

7 June 2016

2016 Sheep Industry Awards Finalists Announced

Finalists in the 2016 Beef + Lamb New Zealand Sheep Industry Awards have been announced.

The awards are now in their fifth year and Beef + Lamb New Zealand chief executive, Sam McIvor said they were a great way to celebrate the New Zealand sheep industry and the farmers who produce the best sheep meat in the world.

"It's right that we acknowledge the top performers and showcase our industry, which is a significant contributor to the New Zealand economy.

"These businesses and individuals can rightly take their place as outstanding performers on both the domestic and international business stage," McIvor said.

Beef + Lamb New Zealand Farmer Council national chair, Martin Coup, who also chairs the awards judging panel, said the New Zealand sheep industry could take heart from the high quality and quantity of this year's nominations.

"The judging panel was particularly impressed by the calibre of individuals and businesses making a significant contribution."

The Beef + Lamb New Zealand Sheep Industry Awards winners will be announced at the Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Solway Park Hotel in Masterton on Wednesday 6 July 2016.

For tickets to the awards evening, please contact Penny Munro at Beef + Lamb New Zealand penny.munro@beeflambnz.com or call her on 06 870 3497.

Finalists

Alliance Group New Zealand Terminal Worth finalists:

Texel, Focus Genetics, Peter Strawbridge, Rotorua Waikite, Lamb Supreme, Focus Genetics, Peter Strawbridge, Rotorua SufTex, Mount Linton Station, Dave Warburton, Otautau

Terminal Trait Leader for Lamb Survival finalists:

Kepler Lamb Supreme, Focus Genetics, Travis Leslie, Te Anau Texel, Focus Genetics, Peter Strawbridge, Rotorua SufTex, Mount Linton Station, Dave Warburton, Otautau

AbacusBio New Zealand Maternal Worth finalists:

Blackdale Coopworth, Blackdale Stud, Peter and Marion Black, Riverton MNCC Coopworth, Edward Dinger, Cambridge Twin Farm TEFRom, Twin Farm Ltd, Welsh Family, Gore

B+LNZ Genetics Maternal Trait Leader for Lamb Survival finalists:

Hazeldale, Perendale, Richard & Kerry France, Tapanui Rangiatea, Perendale, Blair Gallagher, Ashburton Snowdon, Perendale, Tripp/Veronese Partnership, Darfield

Primary ITO Sheep Industry Trainer of the Year finalists:

Dan and Tam Jex-Blake, Manutuke Rex Newman, Napier

Focus Genetics Sheep Industry Science Award finalists:

Dr Peter Amer, AbacusBio, Palmersrton North Dr Dave Leathwick, AgResearch Grasslands, Dunedin Dr Sin Phua, AgResearch Invermay, Dunedin

Farmlands Co-operative Significant Contribution to the New Zealand Sheep Industry finalists:

Derek Daniell, Masterton Agri Networks, Te Awamutu Matt & Lynley Wyeth, Masterton

Blackdale Stud Sheep Industry Supplier of the Year finalists:

Bevan and Wendy Hopcroft, Gore, supplying Alliance Group Ltd James and Jane Hunter, Waipukurau, supplying Lean Meats Ltd Hamish and Sarah Ottrey, Tapanui, supplying ANZCO Foods Ltd Waiwhenua Farms Ltd, Hastings, supplying Progressive Meats Ltd

Ballance Agri-Nutrients Sheep Industry Emerging Talent Award finalists:

William Gibson, Christchurch Hayden Peter, Wyndham Dr Natalie Pickering, Napier

<u>Primary Wool Cooperative</u> Sheep Industry Innovation Award finalists:

Barry and Julie Crawford, Gore Gordon Levet, Wellsford Dr. Sheryl-Anne Newman, Mosgiel

For more information please contact Beef + Lamb New Zealand Communications Manager, Jan Keir-Smith 027 271 7593.

About Beef + Lamb New Zealand:

Beef + Lamb New Zealand Ltd is the farmer owned industry organisation working for a confident and profitable sheep and beef industry. It works to help farmers make informed business decisions and promote their collective interests. Priorities include investing in research and development that meets the needs of farmers and the sector, developing farm and farmer capability and delivering knowledge that drives farm performance. It also works to attract and retain talent for the sector, supports the sector's market opportunities, advocates for farmers ability to operate and builds sector confidence and profile within communities.