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New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (Inc)

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014

2013-14 Executive Committee

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Dear members,

The NZARES committee have been busy organising both the annual conference in Nelson (Aug 2014) as well as the AARES conference in Rotorua (Feb 2015). Both of these events will be world class.

NZARES Conference 28 - 29 August 2014 in Nelson: 'Farming to Changing Expectations'

The conference returns to the familiar and relaxed surrounds of the Tahuna Conference Centre. But for a change of scene, we are working on an exciting new dinner location! The theme focuses on how to ensure a successful future for the NZ agricultural sector, following changing consumer and community expectations.

We are pleased to announce the following speakers:

- Earl Rattray, a dairy farmer and past Fonterra Director, will set the scene discussing demand changes in Asia and changing community expectations and how this has flowed through to responses in the supply chain.
- The AARES session will feature Wendy Umberger, Director and Associate Professor of Global Food Studies at the University of Adelaide.
- Craige Mackenzie, CEO Agri-Optics NZ and Supreme Balance Farm Environment Award Winner for 2013 is our after dinner speaker.

We are looking at holding a pre-conference workshop on Water Economics on Wed 27 August (to be confirmed)

Contributed papers

The abstract submission page will go live in May, with abstracts due by the end of June. Start thinking about a paper or a session now!

The 59th AARES Conference will be held in Rotorua, New Zealand from 10-13 February 2015 'Transformations in Agriculture & Natural Resources'

Your local organising committee chaired by Matt Newman (with Brian Bell, Charlotte Cudby, Dan Marsh, Frank Scrimgeour, Geoff Kerr, Katie Bicknell, Phil Journeaux and Ross Cullen) are well into preparations for the conference. I have promised this conference will be the best AARES one this decade! As well as a fantastic array of international speakers, DairyNZ will coordinate a dairy pre-conference trip on Tuesday to a local dairy farm adjusting to nutrient loss limits, a forestry to dairy conversion farm and a view of sustainability from Miraka. Put the dates in your diary now and check out the AARES conference website in May.

The 58th National AARES Conference was held at Port Macquarie on 4 - 7 Feb 2014

The conference was held in Port Macquarie, with the feature being the beautiful beaches. The theme was *Global, Local, Private, Public: Rethinking the Categories, Bridging the Gaps*. Memorable talks included:

- Ian Bateman of the University of East Anglia talking about bringing ecosystem services into economic analysis of land use change in the United Kingdom.
- Simon Dietz of the London School of Economics dived deeply into decision making under uncertainty and ambiguity, and time preference in his discussion of climate change as catastrophic risk management.
- The Agricultural and Applied Economics Association session featured, Julie Casewell, Sven Anderson and Wendy Umberger discussing the act the it's impact on food trade into the US.

Go to <http://www.aares.org.au/> for more information on the conference – papers will be available soon.

Congratulations to...

The winner of the 2013 AARES Undergraduate Award for New Zealand is Evelyn Troung from Waikato University who is studying towards an Honours in Social Science (Public Policy) majoring in Economics.

Nominations please! ...for the NZARES Post-Graduate Awards

There are up to three awards available, worth \$1,500 each. The award is open to any graduate student with a study programme whose primary focus is: agriculture economics, natural resource economics, environmental economics, farm management, agricultural systems or agricultural extension. Nominees must be willing to give a paper at the NZARES conference during the course of their study. **The deadline for nominations is Friday 9th May.** Information on eligibility and selection is available on our website, or contact the Secretary for more information.

Kind regards,

Matthew Newman,
NZARES President