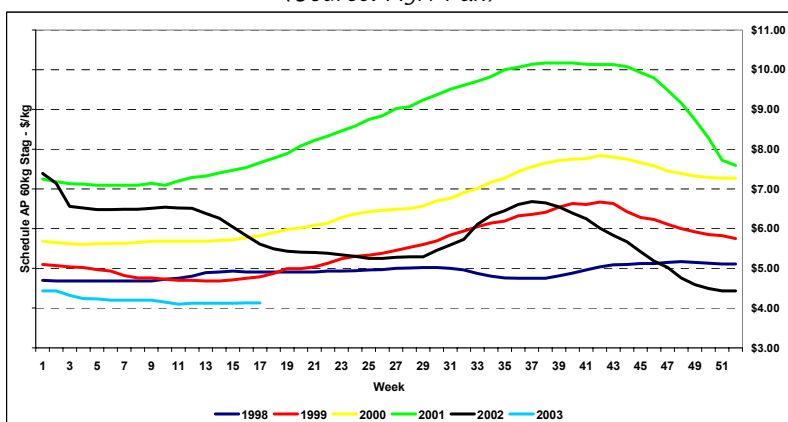


>>> VENISON

VENISON SCHEDULE

This week (week 17): \$4.13 (no change from previous week)
Down 26% on the 10 year average for this time of year (\$5.57)

*60kg AP Stag – Published National Average Schedule.
(Source: Agri-Fax)*



- Exporters continue to report that European market prices remain generally stable but at very low levels.
- Despite low prices, reports are that demand is slow as a result of buyer nervousness due to the state of European economies - especially Germany.

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- Velvet Pool Prices
- Russells Win CD Farmer Of The Year
- Congratulations To The Croads
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- Favourite Venison Dish?
- Branch Newsletters
- Deer Health And Welfare Technical Session - 8 May

>>> VELVET

VELVET POOL PRICES

	Current Season Last week	Last Season's Weighted Average	Approx. change from last season
SA	134	\$132.64	1%
A	96 - 106	\$116.41	-13%
B	94 - 105	\$115.00	-13%
C	88 - 96	\$107.47	-14%
D	72 - 84	\$84.23	-7%
RG	53 - 99	\$87.67	-13%

- End of season prices are low reflecting slow in-market demand and low levels of exporting.
- There are reports that SARS is affecting demand and confidence in Hong Kong with a significant impact on velvet demand.

DEER HEALTH AND WELFARE TECHNICAL SESSION - 8 May

Waikato Branch of the DFA are hosting a technical session with expert and entertaining speakers on a range of health and welfare issues including Johne's, Tb, velvet removal and ticks.

>>>More details in this issue of Deer Notes.

RUSSELLS WIN CD FARMER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Andy and Barbara Russell on winning the 2003 National Bank Central Districts Farmer of the Year. The Russells farm deer and finish lambs on 136 ha near Tangimoana Beach.

>>> UPCOMING EVENTS

Canterbury Branch Committee Meeting and AGM Sudima Hotel, Memorial Ave, 7.30 pm	30 April
South Canterbury/North Otago Branch AGM Poplars Reception Centre, 5.30 pm	1 May
Nelson Branch AGM	2 May
Wairarapa Branch AGM Branch AGM at Gladstone Inn, Gladstone.	5 May
Manawatu Branch AGM	6 May
Field Day - Errol and Adele Croad, Otaki An open field day at the Croad's to celebrate their receipt of the Supreme Award in the Balance Farm Environmental Awards for the Greater Wellington Region. 11.00 am, Wednesday 7 May, Rahui Rd, Otaki - Phone (06) 364 8931	7 May
Hawke's Bay Branch Field Day and AGM	7 May
Deer Health and Welfare Technical Session 3.00 to 7.00 pm, At Tower farms at The Oaks, 188 Discombe Road, Cambridge. Speakers will cover issues including: Johnes Disease, Tb Research, Velvet Removal, Ticks, Welfare and Facial Eczema. For more information contact Alby Cooper (027) 280 4067 or Tony Pearse (021) 719 038	8 May
Waipa Branch AGM	9 May
Southland Branch AGM	14 May
Fiordland Branch - Open Committee Meeting, 1.00 pm	15 May
Otago Branch AGM To be held at Centennial Court, Alexandra at 7.30pm.	15 May
Waikato Branch AGM Willow Glen Garden Function Centre, 934 Gordonton Rd, Gordonton Social Hour from 5.30 to 6.15 pm, AGM from 6.15 to 7.30 pm Dinner at 7.45 pm (Cost \$30, \$15 of which is paid by the Branch)	15 May
Deer Industry Conference, Caroline Bay Hall – Timaru See the February Issue of Deer Industry News for more details. The Conference Registration form can be downloaded from the Deer Industry New Zealand website: http://www.deernz.org.nz?id=37	27 to 29 May
Deer Branch NZVA Annual Conference Copthorne Hotel, Queenstown. Information and a registration form can be downloaded from the Deer Industry New Zealand website (http://www.deernz.org/?id=37) or for more information email Prof. Peter Wilson: P.R.Wilson@massey.ac.nz	25 to 27 June

>>> OTHER NEWS

VENISON ROULADE WITH ROAST GARLIC AND HERB BUTTER



Another exceptional venison recipe for you to try. Says Executive Graham Brown about this dish ...

"The venison is kept deliciously moist and flavoursome through the butter, which allows the herbs to seep into the meat. If you don't have any Parma ham use normal ham, pancetta or even thinly cut lean bacon."

<<This and many other recipes can be downloaded at <http://www.nzvenison.com>

New venison recipe to try.

Deer Notes

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CROADS



Congratulations to Errol and Adele Croad on receiving the Supreme Award in the Ballance Farm Environmental Awards for the Greater Wellington Region.

Errol and Adele are hosting an open field-day at their farm (Rahui Rd, Otaki) on Wednesday 7 May. (*More details in Upcoming Events Section*)

<<< Adele and Errol Croad at their award winning property in Otaki.

Croads win Ballance Farm Environmental Award.

DEER NUMBERS ANNOUNCED

Last week Statistics New Zealand released a second round of provisional numbers from the 2002 Census of Agricultural Production. The provisional results indicate deer numbers as at June 2002 of t 1.7 million, including 0.9 million hinds. While this represents an increase of 35% since the last Census in 1994, it suggests that deer numbers have remained basically static since the 1999 survey.

Deer Industry New Zealand is currently reviewing its forecast models based on this new data. Even though the Census numbers are thought to underestimate actual deer numbers, Deer Industry New Zealand's revised herd and production forecasts are expected to be significantly lower than earlier estimates.

Statistics New Zealand announces provisional deer numbers for June 2002 - 1.7 million.

DATABASE UPDATE

The April issue of Deer Industry News should have arrived in most letterboxes today. If not, it won't be far away. Please take the time to complete and return the form enclosed with the magazine so that Deer Industry New Zealand can keep its mailing list and industry database accurate.

An accurate database saves money and means Deer Industry New Zealand can efficiently distribute information that industry participants are entitled to receive. It is also important for democratic processes (industry polls etc.) so that everyone in the industry can have a say in industry decision-making.

Deer Industry New Zealand recently received approval under section 54 of the Privacy Act to access deer farmer names and addresses used to administer the Tb Pest Management Programme. This has meant a number of additional farmers' details have been added to the Deer Industry New Zealand database. This update is one step being taken to assess whether these additional and existing farmers' details are current or not.

For more information please contact MJ Loza, mj.loza@deernz.org

Please help Deer Industry New Zealand keep its mailing list accurate by returning the form enclosed with the April Issue of Deer Industry News.

FAVOURITE VENISON DISH?

One *Deer Notes* reader has suggested that we ask farmers to let *Deer Notes* know about any interesting or noteworthy venison dishes they discover.

The first recommended dish comes from The Mission Restaurant in Napier - Peppered venison medallions with duck breast on herbed couscous - comes highly recommended especially with the Mission's own Gimblett Road Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot.

Give your favourite venison dish and restaurant a plug by emailing deer.notes@deernz.org.

Tell Deer Notes about a venison dish you have enjoyed recently.

Deer Notes

BRANCH NEWSLETTERS

The April issue of the Wairarapa Branch's newsletter is available on the Deer Industry New Zealand website - <http://www.deernz.org.nz/?id=35>

Branches can distribute their newsletters via the Deer Industry New Zealand website by emailing a copy to deer.notes@deernz.org.nz

DFA Branch newsletters available on Deer Industry New Zealand website.

DEER HEALTH AND WELFARE TECHNICAL SESSION

Invitation to all Waikato, Rotorua, Tongariro, Waipa and Bay of Plenty Deer Farmers

When Thursday 8th May 3.00 -7.00 pm
Where Tower Farms at The Oaks, 188 Discombe Rd, Cambridge
Hosted by Waikato Branch, NZDFA
Sponsored by Tower Farms and Bayer Animal Health - suppliers of Bayticol

Topics **Johne's Disease in Deer** -Presented by the Johne's Research Group Peter Aitken. Chairman: "Research in JD. Perspectives"
Ed Noonan Farmer Rep, Canterbury Branch NZDFA;"Farmer initiatives"
Dr Colin Mackintosh AgResearch Invermay " Critical aspects of the disease management and avoidance"
Prof Frank Griffin, Disease Research Laboratory Otago University "Current research update and future plans."
Forum and discussion

Tuberculosis research and progress, Tb Genetics, diagnostics and eradication.
Frank Griffin and Colin Mackintosh
Discussion and questions

Compression Analgesia for adult velveting. Recent progress and the case for approval with NAWAC
Dr Jim Webster AgResearch Ruakura
Rob Gregory Deer Industry New Zealand (NVS Manager)
NVS Current Issues Dr Ian Scott NVS Chairman

Ticks, threats treatment and impact
Gordon Wallis, Bayer Animal Health, North Region Regional Manager

Deer Welfare Code - Current status and Implications
Tony Pearce, Deer Industry New Zealand

Open Discussion including Facial Eczema Update (Ian Scott)

Followed by social hour and light BBQ.

For further information contact:

Alby Cooper	Waikato	027 280 4067
Tony Pearce	Deer Industry New Zealand	021 719 038
John Paterson	Rotorua	07 322 2093
Chris Parkinson	Tongariro	07 372 8649
Earle Wells	BOP	07 304 8920
Rodney Dixon	Waikato	07 825 4581

Deer Health and Welfare Technical Session planned at Cambridge, 8 May.

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While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of its content, Deer Notes alone is not to be substituted for direct advice on any matter addressed.

Deer Industry New Zealand is the operating name of the Game Industry Board.