## STAGLINE ONLINE

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Stagline Online is a monthly newsletter for members of the NZ Deer Farmers' Association

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

With stag sales as the most recent event on deer farmers' calendar having just been completed, the quality of stags presented just gets better each year. The stag sales are a great time and place to catch up with fellow deer farmers whilst also endeavouring to secure an animal that will take your herd into the future and beyond. It does make me wonder how much further can we go with some of the genetic gains that have been made of the last 20 years and looking back on our own velvet herd, stags that would have been cutting above average weights then would not make it into our herd now.

With current events happening around the world, we are now seeing how easily we can have even our every day lives affected by something that is occurring on the other side of the world. In Marlborough, logging operations have stopped and reports from meat processors have highlighted that freezer space for sheep meat maybe reaching capacity. So, what can we do as farmers? Not a lot really, but as a pretty resilient industry we will carry on as we normally do and overcome anything that seems to come our way. Currently there is flooding in the lower South Island and dry conditions in most other parts of New Zealand, I guess if farming was easy then everyone would do it.

With weaning fawns not far away comes the most dreaded time on our farm, and that is tagging them. People often say to me that the fawns look so cute and they must be a pleasure to handle and I tell them that they are until they stand on your toes. After tagging your fawns remember to register the tag numbers on the NAIT website within 24 hours so that you are fully compliant and avoid the hassle of being fined.

Keep an eye out for the Parasite Workshops that are now being advertised and run around New Zealand. The uptake that we get as a percentage for any deer farmer workshops and field days is well above average, so get along to one and increase your knowledge and your profits.

Justin Stevens
NZDFA Executive Committee, Marlborough

## CORONAVIRUS — CHINA REMAINS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

We watch with concern the growing toll of the coronavirus outbreak in China. We hope that medical officials around the world will soon have the disease under control and that a vaccine can be developed and deployed to prevent the spread of this highly infectious disease.

Since the outbreak rose in prominence the trade implications have been unclear, but are becoming more severe the longer the crisis persists. What we do know is that China remains open for business. There are no new market access restrictions being put in place by Chinese authorities. New Zealand government officials report that, informally, their Chinese counterparts provide assurance that they are doing what they can to ensure the smooth flow of goods.

The main problem for trade at the moment is the reduced throughput at ports around the country. Ports are working, but, due to the enforced extension of the Chinese New Year holiday, and instructions that people remain away from work if they are in non-essential occupations, the wheels of commerce have slowed drastically. Transport and customs clearance have slowed due to the lack of people on wharves to unload ships and to transport containers.

For the food trade the second impact comes from the lack of people dining out. Restaurants have been shut because people have been instructed to stay in their homes and stay away from work. Foodservice orders for meat products are well back. Restaurants are a signal for a wider economic slowdown due to the impact of the movement restrictions being extended across China.

Most companies in China are operating skeleton staff, this includes banks. Sales and financial transactions may take longer to complete, and so patience will be required from suppliers if delays are experienced.

The magnitude of the disruption will depend upon the time it takes to bring the disease under control, and the extent to which it extends to other countries. New Zealand exported only about 5% of our venison to China in the past year, and while it is emerging as an interesting market, we are not as dependent upon China as other New Zealand food export sectors.

China is the main export destination for New Zealand velvet, but as we know velvet is used to help boost the immune system in traditional Chinese medicine, there may be opportunities for exporters once the ports have cleared their backlogs and trade is once again flowing freely.

# GOT DEER WITHIN THE SOUTHLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ZONE?

Relaxed NAIT reporting dates apply

If you are a PICA whose deer are or were within the emergency zone in Southland (Gore and Mataura districts), you now have-

- 7 days after the official end of the emergency to report deer movements to NAIT (previously 48h after the movement); and
- 21 days after the end of the emergency to report the *loss* or *death* of NAIT registered deer (previously, as soon as was practicable after discovery).

Full extension letter can be viewed here >>

(/sites/dinz/files/20200205%20SS%20signed%20extension%20NAIT%20timelines%20%28Southland%29.jpg)

For any queries, ring the NAIT Contact Centre on 0800 482463, Monday - Friday 7am - 6pm.

## REGISTER YOUR DEER ON NAIT FOR DEERPRO

Weaning is almost upon us. It's a busy time of year but here is another good reason to register your young deer as soon as you have tagged them.

Registering young animals once tagged records their year of birth in NAIT as 2019. Registering them any time during 2020 will do this. DeerPRO takes this birth year information from OSPRI and puts it alongside the slaughter data for your deer.

We use it to generate growth rates, average kill dates, and other key productivity statistics for your young deer as part of your DeerPRO report. Over 500 deer farmers regularly receive these reports.

If you need to re-tag mature deer you can manually enter their year of birth, or select unknown.

If you don't yet receive a DeerPRO report for your farm, simply email info@deerpro.org.nz (mailto:info@deerpro.org.nz) or give us a call on 0800 456 453.

Don't forget. Register your NAIT tags as you tag your weaners and you can't go wrong.

## NZDFA INDUSTRY POSITIONS

Nominations are open for 2020 vacancies created by retirements by rotation on the NZDFA Executive Committee - 2 vacancies, the NZDFA Selection and Appointments Panel (NZDFA SAP) - 2 vacancies, and 1 producer appointed vacancy for the DINZ Board.

Full details and formal notifications related to the 2020 conference, the NZDFA AGM, DINZ Board and the nomination timetables requirements will be published in the January-February edition of Deer Industry News.

#### Nominations close Friday March 27th 2020

For any further information or discussion pleased contact Tony Pearse 021 719 038 or <a href="mailto:tony.pearse@deernz.org">tony.pearse@deernz.org</a>)

#### Nomination forms

Executive Committee >> (/sites/dinz/files/Exec.%20Committee%20Nomination%20Form%20%20Vacancy%20%202020.pdf)

Board >> (/sites/dinz/files/DINZ%20Board%20nomination%20form%202020.pdf)

SAP >> (/sites/dinz/files/SAP%20nomination%20form%20%202020.pdf)

NZDFA proxy form 2020 >> (/sites/dinz/files/NZDFA%20Proxy%20Form%202020.pdf)

## **XCELL RISING STARS**



#### Destination Cromwell, Central Otago 17th and 18th April 2020.

The DFA's Executive Committee and Otago and South Canterbury DFA branch representatives met recently and confirmed a date and venue for the 2020 Rising Stars competition.

In discussion re the dates, we accept the ideal would be late March or early April as the leading studs get clear of their March breeding programmes and busy time, but with War birds over Wanaka and Easter all looming, this later date is a more certain option.

The DFA branches (Otago and South Canterbury North Otago) will combine to support the manpower and logistics over the Friday and Saturday.

We have invited Pat Johnston, and her conference management services to convene the event and she will work directly with the Executive Committee DFA Tony Pearse, DINZ, and the Chairs of Otago and South Canterbury Branches (Richard Currie and Graham Peck) to arrange the event and activity.

Accommodation has been reserved for 17th and 18th April at the "Gate" Cromwell and in a couple of additional motels (Carrick Lodge Motel and Assure Gold Motel). Accommodation requirements will be directed through Pat Johnston. An outstanding competition venue has engaged in an amazing setting on Bendigo Station on Tarras Vineyards The Canyon". (http://www.tarrasvineyards.com/acatalog/The Canyon.html)

It's planned to offer all of the current hard antier classes (and the 2yold antier classes) and the current sponsors and competitors from the past will be contacted over the next week following this notification. Details and an entry form will be available shortly.

In part the location was considered relatively central that might aid competitors in the Southern regions to enter and transport heads.

On that note as established in 2019, the onus for your hard and velvet antler transport is on each competitor to organise their own transport via your own commercial buyers and suppliers and contact and arrange your transport and return. Advice on destination locality etc will accompany the new entry form next week.



## GOING ANTIBIOTIC-FREE WITH CERVENA®

Submission from the NZDFA

Greetings NZDFA members,

The referenced links refer to the <u>original request (/sites/dinz/files/Antibiotic%20free%20original%20letter.pdf)</u> for deer farmer views on a raised without antibiotics standard for cervena, some back ground information for consideration with the submission that closed on 20th January 2020 and the <u>Executive Committees submission</u>

(/sites/dinz/files/CERVENA%20Antibiotic%20Free%20Status%20%283%29%20%281%29%20NZDFA%20%20submission%20JAN%202019.pdf) from a DFA perspective.

DINZ's venison marketing manager Nick Talor has advised that the venison marketing managers will be meeting at the end of February and he will report on discussion and any outcomes following that. The DFA Executive Committee will be meeting on Wednesday 12th February 2020 and DFA too will be advised of progress and reaction at the end of the month.

## VENISON & REPLACEMENT HINDS GROWTH CURVES

Keep an eye out for your updated copies of the 2020 Venison production & Replacement hinds Growth Curves with your next issue of Deer Industry News magazine February/March 2020 edition.



(/sites/dinz/files/Picture2 0.png)



(/sites/dinz/files/Picture3 1.png)

The venison production growth curves have been updated to include stats for kilograms of carcase per tonne of feed consumed to show how efficient it is to target high growth rates and methane and carbon emissions analysis per 100 weaners produced so keep an eye out for these updates!

DINZ is looking for examples of these growth curves in action, if you use these curves or have used in the past and plotted weights on them-share them with us! We won't share your submission without your permission and we will give away a P2P cap and woolly hat (keep your head warm this coming winter) to 5 lucky farmers who submit an entry into the draw.



To enter the draw simply take a photo of your chart in use or one you've used previously and send it to Rob Aloe on mobile 0274 486771 or email through to <a href="mailto:rob.aloe@deernz.org">rob.aloe@deernz.org</a> (mailto:rob.aloe@deernz.org). Winners will be drawn by Friday 21st February.

If you are after additional copies of both curve charts, these are available from the DINZ head office on 04 473 4500 or email request to <a href="mailto:info@deernz.org">info@deernz.org</a> (mailto:info@deernz.org)

## BIODIVERSITY NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT CHANGES

The Government is currently consulting on a new draft National Policy Statement (NPS) for Indigenous Biodiversity with **consultation closing on 14 March 2020**. National Policy Statements are a tool the Government uses to set regulatory requirements across the country. The NPS for biodiversity is of particular relevance to sheep and beef farmers given the significant stands of native vegetation on our farms – some 2.8 million hectares according to research by the University of Canterbury.

More information about this can be found on the Beef + Lamb NZ website. The link can be found <a href="https://beeflambnz.com/npsbiodiversity2020">(https://beeflambnz.com/npsbiodiversity2020)</a>) >> <a href="https://beeflambnz.com/npsbiodiversity2020">(https://beeflambnz.com/npsbiodiversity2020)</a>)

<u>Please click here (/sites/dinz/files/Fact-Sheet%20-Draft-National%20-Policy-%20Statement-%20for-%20Indigenous-%20Biodiversity.pdf)</u> to view a factsheet jointly done by Federated Farmers and Beef + Lamb NZ.

Dates for Indigenous Biodiversity Farmer Workshop Meetings can be found by <u>clicking here >> (/sites/dinz/files/Roadshow-dates-NPS.pdf)</u>

## HELP DRIVE DEER INDUSTRY RESEARCH

DINZ is looking for people with a current or previous connection to the deer industry to sit on an innovation steering group to set the direction of deer industry research and ensure its learnings are rolled out to industry.

There are four groups and members are being sought for the On-Farm, Post-Farm and Informed Breeding Decisions groups. (The fourth group, Environment, will be based on an existing committee that has industry and AgResearch representatives). Members of DINZ's DEERSelect Reference Group and Parasitology Groups (which will continue to function in parallel) are welcome to apply to join one of the new groups.

Details on how the new groups will work, the selection process and how to apply is found here. (http://www.deernz.org/innovation-steering-groups-members-wanted#.XjjYuGgza70) Note - no form filling required!

Please email the relevant information to <a href="mailto:catharine.sayer@deernz.org">catharine.sayer@deernz.org</a> (mailto:catharine.sayer@deernz.org) by Monday 17 February.

## DO YOU STORE CHEMICALS ON YOUR FARM?

Farmers use a wide range of chemicals and fuels in their daily work to increase productivity and grow New Zealand's high quality produce.

If you're working with chemicals or fuels you'll know that many of these substances can be dangerous and must be handled, used and stored with care.

From December 1 new rules came into effect for the storage of toxic and corrosive chemicals that will be important for farmers to manage.

The new rules will require farms to establish a hazardous substance location and hold a location compliance certificate where they store certain chemicals above certain quantities.

To check whether a hazardous substance location exists for the substances at your site you should search the database of approved hazardous substances with controls and find out whether a location compliance certificate is required. You can find this database on our website at the link below.

Farms must comply with certification requirements, many of which have been in place since 2017. These include requirements for signage, an inventory of the substances, segregation, personal protective equipment and training.

If you need more information check out the <u>hazardous substances (https://engage.ubiquity.co.nz/mail/link/hOnnIJTtG1s8\_tJdIBd4Gw)</u> section of the Worksafe website.

# EXTRA COPIES OF DEER FARMER AND DEER INDUSTRY NEWS MAGAZINES



Deer Industry have an overflow of extra copies of **most** issues of the Deer Farmer magazine and Deer Industry News magazine. We would like to offer them to anyone who is interested before they get discarded at the end of February.

Deer Farmer - Issue 1, 1979 - Issue 272, 2011

If you would like any of these magazines, please contact Rebecca on <a href="mailto:rebecca.norling@deernz.org">rebecca.norling@deernz.org</a> (mailto:rebecca.norling@deernz.org? <a href="mailto:subject=Deer%20Farmer%2FDIN%20Magazine%20request">subject=Deer%20Farmer%2FDIN%20Magazine%20request</a>) and she can tell you if the issue you requested is available.

#### 8TH WORLD DEER CONGRESS

The Slovak Association of Deer farming (SADF) is the organizer of the 8th World Deer Congress which will be held from 11th to the 16th of October 2020 at the Grand Hotel in Jasná in Slovakia, Europe featuring international farmers and hunting associations, individuals and experts from thirty countries from around the world.

The congress' mission is to promote mutual awareness between national associations, breeders and the professional public of the latest knowledge in the field of breeding itself, biotechnology and the science of deer breeding. The congress will feature lectures and workshops.

Further information on the 8th World WORLD DEER CONGRESS (2020) is <u>available here >> (https://www.wdc2020.org/?lang=en)</u>or you may contact them directly at <u>info@wdc2020 (mailto:info@wdc2020)</u>.

Application form >> (https://form.jotformeu.com/91996584645376.)

## **NOTICEBOARD**

#### **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

#### TECHNICIAN / SENIOR TECHNICIAN - AGRESEARCH

AgResearch's Farms Systems & Environment Science Group is looking for a passionate and motivated Technician/Senior Technician to join the Farm Systems Team at the Invermay Campus.

To view the full job decription, please click here >> (https://www.deernz.org/about-deer-industry/deer-industry-new-zealand/employment-dinz#.XjnVyGgzbct)

#### TRAINING ADVISER - MEAT & FIBRE

Primary ITO strives to lift the value and productivity of the primary industries through growing people capability. This country's serious growth will come from people. They work hand-in-hand with industry, businesses and a wide range of strategic partners to strengthen the future workforce of over 30 industries. They are about dialling up talent and attitude, knowledge and skills; combining science and technology, hard work with smart thinking and growing a global view of their local ambition.

To view the full job decription, please click here >> (https://primaryito.careercentre.net.nz/job/training-adviser-meat-and-fibre/southland/2489)

#### POTENTIAL STAFF LOOKING FOR WORK

## FINAL YEAR VET STUDENTS FROM MASSEY UNIVERSITY LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER DEER FARMER IN THE MANAWATU

3 Final year veterinary students from Massey University are looking for a volunteer deer farm in the Manawatu for an assignment they have to complete this year. The assignment involves collection of basic farm data to then prepare a presentation for their classmates in September 2020.

The students will be looking for data such as effective farm/deer fenced area, stock numbers, classes and weights (if available), venison/velvet sales and yields, reproductive and calving data and also animal health information.

The 3 students will work together on this and will visit at the sametime at a convenient time for the farmer. Anything aspect of information which the farmer doesn't wish to share won't be used.

For more information on the requirements on the assignment and/or if you can assist, please contact Celine Lye, mobile - 021 0271 1201 or on email - <a href="mailto:lyesiying@gmail.com">lyesiying@gmail.com</a> (mailto:lyesiying@gmail.com).

#### **JOB ON DEER FARM**

Tim Flintoft is an electrician from the UK. He is also a very keen shooter and game keeper which he does part time for a syndicate shoot in North Yorkshire. Tim is wanting to come out to NZ to spend some time working on a deer farm. He has some farming knowledge and comes from a farming background, which includes driving tractors and equipment plus dealing with stock.

If you would like to get in touch with Tim about a potential job opportunity, you can contact him by email: <a href="mailto:timflintoft@outlook.com">timflintoft@outlook.com</a> (mailto:timflintoft@outlook.com)

#### THE FEBRUARY 2020 OUTLOOK



Well above average February temperatures are predicted for the North Island, overall, except for Wellington (near average temperatures). For the South Island, extremes in temperature are forecast during February. Temperatures are expected to swing from heatwave conditions this weekend and early next week, to a colder spell with a southwest change next Tuesday. However, warmer than normal conditions quickly return for week two and week three of the month.

For all North Island regions, as well as Nelson, Marlborough and Canterbury, the first half of February continues drier than normal. The odds of getting some useful rain in the gauge increase in the second half of the month, but we expect rainfall to be rather unreliable (hit and miss). For the West Coast South Island, as well as Southland and Otago, near normal February totals are predicted, with next week running wetter than normal.

Bottom Line: Extreme temperatures likely for the South Island; unusual warmth continues for the North Island. For the North Island, Nelson, Marlborough and Canterbury, the first half of February continues drier than normal, before better odds of getting some rain. The West Coast, Southland and Otago see a wetter week next week.

#### Joke of the Month

A man kills a deer and takes it home to cook for dinner.

Both he and his wife decide that they won't tell the kids what kind of meat it is, but will give them a clue and let them guess.

The kids were eager to know what the meat was on their plates, so they begged their dad for the clue.

Well, he said, 'It's what mummy calls me sometimes'.

The little girl screams to her brother 'Don't eat it, it's an asshole!'

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Event	Date	Details
Deer Industry NZ Parasite Management Workshops 2020	From Friday 7th February 2020	Deer Industry New Zealand with support from the New Zealand Deer Farmers Association are running a series of workshops throughout the country focusing on parasite management on deer farms. The workshops will be held in two parts. A morning session for vets to focus on a technical discussion and sharing suggestions for best practice, and an afternoon session for deer farmers to work through practical parasite management processes. The pending arrival of a new anthelmintic for deer, combined with weaning just around the corner make these workshops very timely. To register, please click here >> (https://www.deernz.org/deer-industry-nz-parasite- management-workshops-2020#.XjnZLWgza70) Te Anau, Friday 7th February 2020 - POSTPONED Cheviot, Tuesday 11th February 2020 Methven, Thursday 13th February 2020 Winton, Monday 17th February 2020 Timaru, Wednesday 19th February 2020 Alexandra, Friday 21st February 2020 Balclutha, Monday 24th February 2020 Balclutha, Monday 24th February 2020 Nelson/Marlborough, Wednesday 15th April 2020 Feilding, Tuesday 3rd March 2020 Taihape, Wednesday 11th March 2020 Wairarapa, Wednesday 18th March 2020 Rotorua, Wednesday 25th March 2020 Hawkes Bay, Wednesday 22nd April 2020

Event	Date	Details
B+LNZ Environment Workshops	Various	These workshops will help you understand your farms unique natural resources and develop a plan to remain productive while putting actions in place to manage any potential risks to the environment.
		Using Beef + Lamb New Zealand's Farm Environment Planning Toolkit, you'll get specialist assistance to assess the potential impact your farm has on your surrounding
		environment and develop actions to manage these risks.
		Click here to view all upcoming Environmental Workshops and to register (essential) >> (https://www.deernz.org/blnz-environment-plan-workshops#.XjyxIWgza70) Introducing Nicola McGrouther Nicola has come on board with DINZ one day a week as the Southern Region Environmental Projects Manager covering Otago — Southland. She is here to support you in all matters environmental. She'll run
		workshops, get you the latest on government rules and regs, answer your questions and support and connect you with other groups of farmers and experts.
		Southern Fielddays – Waimumu, Gore.
		Catch up with Nicola McGrouther at stand T-28 Agricentre on Wednesday 12 February, 1:30 – 3:00pm.
		Southland farmers – Get your Environmental Farm Plan done before 1 May
		deadline.  All farmers in Southland must have an Environmental Farm Plan by 1 May 2020 to be compliant with ES rules. Have you got yours? If not, get along to a free Beef and Lamb Farm Plan workshop where you will go through a step by step process to write your farm plan. Nicola McGrouther and Judy Miller facilitating.
		If you are Deer only, give Nicola a call on 027 493 9500 to register your interest and

she will organise some deer specific farm plan workshops in March/April.

Event	Date	Details
Need help with NAIT?	Friday 21st February	When: Friday 21 February Time: 1pm – 4pm Where: Taihape Golf Club, 4720 Golf Club Road OSPRI and the NZ Deer Farmers Association are holding a NAIT Health Check workshop. Need to update your account? Confused about what to do? Want to confirm that you're compliant? Need advice on most suitable scanner? Come along, have a chat with the NAIT team and get a health check completed on your NAIT account. • Presentation at 2pm • Scanner experts on site to show you thelatest equipment and assist you withyour own scanner To view the brochure, please click here >> (/sites/dinz/files/NAIT%20Workshop.pdf) Contact Mark McCoard from NZDFA (m.mccoard@hotmail.com or 021 848 335) or Sarah from OSPRI (sarah.campbell@ospri.co.nz or 06 354 4773) for more information
Southern Field Day – MPI event	Friday 14th February 2020	The Hon Damien O'Connor, Minister of Agriculture and Minister for Rural Communities, will be at the MPI site to talk about extension services and Māori Agribusiness. He will be joined by representatives from the rural sector for a discussion on the role extension services can play to support economic, environmental and wellbeing outcomes for farmers and their communities.  This is also an opportunity to find out about how Māori agribusinesses can achieve collective ambitions, including incorporating mātauranga Māori and innovative practice. To view more information, please click here >> (https://www.deernz.org/southern-field-day-mpi-event#.XjnZLmgza70)
Deer Industry 2020 Conference	Tuesday 19th -Wednesday 20th May 2020	Region: Invercargill, Southland  Dates: Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th May 2020 - Deer Industry Conference Thursday 21st May 2020 - P2P in Action: National Technical Workshop  Location: The Conference will be held at the Bill Richardson Transport World in first class facilities with access to the amazing truck and car collections as part of the Conference entertainment opportunities. Click here for information about the venue >> (http://www.transportworld.co.nz/)  More information to come
National Catchment Group Workshop	Wednesday 1st - Thursday 2nd April 2020	NZ Landcare Trust, proudly supported by Beef + Lamb NZ, present the National Catchment Group Workshop. <b>Gather</b> : Whether you are just starting out, wanting to start out, or well on your way - we invite representatives from your catchment groups from around New Zealand to attend. <b>Listen</b> : Listen to those who have already done the work, and those supporting them through it. <b>Connect</b> : Talk to like-minded farmers and community members. <b>Celebrate</b> : Join with us in celebrating the success of the farmer-driven community catchment groups in Southland and the action they have underway.  Full details and programme coming soon but this is a not-to-be missed event. To view more information, please click here >> (https://www.deernz.org/national-catchment-group-workshop#.Xjx4jmgza70)

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