



New Zealand Deer Farmers' Association

CENTRAL REGIONS BRANCH

November 2009 Newsletter

Central Regions DFA Committee

Chairman	Wilton Turner	06 328 4771
Secretary	Andy Jarden	06 348 2326
Treasurer	Tony Gray	06 328 4575
	Craig Hocken	06 328 7702
	Gary Walker	06 328 2888
	Mike Green	06 342 6860
	Shelly Dew-Hopkins	06 346 6066
	Peter Adlam	04 293 6300
	Steve Rowe	06 364 0044
	Brian Shaw	06 342 4710

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 28th November – Combined

- CRDFA Velvet Comp
- North Island Velvet Comp
- CRDFA Christmas party

All at the Travel Lodge, Palmerston North
– full details see over and attached file

Monday 7th to Thursday 10th December 2009 National Velvet and Hard Antler Competition

Being held at Ascot Park, Invercargill
Entry details should be emailed to Brian Russell at
deerpark@farmside.co.nz or phone Peter Allan
on 03 201 6313

Saturday 12th to Sunday 13th December CRDFA subsidised Branch Trip to Rata Maire Deer

Cost only \$125 per person – financial members and partners
\$250 per person – non members

See over for more details

FOR SALE

2 B11, composite stags. German / Romanian / Wapiti bred
by Graham Carr at Peel Forest Estate, rising 4 yr old, recently
used at Tim and Lucy Atkins monitor farm during the last rut.
At 9 mths both were 122kgs.

Weaning weights were 75kg and 77 kg

3yr velvet: 3:48kg and 3:52kgs

Price \$3000 plus GST

They are grazing at my place and doing well.

Phone: 06-3284771 (Wilton Turner)

Chairman's Chat

Hi Folks

We are off on our train trip into the wild blue yonder so all aboard, time for a bit of fun just before Christmas. It's been a busy year for our branch so what a great way to finish it off and don't forget our velvet competition which is now at the Travelodge, it's going to be fun and its going to be cheap, all thanks to your hard work.

I was down in Wellington last week trying to behave myself and I picked up a bit of information which might be of interest. DINZ have predicted a 450,000 animal kill this season (1,7000 tonnes of venison) but next year it will continue to fall between 15% and 25% down to 13-14,000 tonnes, after that it will level off then slowly rise. I hope they are right, the only way it will rise will depend on a stable and profitable venison schedule and that ideal seems to remain the Achilles' heel of the deer industry.

No doubt you have all read your "Dedicated to deer" pamphlet, this is your chance to write your opinion on how our DINZ board performs, your feedback will be greatly appreciated and please refrain from using swear words.

Another interesting moment at last weeks meeting was when Deer Improvement made some more bold marketing statements, all good stuff, then two Red deer stud breeders and the chairmen of the Elk Wapiti society were asked to step up front and were given the right of reply. The following debate was to say the least highly emotive with good points from all perspectives, yes and it did get a bit heated as you can imagine, but in my opinion the deer industry as a whole will learn a great deal from this sort of vigorous debate. It was the only time I saw everybody wide awake and listening intently, on numerous occasions I saw at least two chairmen having a quiet nap during earlier presentations.

It looks like the velvet season is off to a good start with competition for product being a good driver for a higher price; the venison however will slip with the high trading value of our dollar being the excuse. I wish I had signed one of those autumn Silver Fern contracts but I don't think I will sign their latest \$6.27 effort - I wonder if I will make two mistakes in a row? With such a volatile world economy anything could happen.

John Scurr will be retiring as DINZ chairmen at the end of his term which leaves a considerable void in our ranks. Leadership is important for our industry in uncertain economic times and there are a few good possible candidates to fill this void. It was good to see many new young faces at our meetings in Wellington recently strongly voicing their opinions and showing a keen interest in the deer industry, gives us all confidence in the future and maybe some of our snoozing chairmen should make way for this fresh blood.

Hope to see you all at the Travelodge and then on the train for our end of year trip. We have all made the effort, it would be nice if you did too.

Wilton Turner

TO ALL CENTRAL REGIONS DEER FARMER MEMBERS

You are invited to attend;

- Our Christmas Dinner
- Local Velvet Competition
- North Island Velvet Competition

'See the best velvet in the North Island'

Viewing Saturday 28th Nov @ the Travel Lodge
4.30pm-5.30pm

Pre dinner drinks 5.30pm onwards at the 'Nosh Bar'
Travel Lodge Complex

FREE Nibbles 5.30pm onwards

Dinner 7.00pm for 7.30pm Awards Presentations
Venison donated by Andrew Duncan

Awards evening will be hosted by outstanding MC
- Don Carson

WHEN : Saturday 28th November 2009

WHERE : The Travel Lodge
175 Cuba Street, Palmerston North

DINNER : \$25.00 to Central Region Members &
partners
This is a 50% subsidy!!

Bookings Essential - FREE wine on tables

RSVP & BOOK TODAY

Craig Hocken 06 328 7702

**Or email:
hocken@xtra.co.nz before 10 November 2009**

**CRDFA Subsidised Branch Trip
to Rata Maire Deer Farm and Safari Park**

Cost:

**only \$125 per person financial members and partners
\$250 per person non members**

Saturday 12th December

- 10.00 am : All aboard The Overlander train, Feilding
- 11.23 am : Taihape boarding – Overlander train
- 12.25 pm : Get off train at Ohakune; 1 minute walk
to Powderhorn
- 12.30 to 1.00 pm : Lunch Powderhorn Chateau
- 1.30 pm : Bus to Rata Maire Deer Farm, Ohakune
View 600 SCI stags and Tony Punch's
velvetting operation
- 6.00 pm : Return to Powderhorn Chateau
- 7.00 pm : Dinner Powderkey Restaurant

Sunday 13th December

- 8.00 am : 4WD bus to Rata Maire Safari Lodge,
Upper Retauruke Valley
- 8.45 am : Morning tea Lodge – overview from
Tony Punch
- 9.00 am : 4WD bus tour of Safari Park
(weather permitting)
- 12.00 noon : Lunch Rata Maire Lodge
- 12.30 pm : Bus back to motel – Ohakune
- 2.00 pm : Board Overlander Ohakune
- 3.05 pm : Overlander arrives Taihape
- 4.35 pm : Overlander arrives Feilding

**\$125 per head includes trains and bus, accommodation,
breakfast, lunch and dinner**



**One of Wilt's
Wapiti**

Yeah – Right!!