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New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (Inc)

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2011

2010-11

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New Website

We have completely redeveloped our website. Please take a look at <http://www.nzares.org.nz> Conference and seminar papers for 2004-2010 have been loaded into AgEcon Search. You can access these papers by following the link to New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society or by using the search box provided. We know that some papers are missing – if you can provide copies of these please email them to dmarsh@waikato.ac.nz.

Over the course of 2011 we intend to add some older conference papers and gradually expand the content of the website. Your suggestions are most welcome.

NZARES Conference 2011

Our annual conference themed 'Agricultural Productivity in an Uncertain World' will be held at the Tahuna Conference Centre, Nelson on 25-26 August 2011. Put it in your diary now.

INVITED SPEAKERS

We already have a great line up of speakers. **Prof Phil Pardey**, the US-based immediate past President of AARES, will present a paper on Agricultural R&D, Productivity and Global Food Security. Phil is Professor of Science and Technology Policy in the Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota. **Kevin Parris** of the OECD will speak on the topic of Water Policy.

Murray Sherwin Chair of the Productivity Commission and ex DG of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has agreed to be our speaker for the Robin Johnson Memorial Session. He will talk about the work of the Productivity Commission and the importance of productivity for New Zealand economic growth both in the natural resource sector and nationally.

CALL FOR PAPERS

A call for papers, draft programme and conference registration form will be posted to our website in early May and emailed out with a newsletter. The deadline for contributed paper titles and abstracts will be 1 July 2011.

ORGANISE YOUR OWN SESSION

We encourage organisations or individuals to organise their own themed session of either three or four contributed papers. If you are interested email Dan Marsh.

PRESENTATION ONLY SESSIONS

The committee may allow a limited number of presentation only sessions. These would aim to encourage speakers to contribute to debate without having to put together a full paper. Speakers would provide powerpoint slides or a one page summary. *Do you support this idea?*

Awards

The AARES **Heading West Award** went to Peter Tait, a PhD student at Lincoln University to enable him to attend AARES conference 2011. His paper was on Consumer Attitudes towards Sustainability Attributes on Food Labels.

The New Zealand Branch AARES **Undergraduate Prize** was not awarded in 2010. The regulations have now been amended to make it easier for us to identify suitable candidates. The purpose of the prize is to recognise merit in undergraduate performance in agricultural and/or resource economics and introduce students to the Society as they complete their undergraduate degrees. We look forward to receiving nominations from all New Zealand Universities later in the year.

A process is underway to identify recipients for three **post-graduate awards** at \$1500 each.

We look forward to another good turnout at NZARES Conference 2011.

Kind regards

Dan Marsh
President