



SIL Sheep Genetics Day

“Where we’ve got to, where we can go”

25th June 2009, at Lincoln University

0900 Registration – Commerce Lecture Theatres, Lincoln University

0930 Professor Graeme Martin, University of Western Australia speaking on *Clean, Green and Ethical Animal Production*. The 2009 Landcorp Lecture to the NZ Society of Animal Production Conference

1030 **SIL – the first ten years** - Contract for NZ Society of Animal Production conference:
Coordinator: Dr Sheryl-Ann Newman

NZ sheep breeders and their ram buying clients have benefited from increasing rates of genetic gain for key traits due to breeders embracing new technologies and new traits. This session reviews how sheep genetics has contributed to farm profit and looks at what’s in the “genetic” pipeline to drive future gains.

- SIL - The first 10 years - Richard Wakelin, MWNZ
- SIL-ACE - Increasing access to genetic information for sheep farmers – Dr Mark Young, SIL, MWNZ
- Rates of genetic progress achieved by New Zealand ram breeders – Dr Peter Amer, AbacusBio, Dunedin
- Trans-Tasman genetic evaluation of sheep – spreading the net wider - Richard Apps, Sheep Genetics, Australia
- Developments in the sheep meat industry – meat yield evaluation – Dr Neville Jopson, AbacusBio, Dunedin
- Current and future impact of DNA technologies on the New Zealand sheep industry - John McEwan, AgResearch, Invermay

1200 Lunch – Stewart Lecture Theatres, Lincoln University

Genetic tools you can use – now and the future

1300 **Finding Good Genetics**

Sponsored by PGG Wrightson



Three presentations chaired by Robin Campbell, Farmer & sheep breeder, Southland

- Finding rams to fit your purpose – Dr Mark Young, SIL Geneticist, MWNZ
- Ewe efficiency – On-Farm Research, Hawkes Bay
- Refocusing selection on growth and carcass merit – Georgie Walker, SIL Technical Adviser

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1400 Advanced Technology

Sponsored by Alliance Group

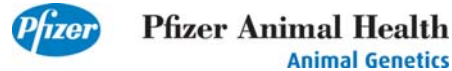


A poster session (with afternoon tea available). Take the opportunity to talk to experts about the various topics, including:

- New tools for sheep farmers - AbacusBio, Dunedin
- New opportunities for sheep improvement with DNA tests – Pfizer Animal Genetics
- Ewe longevity – Sharon McIntyre, SIL Adviser, Gore
- Focus on sheep health - genetic selection to reduce farm costs – Neville Amyes, SIL & AgResearch
- Assessing Meat Yield – how do we improve meat yield? – Dr Neville Jopson, AbacusBio
- Finding genetic information – Georgie Walker, SIL Technical Adviser, MWNZ

1500 What do you need from sheep genetics in the next 10 years?

Sponsored by Pfizer Animal Genetics



A forum chaired by Dr Mark Young (SIL) with an expert panel comprising:

- Professor Hugh Blair, Animal breeding specialist, Massey University
- Dr Peter Amer, Consulting geneticist, AbacusBio, Dunedin
- Sharl Liebergreen, Pfizer Animal Genetics, Dunedin
- Leon Black, Farmer & sheep breeder, Southland
- Wayne Anderson, Corporate farm business manager, Lone Star Farms

This is your chance to tell us what your needs are and to quiz experts. You can influence the questions put to the panel by completing the **Sheep Genetics On-line Survey** found at www.sil.co.nz. Please complete this before the workshop to help identify issues important to the sheep industry.

NB: The SIL Sheep Genetics Day afternoon sessions are on at the same time as field trips for NZSAP conference delegates.



The SIL Sheep Genetics Day is also sponsored by AbacusBio and NZX Rural



Call 0800-silhelp (0800-745-435) if you have any questions about this SIL Sheep Genetics Day

FOR YOUR INFORMATION - Other events on close to the Sheep Genetics Day:

- New Zealand Society of Animal Production Conference – 24-26 June 2009 at Lincoln University (details at www.nzsap.org.nz)
- MWNZ Northern South Island Sheep & Beef Council meeting – 26 June 2009, Lincoln University (call 0800-696-328 for details)
- All Blacks-Italy Test at AMI stadium in Christchurch, Saturday 27th June 2009. Kickoff at 1935h.