

AGRONOMY SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

Agronomy in the News

The newsletter of the Agronomy Society of New Zealand



Most regions have experienced severe drought conditions this summer. Where farmers haven't had access to timely irrigation crop yields and in some cases crop quality have been poor.

While it will always be difficult to predict the occurrences and severity of drought's it is clear there are a number of technologies and practices that farmers can consider to develop more resilient farming systems. Alongside this, government and regional investment in new irrigation schemes will also play a significant role in increasing the productivity of the primary sectors while reducing the potential risks associated climate volatility.



We look forward to a range of papers on these topics at our upcoming annual conference, which is being held co-jointly with the New Zealand Grasslands Association from November 5-7 in Tauranga.

The event promises to be another success, so save the date now!

2013 Agronomy and Grasslands Association Conferences

We are now calling for papers on all aspects of crop agronomy that relate to our theme "**Sustaining agriculture and horticulture - new science, technologies and practices**". Topics of interest may include (but are not limited too):

- Nutrient management strategies and growing to nutrient limits
- Efficient use of water
- Agronomic management of annual, perennial or forestry crops
- Integrated cropping and livestock production systems
- Novel science, technologies and practices.

Key dates:

Title and abstract due	5 April 2013
Full manuscript due	28 June 2013
2013 Agronomy proceedings published	November 2013

Full details will be available on our website in the coming months.



Maize Industry Forum



During this year's Agronomy Conference we will host an industry forum that covers a range of topical issues relating to maize grain and silage. Maize is a key crop that is grown widely in the BOP and nearby Waikato - largely for dairy support.

The event will be co-sponsored by the Foundation for Arable Research. Further details on this new format will be available in the coming months.

2012 Agronomy Conference a success

Last November we held our annual conference alongside the 'Seed Symposium' at Lincoln University. The event was attended by about 40 delegates, who heard of new developments in crop and seed research. Professor Brian Jenkin's of the Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management provided a timely keynote address on water issues in Canterbury ([click here for a copy of his keynote paper](#)).

Delegates also visited the Lincoln University biotron and lysimeter facilities, Plant & Food Research rainout shelter, Lincoln Dairy Farm, PGG Wrightson's Seed Distribution Centre, Grasslanz and AgResearch farms to see firsthand some of the trials and technologies being used to deliver profitable, sustainable and resilient farming businesses.

The best overall paper award went to Richard Chynoweth (*'Irrigation management of perennial ryegrass seed crops'*) and best student paper to Juliano Oliveira (*'Sprout development of seed potato tuber after different storage conditions'*).

A special thanks to all those who contributed papers, helped organize the conference and associated field trips, or attended the event. A picture summary is available on the Agronomy Society website ([click here](#)).



2012 proceedings published

The 2012 Agronomy New Zealand proceedings have been printed and sent to members. Pdf copies are also available on the website - in the coming months you'll begin to see earlier editions and other special publications available online.

Upcoming conferences and events

Joint Agronomy Society Conference and New Zealand Grasslands Association Conference

The joint ASNZ and NZGA Conferences will be held in Tauranga from November 5-7, 2013. Further details will be available in the coming months at www.agronomysociety.org.nz.