

# STAGLINE ONLINE

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

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

This is my first contribution to Stagline Online as a member on your DFA Executive Committee. Firstly, I would like to extend our thanks and appreciation for all the hard work Grant Charteris has given over the past eight years. Through his passion and enthusiasm, he has made an outstandingly positive contribution to our industry.

My initiation to the Executive Committee has certainly been unique as I was appointed during the Covid19 lockdown and have attended all meetings so far from my office at home, via Zoom or some other technical medium. This is just another example of adaptability at work. It will be good to finally meet face to face later this month.

The Next Generation programme is well underway and will be held in Hawkes Bay on the 6th and 7th August, visiting Smedley Station and George Williams and Laura Billings property. They will share some insight into how they have negotiated their way through COVID and the drought. The following day will include sessions about managing difficult times and the resources that are available. I see this as a great opportunity to pass on this experience while it is still very fresh in our minds. We are quite good at droughts in the Bay!

The issues facing the industry at the moment are many, but the scope of this introduction editorial can't really cover it. To hear what's what and as well contribute with your questions and comments, DINZ/DFA together are running a virtual conference to keep you up with the latest information. The two remaining sessions the next two Tuesdays 7th and 14th July, live at 1:00pm but all sessions are available via the DINZ website. <https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#.Xv0nKygzY2x> (<https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#.Xv0nKygzY2x>). You can also find the programme on the DINZ web site.

I would like to mention the new Fresh Water reforms that are still pushing ahead, and although we agree that the environmental stewardship is vital, the timing and speed of things is harsh. Your feedback is important as these rules impact individuals very differently and, at a time when things are already challenging, finding the energy to process this doesn't help mental wellbeing.

Living in the Hawkes Bay has added the extra challenge of the worst drought experienced in 100 years, this along with the lockdown has been tough. But once again the ability of our rural community to band together and make things happen has been extraordinary, along with the extreme generosity and support from fellow farmers outside our region.

Feed and financial support has been offered from far and wide and every contribution is greatly appreciated, I cannot thank you all enough. This highlights the fantastic people that make up our industry.

It has now been raining almost constantly for two weeks so meteorologically the drought has broken, the grass is luminescent green as if digitally enhanced, no doubt from the build up of N in the soils and the tonnes that have been applied. The feed shortage is still there but it appears most are getting sorted and the mood has lifted.

Finally, I believe communication during difficult times is key. The DFA is here nationally through the Executive Committee and locally with your Branch Chairs and committees to represent your views so please get in touch if you have something on your mind. [NZDFA Local branches >> \(https://www.deernz.org/about-deer-industry/new-zealand-deer-farmers-association/nzdfa-local-branches\)](https://www.deernz.org/about-deer-industry/new-zealand-deer-farmers-association/nzdfa-local-branches).

Take care of yourselves and those around you.

*Karen Middelberg*

*NZDFA Executive Committee*

[karen@clovellyfarm.co.nz](mailto:karen@clovellyfarm.co.nz) (<mailto:karen@clovellyfarm.co.nz>)

027 518 5442

## 2020 VIRTUAL DEER INDUSTRY CONFERENCE – DAY 2



### TUESDAY 7 JULY 2020

We may have missed out on our traditional face-to-face Deer Industry Conference this year, but the regular updates will still be available. The biggest difference is that you'll be able to tune in to watch from the comfort of home and the presentations will be split over separate sessions.

The next session will be held at 1:00pm on Tuesday 7 July. The DINZ team will provide brief reports on activity for the year, with time for Q&As.

# IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO WRITE THEM ANY TIME BEFORE THE CONFERENCE BEGINS IN THE Q&A BOX HERE >> ([HTTPS://WWW.DEERNZ.ORG/2020-VIRTUAL-DEER-INDUSTRY-CONFERENCE#SLIDO](https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#slido))

With running times of only 50–80 minutes, you should be able to easily fit each session into your working day. But if you can’t watch them live, the sessions will also be recorded and hosted on the DINZ website for viewing at any time.

## SCHEDULE:

Time	Presenter	Topic
1:00pm	Catharine Sayer	<b>Science: Velvet Composition</b> If you've been involved in velvet for a few years you'll have noticed that weights and grades have improved dramatically - but what about quality? Jump onto this webinar to learn about the change in composition of NZ deer velvet over the last 30 years and whether there are significant differences between sticks from different farming systems. Come prepared to quiz NZ's leading velvet researcher, Dr Stephen Haines and our velvet marketing guru Rhys Griffiths on what the changes mean for your operation or your marketing.
1:10pm	Stephen Haines, Rhys Griffiths and Tony Pearse	Q&A
1:20pm	Rhys Griffiths	<b>Velvet Marketing</b> <i>Please tune in for a brief velvet market update. This will be followed with a live Q&amp;A panel session with Ross Chambers (Provelco), Colin Stevenson (CK), Tony Cochrane (PGW) and Hugh Signal (Alpine Deer).</i>
1:30pm	Ross Chambers, Tony Cochrane, Colin Stevenson	Q&A
1:40pm	Phil McKenzie	<b>Passion2Profit (P2P)</b> <i>P2P is a jointly funded collaboration by venison marketing companies, Deer Industry NZ, NZDFA and Government through MPI. The P2P programme is into its fifth year involving a range of projects spanning marketing premium venison and improving market-led productivity on farm. Find out about some of the market led projects that are helping to transform the New Zealand venison industry.</i>
1:45pm	Innovation group	Sarah How and Millie How
1:50pm	Rural Professionals Workshops and The Big Deer Tour	Nicola McGrouther and Hugh Jackson
1:55pm	Phil and Sarah	Q&A
2:05pm	SESSION ENDS	

## TUESDAY 14TH JULY

Time	Presenter	Topic
1:00pm	Lindsay Fung	<b>Environment</b> Demonstrating environmental stewardship is fast becoming the norm for pastoral farming in New Zealand. Find out what the industry is doing to ensure that deer farming remains a viable and sustainable land use in New Zealand. Hear from a farmer and consultant on the power of Deer Industry Environment Groups, a project supported by the Passion2Profit programme.
1:10pm	Deer Industry Environment Groups	Emma Buchanan and Gretchen King

Time	Presenter	Topic
1:15pm	Lindsay, Phil and Sarah	Q&A
1:25pm	Nick Taylor	<b>Venison Marketing</b> <i>Join Nick Taylor for an update on our venison markets and the work venison marketers are doing with our customers in these turbulent times.</i>
1:35pm	Nick and Sarah	Q&A
1:40pm	Venison Marketers	<i>Venison Marketing Managers from Alliance, Duncan Ltd, Firstlight Foods, Mountain River Venison, and Silver Fern Farms will be online to answer questions from viewers on marketing activity and prospects.</i>
1:55pm	<b>SESSION ENDS</b>	

**TUESDAY 30TH JUNE – [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE PROGRAMME AND VIDEO FROM DAY 1 >>](https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#30)**  
**([HTTPS://WWW.DEERNZ.ORG/2020-VIRTUAL-DEER-INDUSTRY-CONFERENCE#30](https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#30))**

## NEXT GENERATION 2020



### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN ATTENDING SOUGHT

*The NZDFA has developed a programme to foster the growth of those Next Generation deer farmers in the industry that are keen to learn more about deer farming, connect with other like-minded deer farmers and get on farm to see what is possible with the input of knowledge, technology and a little know-how!*

The NZDFA intends to run and host the 2020 Next Generation Conference in Central Hawkes Bay on August 6-7th commencing on site at 10:00am. Numbers will be capped at 60, so expressions of interest are really important!

**Day 1** will include visiting two spectacular properties in the centre of the ravages of the current Hawkes Bay drought, but have a legacy of huge commitment to the deer industry and high quality velvet production as a mainstream activity. Both properties have significant deer velvet operations as well as breeding and finishing deer plus significant sheep and cattle operations

- The influential agricultural training station Smedley Station (<https://smedley.ac.nz/>) and Cadet Training Farm (hosted by Manager Rob Evans)
- TemcoAg which is a large diverse property in the same area, a past winner of the Deer Industry's premier biennial environmental awards programme and also runs a large cropping operation (hosted by George Williams and Laura Billingsand family)

Themes for the day will include an overview and planning for farming in unprecedented drought conditions with shared experiences from other key deer farmers in the Hawkes Bay region related to deer farming under challenging and crisis conditions and reviewing the lessons to be learnt.

**Day 2** will feature contact with the support groups that have been behind the drought relief process, especially the Rural Support Trust and their huge role in keeping our farming people under stress in safety and care and coordinating much of the relief programmes put in place. We will extend the emphasis on planning for succession via banking advice and also have some interaction from the DINZ executive team and DFA leadership.

Depending on numbers, the conference dinner on day 1 and the day 2 workshops will either be based in the Waipukururu/Waipawa region or Napier in the marina area with a chance to meet and get to know again or meet for the first time.

Attendee's get themselves to and from the event and fund their accommodation. The NZDFA provides the meals and activity at no cost.

Logistics - To be confirmed

For travellers from the South Island or distant parts of the North Island, an extra night on the 5th will likely be needed to accommodate the 10:00am start. We will attempt to co-ordinate minivans or group travel from Wellington and Palmerston airports on the 5th, and return on the 7th. Also if demand exists from the Waikato and northern regions (Minivan timings and availability TBC).

So we aren't pushed for time once we wrap up in Napier on the 7th at approx 2:00pm, it is recommended flights depart from Napier airport if departures fly out too early from Wellington or Palmerston North.

**FLIGHT SCHEDULE CAN BE VIEWED HERE >>**  
**(/SITES/DINZ/FILES/FLIGHT%20SCHEDULE%20V2.XLSX)**

**INTERESTED? YOUR EOI IS REALLY IMPORTANT.**

Please contact Rebecca Norling at DINZ [rebecca.norling@deernz.org](mailto:rebecca.norling@deernz.org) (<mailto:rebecca.norling@deernz.org>) 04 471 6110 or Tony Pearse [tony.pearse@deernz.org](mailto:tony.pearse@deernz.org) (<mailto:tony.pearse@deernz.org>) 021 719 038 for EOI in attending or confirming early registration. We'll also seek to co-ordinate travel via the DFA Branch structure and keep you in touch as the programme details are finalised.

## 2020 MSD PHOTO COMPETITION

**VOTING FOR PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD OPEN!**



*Photo: 2019 winner - Joel Galloway, Mount Gold Stags*

The 2020 MSD Photo Competition is now closed. We received a total of **81** photos! Judging is underway and winners will be announced in the coming weeks here and on our Facebook page >> (<https://www.facebook.com/deerindustry/?ref=bookmarks>).

All **81** entries from the competition have been uploaded to an online gallery. Click on the photos to enlarge them and the photo number will be displayed at the bottom with the caption. Use that number to make your vote via the voting form.

**TO VIEW THE 2020 ENTRANT GALLERY, PLEASE CLICK HERE >>**  
**(HTTPS://DEERINDUSTRYOFNZ.PIXISET.COM/2020DEERINDUSTRYPHOTOCOMPETITION/)**

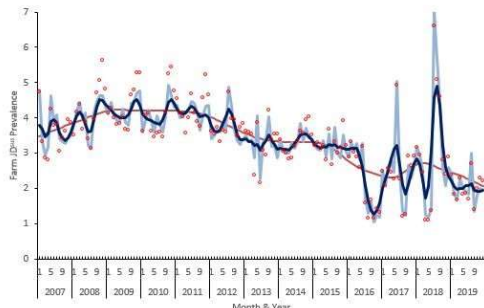
**TO MAKE YOUR VOTE, THE ONLINE VOTING FORM CAN BE FOUND HERE >>**  
**(HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/9C9QBMB)**

## DEERPRO UPDATE

The end of the venison production season is upon us again. This time of year is ideal for DeerPRO to give the industry an update on Johne's disease and our contact with farmers along with a quick word on several initiatives to improve our service and make the most of new opportunities.

## JOHNE'S DISEASE:

The long term trend of gradual decline of Johne's disease recorded in processed deer continues. This is after some extraordinary recordings in 2018 which have resolved. The causal organism is still widespread but improved herd management and more resilient deer continue to reduce both the signs and impact of disease.



## INDUSTRY COVERAGE

The programme's coverage continues to grow. For deer killed this season to date, it provides regular reporting to 555 farmers representing 78% of the total kill and 92% of the JD-suspect lesions recorded at processing.



### Review DeerPRO reporting to farmers

A review of the information in our standard report was held with veterinary and ag consulting expertise in March. It was prompted by the recent major review of the animal health part of Deer Industry New Zealand lead by Scott Meacham who also chaired our event. Key points arising from our day were the importance of keeping the report as brief but informative as possible, the potential of a much simpler 'dashboard' type layout for a few key metrics, and from Wayne Allen the value of including what rate of a farmers deer kill out under 45kg. Wayne's suggestion has been included in our report and the 'dashboard' approach is being explored further.

## REPORTING HEALTH AND DEFECT INFORMATION BESIDES JOHNE'S TO FARMERS

Reporting processor recorded health and defect information other than Johne's back to farmers is an opportunity for the programme. Historical data and expert opinion have identified liver damage is the most likely candidate. A pilot investigation was held at the Duncan South plant last October. A 3 month trial had been planned at this plant and Venison Packers in autumn when the damage is most common, but was suspended due to COVID19.

## NAIT FOR AGE OF DEER

Recently we have established a connection with NAIT where they provide us age details for processed deer. DeerPRO sends a list of NAIT codes from processed deer several times a year and they send back their age data for that code. Age is automatically assigned when the tag is registered, or it is assigned by the farmer. It is recorded for around 35-40% of processed deer at present and should increase substantially in future.

This approach to aging enables more accurate growth rate and other productivity calculations.

## OPERATING UNDER LOCK DOWN

The Project Manager has a permanent office set up at his home. Priorities for the lock down period were

- phoning farmers to suggest joining the programme
- completing a protocol for obtaining data from NAIT
- Comparing the two approaches for aging deer, either by NAIT or by ASD was also a substantial part of lock down work.

- [Make a YouTube clip describing DeerPRO >> \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQyp1XdEqUg\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQyp1XdEqUg)

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

For the first time in a decade the programme was over budget in the earlier part of this year. This was due mainly to DeerPRO reports being sent to all our farmers summarising chilled season performance. A request from DINZ to revise budgets downward and the impact of COVID19 will see us conclude the financial year around 10% under budget.

Regards,  
Solis Norton  
Project Manager, DeerPRO

# OSPRI UPDATE – DECLARING NON-NAIT ANIMALS AT YOUR LOCATION

Declaring your non-NAIT animals in NAIT by July 31 each year, supports disease management and national biosecurity. OSPRI have put together 2 fact sheets to help with this.

### **Why do I need to declare non-NAIT animals?**

Many farmers already declare their non-NAIT animals voluntarily. This new requirement gives us a better idea of where animals of different species are being farmed together, which is essential for managing disease outbreaks that cross between species, such as foot and mouth disease (FMD).

### **What type of animals do I need to report?**

All cloven-hoofed species that currently require movement recording using Animal Status Declarations (ASD forms) are to be declared, due to their risk of contracting FMD. This includes, sheep, pigs, goats, alpacas, emus, llamas, and ostriches.

### **How often do I need to update the stock tallies?**

Farmer feedback was taken on board. The reporting date aligns to the period that farmers report stock numbers at the end of the financial year. The tally must be updated annually by 31 July and reflect the estimated numbers as at June 30.

### **What if I don't declare non-NAIT animals at my location?**

If you are a registered PICA (person in charge of animals) and don't declare non-NAIT animals, you will be at risk of a \$400 infringement notice.

[Quick guide how to declare non-NAIT animals >> \(/sites/dinz/files/J1490-NAIT-Quick-Guide-How-to-declare-non-NAIT-animals-FA2-Int.pdf\)](/sites/dinz/files/J1490-NAIT-Quick-Guide-How-to-declare-non-NAIT-animals-FA2-Int.pdf)

[Factsheet - Declare non-NAIT species at your location >> \(/sites/dinz/files/J1489-NAIT-FAQ-Factsheet-Declare-non-NAIT-species-at-your-location-FA-Int2.pdf\)](/sites/dinz/files/J1489-NAIT-FAQ-Factsheet-Declare-non-NAIT-species-at-your-location-FA-Int2.pdf)

## FARMER TECH WEBINAR SERIES 2020



Following on from the industry virtual conference webinars, DINZ invites farmers to join a series of technical webinars online via Zoom to hear about a topic of interest in more depth; explore how the topic works in a real farm setting; and to take away some ideas for use on their own farm.

The webinars will involve an expert presenting on a topic with farmers able to ask questions during the presentation using the chat box function on Zoom or even better, by submitting questions beforehand when registering. A moderator will combine questions where they overlap.

If you're new to Zoom, don't worry we can help you through it, just let us know when you register. The webinars are free to participate and Zoom seems to cope with most internet connections.

## KEEN TO JOIN 1 OR ALL 3 WEBINARS?

You must register for each webinar. To do this [click here \(https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DINZFarmerTechWebinars2020\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DINZFarmerTechWebinars2020) to fill out a form or email Rob Aloe direct on [rob.aloe@deernz.org](mailto:rob.aloe@deernz.org) (<mailto:rob.aloe@deernz.org>) with the webinar you're interested in and with any questions.

**Note:** Once you have registered, information and talk links to the presentation will be emailed closer to the time.



David Stevens is a Senior Scientist in the farm systems team at AgResearch specialising in deer nutrition. David will present on New Zealand's developments in velvet antler production, tune in for a look at what makes deer velvet the best product of its kind in the world.

Joining David for Q&A will be Rhys Griffiths, DINZ Market Manager and Tony Pearce, DINZ Producer Manager.



2019 Deer Industry Award recipient and Senior Scientist Geoff Asher provides his deer reproduction presentation in an online forum. If you haven't heard Geoff cover the basics of deer reproduction before then this is not to be missed. Solis Norton, will give an insight into DeerPRO and the options available for you and your farm.

Both Geoff and Solis will answer any questions you may have.



Hear from Tony Pearce, DINZ representative on the pan-sector Winter Grazing Action Group progressing the recommendations of the Government's Winter Grazing Taskforce. Bryan Thompson, a deer farm systems scientist from AgResearch with a special focus in deer nutrition will provide an update on DEERResearch's Hill and High country water quality monitoring study involving 10 deer properties throughout the country.

Joined for Q&A by Lindsay Fung, DINZ Environmental Stewardship Manager.

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE 3 WEBINARS >>](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DINZFARMERTECHWEBINARS2020)**  
 **[\(HTTP://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/DINZFARMERTECHWEBINARS2020\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DINZFARMERTECHWEBINARS2020)**

## FUTURE DEER FARMERS EXPERIENCE 2020



Deer Industry NZ in conjunction with the NZ Deer Farmers Association, want to give 3 keen Ag students an up close look at our special industry by taking them on a whirlwind tour of the deer industry. Over the course of a week **3rd August – 07th August 2020** the students will spend time with deer farmers, processing companies and also attend the DFA Next Generation 2020 Programme to be held in the Hawkes Bay. The programme will raise the profile of opportunities in the deer farming industry. DINZ and the DFA will cover costs for all meals, travel and accommodation for the week.

Applications are now open and close **Wednesday 22nd July 2020**. Students studying toward a diploma or certificate in agriculture or farm management can apply along with those who have attended deer husbandry ITO courses. See website links for more details and how to apply >> (<http://www.deernz.org/dinz-activity/producer-support/industry-activities/future-deer-farmers-experience>).

Watch a short clip from 2019 tourist Mckenzie Bird from SIT Telford on her experiences on the 2019 Future Deer Farmers Experience >> (<https://youtu.be/uq1QIWAIHg>)

# FALLOW DEER SOCIETY AND FALLOW DEER FARMING NEWS



The NZDFA has agreed that Stagline Online becomes an outlet for any national or international news of Fallow deer farming in NZ, Australia or North America and Europe.



([sites/dinz/files/more%20than%20a%20crown.jpeg](http://sites/dinz/files/more%20than%20a%20crown.jpeg)) We will endeavour to provide some new updates or links to other fallow activity with each issue, by way of example this pastel work of a fallow buck has just been put on display at the Artist Room in Dunedin (<http://www.theartistsroom.co.nz>), by emerging artist Nicola Reif. "More than a Crown" (fallow deer buck) 67.5 x 86.5 cm framed (pastel pencil & soft pencil on pastel matt)

Next month we'll feature some thoughts from Geoff Asher, AgResearch Invermay who today (03/07/2020) is being recognised at AgResearch Invermay as he moves to retirement after a stellar 40 year career in deer biology and science and has been driving force behind deer reproduction and performance and all things fallow deer since 1980 following his PhD work and career start at Ruakura.

The Society maintains a very useful website and information resource at >> (<http://www.nz-fallow.co.nz/>)

NZDFA pays tribute to the commitment in maintaining the Society's activities that Chairman Ian Bristow and secretariat Di Bristow have made for many years and also particularly for the Societies commitment to sponsoring the Fallow hard antler classes at the and national velvet and hard antler awards Rising Stars. DFA is working through ways to keep those classes active and well supported.

Current key contact for fallow deer and the organisation in recess is

**Tony Roberts**

432 Glenkenich Road  
Merino Downs Gore

Cell: 027 755 8446

[mtr@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mtr@xtra.co.nz)

or via The Producer management team at DINZ

## Background

The NZ Fallow Deer Society after discussion with members has made the decision to move into recess and deposits its remaining reserves with the Spiers Memorial Trust. The Society was the first group to consider this move when it deposited \$35,000 of reserves under the leadership then of Chairman Ken Swainson. The monies are retained in the Trust under an MOU with the NZDFA and Trust, on a rolling 5 year term. The Trust has also enjoyed similar generosity with Branch reserve as the West Coast and Wairoa DFA Branches have also moved into recess or amalgamated with other branches.

The Trust has these invested in A++ secure investments with Craigs Investment Partners and ANZ and the MOU secures the original capital for the future should the Society's next generation wish to reform. Interest and capital gain returns are used by the Spiers Trust to foster leadership developments for individuals (Kellogg Rural leadership Programme, Nuffield Scholarships and Ag Innovation conference delegates at Otago University).

The Trust has also co funded with DFA some sponsorship for the DFA Branch based Parasite workshops being run by DINZ. The Fallow Society and DFA Branches in recess who have followed this route has allowed the Trust much great opportunity to support its co funding of applications. DINZ though the leadership budget and DFA itself also co-fund to 50 % of any successful application.

# FARMING THROUGH 2020

Farmers, lifestylers and hobby farmers will all be recovering from the impacts of the 2020 drought and COVID-19 restrictions this year. There will be feed shortages and financial challenges for parts of rural New Zealand. To get through, keep planning ahead, and use the help available.

Ministry for Primary Industries has provided a helpful document with information and advice for finances and feed planning. [Check it out here >> \(/sites/dinz/files/2020%20AE%20Farming%20through%20Drought%20web.pdf\)](https://sites.dinz/files/2020%20AE%20Farming%20through%20Drought%20web.pdf)

# REMINDER FROM THE NVSB

Now that we have more freedom to move under the Covid-19 restrictions this is a reminder to all velvetters to get their end of seasons returns back to their veterinarians for reconciliation, signing off and the storing of all unused velvetting drugs. The NVSB certainly appreciates, that many velvetters have already completed these requirements.

The NVSB advise that due to unforeseen circumstance compounded by Covid-19 that the proposal to introduce new electronic velvet ID tags for use this coming velvet season has been delayed until the 2021/2022 velvet season. They advise that the same "Blue" wristband type ID tags will be used again for the forthcoming season. All requirements around the use of these tags remain the same as the previous season.

## Have you had an RCS audit of your velvetting facilities?

If the answer is yes, and you have a "passed" result then well done. If the answer is yes but you have "awaiting actions" then you need to have this work completed by the agreed time frame signed off with your auditor. Once this work has been completed you need to verify this with your auditor who will then, if satisfied, sign you off as "passed"

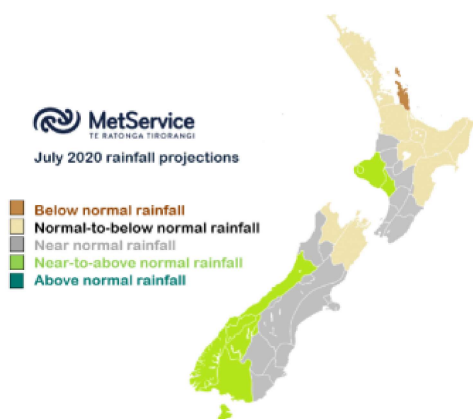
If you have not yet had an RCS audit and you haven't had notification from either the NVSB or an auditor, and you still wish to be able to sell velvet from your facilities then please contact Pam MacLeman [pam.macleman@deernz.org](mailto:pam.macleman@deernz.org) (mailto:pam.macleman@deernz.org) or John Tacon [john.tacon@deernz.org](mailto:john.tacon@deernz.org) (mailto:john.tacon@deernz.org).

**NB Very important. If your facilities have not been signed off by the beginning of this coming velvet season, then legally you cannot sell velvet into the export food chain. Your facilities must show a "passed" status. If the facilities are not "passed" then it is also illegal to sign a VSD.** The only exception will be those facilities that the NVSB has officially listed as still waiting for an audit.

Velvet buyers are very aware of all requirements under the RCS and will refuse to buy or uplift velvet from non-approved facilities this coming season. MPI compliance officers will be checking velvet consignments at RMP premises during the season to ensure all requirements are being met.

# NOTICEBOARD

## THE JULY 2020 OUTLOOK



Winter really is here - we start July with strong, cold, southerly winds across the country, driven by low pressure near the Chatham Islands and high pressure in the Tasman Sea. We'll see sharp frosts for inland areas of the South Island, and showers falling as snow over hills and mountains of both islands, although north of Taupo, showers will be few and far between.

This weekend, expect temperatures to recover as northwesterly rain moves in. This won't last long though; early next week, we revert to chilly southwesterlies with a few showers and passing fronts.

Into week three, high pressure shifts from the Tasman Sea cross North Island producing a drier than average outlook there although temperatures will be near normal. This produces westerlies across the South Island, with fronts struggling to cross the divide with any real purpose. At the end of July, we may see better northward progression of fronts thanks to a weakened Northland ridge.

Bottom Line: July starts with a burst of cold, wintry southerlies with showers for those exposed to the south. After that high pressure builds in the Tasman Sea before migrating northeast across the upper North Island. Wettest conditions (compared to normal) will be for the lower and western South Island, the driest (compared to normal) will be the upper and eastern North Island.

To view the Climate Briefing presentation to the National Adverse Events Committee about temperature/rainfall, soil moisture anomaly, percentage of rain fall and a mid July outlook from NIWA, [click here >> \(/sites/dinz/files/NIWA\\_NAEC\\_Presentation\\_24Jun2020.pdf\)](/sites/dinz/files/NIWA_NAEC_Presentation_24Jun2020.pdf).

## FARMER LOOKING FOR WORK

Willem Smit is permanently relocating to New Zealand with his wife. He is interested in working on a deer farm. His career highlights are:

- More than 10 years Farm Management Experience on 3500 ha farm
- "Hands On" maintenance and repair of all machinery and equipment on the farm including
  - Fencing, water, paddocks, 6 full time labourers living on the farm
  - Housing, windmills, diesel pumps, electric power, trucks, tractors, motorbikes
- End-to-end management of the following:
  - Animal care: breeding, calving, veterinary, fattening, auction
  - Day to day running the farm, involved with all details (absentee owner)

If you would be interested to talk to Willen about any career opportunities, please get in touch with him at [swillem201@gmail.com](mailto:swillem201@gmail.com) (<mailto:swillem201@gmail.com>)

## Joke of the Month

Wayne, a furniture dealer from Charlottetown, decided to expand the line of furniture in his store, so he decided to go to Paris to see what he could find. After arriving in Paris he visited with some manufacturers and selected a line that he thought would sell well back home.

To celebrate the new acquisition, he decided to visit a small bistro and have a glass of wine. As he sat enjoying his wine, he noticed that the small place was quite crowded, and that the other chair at his table was the only vacant seat in the house.

Before long, a beautiful girl came to his table, asked him something in French (which Wayne couldn't understand), so he motioned to the vacant chair and invited her to sit down. He tried to speak to her in English, but she did not speak his language so, after a couple of minutes of trying to communicate with her, he took a napkin and drew a picture of a wine glass and showed it to her. She nodded, so he ordered a glass of wine for her.

After sitting together at the table for a while, he took another napkin, and drew a picture of a plate with food on it, and she nodded. They left the bistro and found a quiet cafe that featured a small group playing romantic music. They ordered dinner, after which he took another napkin and drew a picture of a couple dancing. She nodded, and they got up to dance. They danced until the cafe closed and the band was packing up.

Back at their table, the young lady took a napkin and drew a picture of a four-poster bed. To this day, Wayne has no idea how she figured out he was in the furniture business.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date	Details
2020 VIRTUAL DEER INDUSTRY CONFERENCE – DAY 2	Tuesday 7th July 2020	<p>We may have missed out on our traditional face-to-face Deer Industry Conference this year, but the regular updates will still be available. The biggest difference is that you'll be able to tune in to watch from the comfort of home and the presentations will be split over separate sessions.</p> <p>The next session will be held at 1:00pm on Tuesday 7 July. The DINZ team will provide brief reports on activity for the year, with time for Q&amp;As.</p> <p>With running times of only 50–80 minutes, you should be able to easily fit each session into your working day. But if you can't watch them live, the sessions will also be recorded and hosted on the DINZ website for viewing at any time.</p> <p><u><a href="https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#.Xv5sUigza70">To read more information and see where these events are being held, click here &gt;&gt;</a></u> (<a href="https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#.Xv5sUigza70">https://www.deernz.org/2020-virtual-deer-industry-conference#.Xv5sUigza70</a>).</p>
Next Generation 2020	6-7 August 2020	<p>he NZDFA has developed a programme to foster the growth of those Next Generation deer farmers in the industry that are keen to learn more about deer farming, connect with other like-minded deer farmers and get on farm to see what is possible with the input of knowledge, technology and a little know-how!</p> <p>The NZDFA intends to run and host the 2020 Next Generation Conference in Central Hawkes Bay on August 6-7th commencing on site at 10:00am. Numbers will be capped at 60, so expressions of interest are really important!</p> <p><u><a href="https://www.deernz.org/next-generation-2020#.XvEdemgza70">Read more information here &gt;&gt;</a></u> (<a href="https://www.deernz.org/next-generation-2020#.XvEdemgza70">https://www.deernz.org/next-generation-2020#.XvEdemgza70</a>).</p>
Deer Industry NZ Parasite Management Workshops 2020	Various	<p>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.</p> <p><u><a href="https://www.deernz.org/deer-industry-nz-parasite-management-workshops-2020#.Xv5qvSgza70">To read more information and see where these events are being held, click here &gt;&gt;</a></u> (<a href="https://www.deernz.org/deer-industry-nz-parasite-management-workshops-2020#.Xv5qvSgza70">https://www.deernz.org/deer-industry-nz-parasite-management-workshops-2020#.Xv5qvSgza70</a>).</p>
DINZ Farmer Tech Webinar Series 2020	Various	<p>Following on from the industry virtual conference webinars, DINZ invites farmers to join a series of technical webinars online via Zoom to hear about a topic of interest in more depth; explore how the topic works in a real farm setting; and to take away some ideas for use on their own farm.</p> <p>The webinars will involve an expert presenting on a topic with farmers able to ask questions during the presentation using the chat box function on Zoom or even better, by submitting questions beforehand when registering. A moderator will combine questions where they overlap.</p> <p><u><a href="https://www.deernz.org/dinz-farmer-tech-webinar-series-2020-webinar-1-developments-nz-velvet-antler-production%E2%80%99#.Xv5r4igza70">To read more information and see where these events are being held, click here &gt;&gt;</a></u> (<a href="https://www.deernz.org/dinz-farmer-tech-webinar-series-2020-webinar-1-developments-nz-velvet-antler-production%E2%80%99#.Xv5r4igza70">https://www.deernz.org/dinz-farmer-tech-webinar-series-2020-webinar-1-developments-nz-velvet-antler-production%E2%80%99#.Xv5r4igza70</a>).</p>

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The Big Deer Tour 2020	Monday, August 31, 2020 to Friday, September 4, 2020	<p>Over the course of the week, selected students will spend time working with and learning from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▸ Deer Farmers to gain an appreciation for the passion that they develop for these unique animals</li> <li>▸ Deer researchers and scientists</li> <li>▸ Agricultural consultants working with deer clients</li> <li>▸ Venison and velvet marketing companies.</li> </ul> <p>Applications are now open and close on <b>Wednesday the 19th August 2020</b>. Successful applicants will be notified by <b>Friday the 21st August 2020</b>.  <a href="https://www.deernz.org/big-deer-tour-2020#.Xv5qyygza70">To read more information, click here &gt;&gt; (https://www.deernz.org/big-deer-tour-2020#.Xv5qyygza70)</a>.</p>
Future Deer Farmers Experience	Monday August 3 to Friday August 7 2020	<p>Do you like deer?  Do you want to learn more about deer farming?  Do you want to join with lots of other young people who are passionate about the deer industry?  Then come and apply for the Future Deer Farmers Experience 2020.  Deer Industry New Zealand and the NZ Deer Farmers' Association want to give 3 keen ag students an awesome, up close look at our special industry.  The trip takes place from <b>Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August 2020</b> and will be based in the North Island this year.  Over the course of a week you will spend time working with and learning from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▸ Awesome deer farmers</li> <li>▸ Venison, velvet and co-product marketing companies</li> <li>▸ The 2020 DFA Next Generation workshop attendees - for details of the 2020 DFA Next Gen conference click <a href="https://www.deernz.org/dinz-activity/producer-support/industry-activities/next-generation-programme/next-generation-4#.XvAa2mgzaUk">here (https://www.deernz.org/dinz-activity/producer-support/industry-activities/next-generation-programme/next-generation-4#.XvAa2mgzaUk)</a>.</li> </ul> <p>The chosen students will have all costs for transport, meals and accommodation paid for.  <a href="https://www.deernz.org/future-deer-farmers-experience#.Xv5qxCGza70">To read more information, click here &gt;&gt; (https://www.deernz.org/future-deer-farmers-experience#.Xv5qxCGza70)</a></p>
Deer Workshops for Rural Professionals	Tuesday 11th August 2020	<p>Due to popular demand we are running an Introductory Deer Workshops for Rural Professionals on Tuesday 11th August in Balclutha.</p> <p>Join us for a full day's immersion into the deer farming industry. This course is suitable for rural support professionals, bankers, accountants, field representatives, rural support staff and more.</p> <p>The workshop will include analysis of farm data. Materials and presentations will be supported by local technical experts in areas such as genetics, animal nutrition, environmental management, and the health and management of deer.</p> <p><a href="https://www.deernz.org/deer-workshops-rural-professionals#.Xv54FkBuJzM">To read more information, click here &gt;&gt; (https://www.deernz.org/deer-workshops-rural-professionals#.Xv54FkBuJzM)</a></p>

