Executive Secretary, Lynne Smith by **November 15th**.



**Export lamb!**

## **NZSAP ANIMAL SCIENCE AWARD APPLICATIONS**

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**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 January 2003** for consideration by the Management Committee. The application format is available from the Executive Secretary and on the NZSAP website.

## **ANIMAL SCIENCE AWARD REPORT**

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**Patricia Johnson**, completed a tour of research institutes in the United Kingdom and attended the 7<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production in France during August 2002.

The tour of research facilities in the United Kingdom included Roslin, Scottish Agricultural College, Meat and Livestock Commission (MLC), Aberystwyth and Wye. Talking with UK researchers gave Patricia a greater understanding of how different their sheep industry is compared with New Zealand and the implications this has on research. There is not much room left for improving the productivity and quality of sheep products between the subsidies, the flow on effects from foot and mouth and the development of a scrapie eradication scheme because of the possibility of scrapie masking the effects of BSE.

The congress was attended by 1200 delegates from around the world. At the congress she presented a paper entitled "Optimisation of Breeding Scheme Design for the New Zealand Texel". This was one of the more "applied" papers presented at the conference with most concentrating on QTL studies, estimation of genetic parameters and development of computer packages for analysis of genetics.

A highlight of the trip for Patricia was going to a farm with Gert Nueiwhof from MLC, to meet Richard Clay a registered Texel breeder in Epping and to see how genetic improvement under the guidance of researchers has paid off. Richard has been involved in the UK Texel Sire Referencing Scheme for 11 years and bases his selection on the index of the scheme and as a result has seen genetic improvement every year within his flock and is a strong advocate for the SRS. This was particularly pleasing for Patricia to hear as she is involved with the NZ Texel Sire Referencing Scheme which is in its early years and has many sceptics.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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**New Zealand Grassland Association Annual Conference**, Greymouth, New Zealand, 5 - 7 Nov 2002.  
For more information contact Karen Whitmore, Ikamatua, RD1, Blackball, Phone: 03 732 3004. Fax: 03 732 3014. E-mail [crooked.river@xtra.co.nz](mailto:crooked.river@xtra.co.nz)

**The 21<sup>st</sup> New Zealand Microscopy Conference**, Wellington, New Zealand, 7 - 12 Feb 2003.  
For more information contact Peter Smith, AgResearch Wallaceville, Phone 04 922 1412, e-mail [peter.smith@agresearch.co.nz](mailto:peter.smith@agresearch.co.nz) or visit the website <http://www.forestresearch.co.nz/mnz>.

**AAAP Conference**, Kuala Lumpur, New Zealand, Sept 2004.  
For information contact the President, Dr Zainal Jelani, e-mail [aznam@agri.upm.edu.my](mailto:aznam@agri.upm.edu.my)

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The current Management Committee is:

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An electronic version of this newsletter and other information on the Society is available at:  
<http://nzsap.org.nz>

Any contributions to the Newsletter should be forwarded to: David Scobie, AgResearch, PO Box 60, Lincoln. Email: [scobie@agresearch.co.nz](mailto:scobie@agresearch.co.nz)

### RETURN MAIL ADDRESS

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