



Being new to the role of President, this has been a first six months of learning the ropes. I have found it to be a rewarding and challenging experience.

The season has started off well in most parts of the country. Between the recent rains in the Nelson area and the dumping of milk due to issues with the Maui pipeline, all areas seem to have their own distinct issues that they have had to face.

Let's hope that things will settle down and we are able to achieve maximum production this season, without any more hiccups in store for us.

I hope that you all have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year with family and friends.

Brian Hutchings, President

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The Ayrshire office will be closed from midday on Thursday 22 December and re-open on Monday 9 January 2012 for the Christmas break. The office will again be unattended from Tuesday 24 to Friday 27 January 2012 while Pam attends NZ Dairy Event.

BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will take place on Wednesday 1 February 2012. Please have any agenda items in writing to the office no later than Monday 9 January 2012.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2011

The next Annual Conference will be held in New Plymouth from Tuesday 5 - Friday 8 June 2012. Look out for more information and registration in the Autumn Bulletin.

- President's Christmas message
- Office Closure
- Ayrshire Seminar

ACE Herd update

The production for the season is down by 6.6%, but on a daily basis is running just ahead of last year.

Most of the herd has been classified this season and 85 heifer calves have been DNA tested.

Mating has been slower than expected, but steps have been taken to get the last cows cycling and in-calf. There is excellent cover on the farm going into the dryer summer period.

Ken Eade - Ace Herd Committee



Need Three Generation Pedigrees?

Help support Ayrshire New Zealand by ordering your pedigrees through the Ayrshire office. Pedigrees can usually be provided on a same day basis via e-mail or post.

\$7.50 incl GST per pedigree

Contact Pam on 07 856 0816 or pallison@ayrshire.org.nz to order

YOUNG JUDGE COMPETITION

It's not too late to enter the Ayrshire Young Judge Competition to be held at NZ Dairy Event in February. The top placegetters will go on to represent Ayrshire New Zealand in the World Wide Sires All Breeds Young Judge competition. Contact the Ayrshire office by 22 December 2011.

NZ DAIRY EVENT YOUTH CHALLENGE

Are you interested in being part of an Ayrshire team for the Youth Challenge at NZ Dairy Event? Please contact the Ayrshire office as soon as possible to be involved.



The Board and Staff of Ayrshire New Zealand wish all members a very merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year

dates to remember

december

22 Office closes midday for Christmas break

january

9 Office reopens after Christmas break

25-27 NZ Dairy Event, Feilding

28 North Island Championships, Rotorua

february

1 Board Meeting

4 South Island Championships, Gore

7-10 Ayrshire Seminar, Canterbury

22 Advertising booking for Autumn Bulletin

28 PGG Wrightson Photo Competition entries close

march

2 Advertising copy deadline

31 Board nominations close

Remits for Annual General Meeting close

april

1 Autumn Bulletin issued

22 World Ayrshire Conference, South Africa

may

1 Annual competition entries close

2 Board Meeting

7 Notices of Motion for AGM close

23 Annual Report and AGM Notice issued

june

5-8 Annual Conference, New Plymouth

7 Annual General Meeting

13-16 National Agricultural Fieldays, Hamilton



SALES BRIEFS

Kiteroa Ayrshires Annual Sale, 16 November, Ohaupo. Wally Kite celebrated his golden jubilee of 50 years of breeding Ayrshires by setting two new breed records. The Yearling Heifer average of \$3105 over 21 heifers and the Heifer calf average of \$1284 for 30 heifer calves both topped previous records. The total sale average for 56 lots was \$1977, with 5 bull calves averaging \$1400. Two yearlings sold to Colleen Vincent & Bill King of Matamata for \$5100 each. They were Kiteroa Bonny Vivian (by K. BV Dub ET out of K. Bonny Blue Viv) and Kiteroa Bo Peppermeat (by Valendale Laguner out of K. Bo Peppernania). Top priced heifer calf was Kiteroa Easter Valley (s. Kiteroa Elvis Presley ET), sold to Maxine Lecky of Ohaupo for \$2600. Andrew Ferguson of Tirau was the purchaser of the top priced bull calf at \$1800 for Kiteroa Bonny Victory (by K. Bo Peppernitro out of K. Bonny Blueview ET).

Valendale Annual Sale, 17 November, Gordonton. If the breed record for yearling heifer average had not been broken the day before, it would have been broken today. 24 yearling heifers averaged \$2692 and two February born bulls averaged \$1700. Top priced yearling was Valendale Dubs Dtr S1A (s. Valendale Gold Dub) who sold for \$4300.



NZ DAIRY EVENT
25-27 January 2012

AYRSHIRE SeMINAR *final reminder*

Canterbury 7 - 10 February 2012

For members, or employees and sons & daughters of members, aged 18-35 to learn, enjoy and mix with other young Ayrshire breeders and make contacts.

TUES 7 FEB Lunch followed by afternoon spent on Lincoln University Dairy Farms. Dinner with guest speaker.

WED 8 FEB Workshops - 'Growing grasses for Top Milk Production' at AgResearch Farm in morning, followed by 'Dealing with Lame Cows' with Veehas Dairy and 'Judging School' at Glenmore Farms in afternoon. Evening of team building.

THURS 9 FEB Morning workshops 'Mating Management' and 'Managing Staff' with afternoon visit to Ackermann and Glenmore Farms. Canterbury Ayrshire Club Field Day followed by pot luck dinner.

FRI 10 FEB Fun Team building, seminar ends midday.

ACCOMMODATION: Lincoln University, Canterbury **COST:** approx \$320.00 per person

Registration required by **22 December 2011**

FULL ITINERARY AND REGISTRATION ONLINE AT www.ayrshire.org.nz