



INDUSTRY SEMINAR

SPEAKER PROFILES

24th October 2018

1:30pm - 5:00pm

Indian Association Hall

59 Ward st, Pukekohe

Delia Antiqua Biosecurity Response Simulation

Jeannine Fischer and Molly Halder

Ministry for Primary Industries



Jeannine Fischer

Jeannine Fischer has been with MPI since 2012. She is working as a Senior Adviser in the GIA Partnerships & Readiness Delivery Team and managing the Onions NZ account amongst others.

Prior to this role, she worked in the Animal & Marine Biosecurity Response team for 4.5 years. While her background is in marine biology and aquaculture, she has extensive experience working with the horticulture and agriculture sector. She is passionate about protecting New Zealand's primary industries and environment from pests and diseases.



Molly Halder

Molly Halder began working at MPI in early 2018. She is currently working as an Adviser in the GIA Partnerships & Readiness Delivery Team, which involves assisting with management of the Onions NZ account.

Before joining MPI she was a Statistical Analyst at Stats NZ, producing Official Statistics on New Zealand's: environment, injuries, crime, justice, and prison population. Molly's background is in Environmental Science and Ecology & Biodiversity, and she has a particular interest in Applied Statistics. She believes that unleashing the power of data is essential to MPI's vision of Growing and Protecting New Zealand.



Molly and Jeannine are going to base their presentation on *delia antiqua* (onion fly), which Onions New Zealand has ranked as the number one most likely exotic pest to establish in New Zealand and cause significant economic impact to our industry.

Fluxmeter and Nitrogen Quick Test Results

Matt Norris

Plant and Food Research

Matt Norris is a Scientist at Plant and Food Research, Ruakura and works within the Sustainable Production (Field Crops) team.



Matt has a background in soil science and a keen interest in sustainable nutrient management including modelling nutrient losses from arable and vegetable production systems.

Matt is responsible for leading and managing a range of environmentally focussed research projects. His primary focus areas relate to nutrient management, specifically quantifying N and P losses from arable and vegetable production systems. Additional areas of research include N mineralisation dynamics from dairy effluent amended soils and developing novel soil testing approaches for informing N management decisions.

Stemphylium Leaf Blight, What We Now Know

Peter Wright

Plant and Food Research

Peter Wright is Pukekohe Research Station Site Manager, Plant and Food Research and plant pathologist.

He has extensive experience on diseases and pests of a wide range of horticultural crops (including onion) and research track record, including numerous publications, in bacteriology, mycology, entomology and agronomy.

Peter's research areas include screening of breeding lines of various crops for disease resistance, integrated pest management (IPM), investigation of agronomic practices to minimise the incidence of plant diseases, and fungicide resistance studies.



Apple Futures, Changing Systems and Extracting Value

Leon Stallard and Graham Hirst

Apple Growers



Leon Stallard

Leon is an elected director of Horticulture New Zealand, trustee of the New Zealand Fruitgrowers charitable trust, Ex officio of the Hawke's Bay Fruit Growers Association and apple grower.

Leon entered the industry in 1994 when fruitgrowing was at a low ebb and was one of the growers who helped create the Innovation, Celebration and Education field days, which are now known as the National Field Days.



Graham Hirst

Graham Hirst runs a 40ha pipfruit and blueberry operation spread over five blocks just south of Hastings.

Their business has grown considerably since 1989 when they bought 11ha of bare land and planted 1.5ha of apples. Today they grow 32ha of apples and 2.5ha of blueberries, employing seven full-time staff (including themselves), two permanent part-timers and a seasonal team of more than 100 people. Graham and his wife Marian were the supreme winners of the 2016 East Coast Balance Farm Environmental Awards.



Leon and Graham were both early adaptors of new ways of growing apples in New Zealand in the early 2000s when the apple industry was focussed on conventionally producing more braeburn apples than there was demand for. They will give their perspectives on the drivers for changing growing techniques away from conventional growing practices and the economic rewards of doing so.

Understanding Indonesia and the Political Complications

Gavin Romaine

Ministry for Primary Industries



Gavin has just returned from a four year posting as MPI's Agricultural Counsellor to the New Zealand Embassy in Jakarta. During his time, Gavin worked closely with the Indonesian authority to lobby for New Zealand primary industry business's access to the Indonesian market.

Gavin has great insights on the potential of this market and how to navigate the Indonesian system.

Gavin has international outlook and in depth experience of Asia. Prior to joining MPI, he worked at the Ministry of Economic Development and lived and worked in Taipei, Taiwan for seven years.

Gavin has been a tremendous asset for the New Zealand onion industry with his role in Jakarta. He has assisted the industry in maintaining access on countless occasions including reminding Indonesian officials every semester that they need to issue import permits, maintained access when Indonesia raised concerns over nematodes in 2016 and his last great strike of success was assisting to overturn the ban on onion imports in second semester 2017.

The Changing International Trading Environment

Mike Petersen

New Zealand Special Agricultural Trade Envoy

Mr Mike Petersen is New Zealand's Special Agricultural Trade Envoy (SATE) and has held this role since July 2013.



This unique role was established by New Zealand ministers in close consultation with New Zealand's agriculture sector – to bring a farmer's perspective to international trade in food and agriculture, and to build partnerships with farming organisations and companies offshore.

Mr Petersen is not a government official. He is appointed by Ministers to bring a sector view to discussions, that is informed by his wider contact with New Zealand's agriculture and horticulture producers. Drawing on his considerable farming and private sector experience, Petersen works to promote a greater understanding of New Zealand's agricultural trading interests, including dairy, meat, wool, horticulture and wine, from the perspective of a practicing farmer.

Mr Petersen understands the importance of collaboration with farmers around the world and works to promote partnerships and understanding of New Zealand's farm sector, as well as trade and industry to industry cooperation.

Mr Petersen has represented New Zealand's agricultural sector in a range of different contexts internationally, including as part of trade delegations, presenting at international conferences, and in constituency building around achieving comprehensive outcomes in various FTA negotiations, including CPTPP and the Pacific Alliance.

Mr Petersen is a successful farmer and industry leader in the New Zealand agricultural community. In 2018, Mr Petersen was awarded the New Zealand Agricultural Communicator of the Year. Mr Petersen owns and operates a finishing farm in Hawke's Bay, which he has managed since New Zealand's agricultural reforms in the late 1980s. Mr Petersen also has governance roles with a number of New Zealand farming businesses and agribusinesses servicing the rural sector.

As a farmer and industry leader in New Zealand, Mr Petersen is well positioned to offer his perspective on the New Zealand agri-food sector. These perspectives include new innovations in sustainable farming, sector efficiency and productivity, as well as discussing some of the challenges in New Zealand's evolution into a successful trading nation despite being one of the most isolated countries in the world.

Notes

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Sponsors

