



New Zealand Deer Farmers' Association

CENTRAL REGIONS BRANCH

## September 2010 Newsletter

### Central Regions DFA Committee

<b>Chairman</b>	Wilton Turner	06 328 4771
<b>Secretary</b>	Andy Jarden	06 348 2326
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Green	06 342 6860
	Craig Hocken	06 328 7702
	Shelly Dew-Hopkins	06 346 6066
	Peter Adlam	04 293 6300
	Steve Rowe	06 364 0044
	Brian Shaw	06 342 4710
	Miles Halberg	06 328 4525
	Geoff Warren	06 354 4674

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**15<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Final Focus Farm Field Day**

at The Steyning - Tikokino

**27<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

**CRDFA Xmas Dinner and Velvet/Hard Antler Comp**  
Manfield, Feilding

Only \$20 per person (dinner and wine) – majority of cost subsidised by CRDFA

Names to Craig and Chrissy Hocken

Ph: 06 328 7702

Email: hocken@xtra.co.nz

**Mid January 2011**

**Branch Trip to South Island**

Five days from 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> January (to be confirmed)

Costs (airfares, bus, accommodation)

\$1,200 p.p. less branch subsidy \$200 = \$1,000 p.p. nett

\$500 p.p. deposit to Treasurer Mike Green

Full details included (over)

**Early/Mid February 2011**

**Spiker, 2yr and 3yr Velvet and Hard Antler Comp**

CRDFA and Taihape combined at Rathmoy Lodge -

Taihape

### Chairman's Chat

Hi to all deer farmers

Wow what a tough winter we have had in the Apiti region; though the temperatures have been mild we went into the winter months with low grass covers which made for a long drawn out process but recently we have noticed the large yellow object in the sky, by memory its called the sun, starting to show its warm face; and this morning I saw my first set of young ducklings, so I guess spring is on its way.

Our Branch trip to the South Island in January is all go, and after taking into account feedback from our members is now cheaper, shorter and more industry focused and the subsidy has been reduced to \$200 per person, so as to allow us to allocate more funds to other popular branch activities.

If you want to see some of the best terminal sires in the world (Eastern and Wapiti), visit the renowned Mineret Station on the western shores of Lake Wanaka and view the latest AI technology at Deer Improvement's Balfour Research farm, plus take in some stunning South Island scenery - then get your deposit into Branch Treasurer Mike Green to reserve your seat on the plane (details over page).

Our velvet competition and Christmas dinner has been allocated more funding to allow a more upmarket event which will be well subsidised, and along with our 2 and 3 yr velvet competition which will be held at Rathmoy in conjunction with the Taihape branch should prove to be two popular and worthwhile branch events.

It looks like the venison price won't go much higher than \$8:00/kg but my opinion is that its historic fall after Christmas won't be so dramatic just due to a shortage of product. Velvet on the other hand is slightly increasing its volume and will probably reach around the 430 tonne mark, and as long as volume doesn't increase much further the price should stabilize around the \$100/kg for a Korean mix. Despite the rumours around NZVM I am confident they will keep their act together for the sake of the velvetting deer farmers; they now have the support of the industry, they just need to grow up and get on with it.

One comment I should make about cutting velvet this season is cut it short; this signal is coming strongly from the market place, this includes your regrowth. Remember if you cut your first cut early your regrowth will increase and your total weight will still be good one, remember cut early!

Well Spring and Summer are on their way, it's time to think about barbecues, fishing, repairing the hole in the boat, sun tan lotion (it's like a foreign language).

Something that put a smile on my face recently was a girlfriend of mine sending me photos of different swimsuits she was trying on. I had forgotten what bikinis looked like, oh the joys of summer!!

I hope you all enjoy the summer months as much as I am going to this season, but for now it's back to the mud. Just remember when struggling with an animal in a bog and the mud is just about to pour in over the top of your gumboot, just think of the beach and all the joy it can bring, think about the mud actually being sand and that struggling animal actually your new girlfriend giggling as you rub sun tan lotion gently down her back - life's so much better when you just use your imagination.

Your imaginative chairman  
Wilton Turner

## CRDFA Branch Trip to South Island

**DRAFT itinerary (dates may change by one or two days once confirmed)**

- 14th Jan** Fly Palmerston North Queenstown, arriving mid morning  
Bus to Wanaka, barge across lake to Mineret Station  
Bus back to and stay night in Queenstown
- 15th Jan** am: Attend Remarkables Eastern Red Stag Sale  
pm: Attend Netherdale Velvet Stag Sale  
Stay night in Balfour
- 16th Jan** am: Visit Deer Improvement Research Farm – Balfour  
pm: Visit Mayfield Wapiti – Tommy May – Winton
- 17th Jan** Free day: various options – further details to come – all optional
- 18th Jan** am: Fly home

**Cost:** \$1,200 per person, less \$200 Branch subsidy.  
Deposits of \$500 p.p. to Treasurer, Mike Green by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Mike Green  
814 Ruatangata Road  
RD11  
WANGANUI 4581

**Enquiries to:** Geoff Warren – 06 354 4674 or 027 231 4094  
Andy Jarden – 06 348 2326 or 021 463 623  
or your local committee member



**For those of us who enjoy hunting and fishing, you can do both at the same time in Queen Charlotte Sound**