

Newsletter of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Bill Malcolm

It seems unanimous that the Freemantle Annual Conference was a fantastic experience - another case of what happens when you put over-achieving Western Australians in charge. Superb place, excellent organization, terrific company, and first class papers as well. The appreciation of the AARES membership to the WA branch and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the Conference is manifold.

The contribution of Ron Duncan as 2002 President is widely recognized by a grateful membership, and Julian Alston's time on Council as Pre-President, President, and Post-President has been served. Grand contributions both, and thanks.

The incoming Council met at the finish of the conference. Among other things, the Council noted:

- the AARES has cash reserves of \$165,000
- the past couple of conferences have been well sponsored, and thus have made decent surpluses
- membership fees and institutional subscriptions cover around half of the society's annual operating costs (including payments to branches), and thus we rely on cash surpluses from the Conference and the Annual Symposium to meet annual operating costs
- The Manager Promotion and Development, Lisa Brennan, will focus on the increasingly important role of raising sponsorships for our main events, and some of the other tasks of the current role of the Manager Promotion and Development duties are likely to be separated
- AARES has a major commitment on which to deliver: the 2006 International Agricultural Economics Association Conference, in Brisbane. The 2006 Annual AARES Conference is also the 50th AAES/AARES annual conference, and will be held in conjunction with the international conference.

A two day Annual Symposium on Market Based Tools for Environmental Management will be held in Canberra in September.

A potential future development the Society might investigate; namely, transforming all the past editions of the *AJAE/AJARE* and the *RMAE* into electronic format, was also raised at Council. The costs of doing this are going to be explored. Members of the executive would be interested to hear from members about whether they think this might be a good suggestion or not, and about perceived benefits of having past copies of the journals available in electronic form.

The call for the next team of editors for the *Journal* has gone out. AARES members are urged to give some serious consideration to forming a team and having a go at this task. It is a professionally rewarding activity and a terrific contribution to the profession.

A warm welcome is extended to Jeff Bennett as AARES President Elect. Jeff has the pleasant creative challenge of putting together the program for the 2004 Annual Conference in Melbourne - a top choice for making such choices. Similarly, Mark Eigenraam is Chair of the LOC. It will all be happening in Melbourne next summer.

The University of Sydney, Faculty of Rural Management, Orange Campus has initiated a proposal for a group of people representing a wide range of farm management related skills and interests to form a national 'Farm Business Management Network' to further the interests and development of the farm management profession in Australia.

The survey of AARES members interests revealed one third of members were interested in farm management economics. As well, a reasonable quantity of work presented nowadays at AARES conferences is in the field of applied farm management economics - applied both on farm and at private-public resource management boundaries.

It is likely that following discussions AARES will opt to be involved in some way with this Network - not least to ensure that the core discipline of farm business management, economics, is fully and properly represented. Though oft-times it seems that in questions about resource use, whether private or public, everything is important *except* economics. as Jack Makeham always argued, following Earl Heady and John Dillon, '*economics is not an optional extra!*'

Nil Desperandum
Bill Malcolm

REPORTS TO THE 2003 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 13TH FEBRUARY 2003, FREEMANTLE WA

President's Report By Ron Duncan

I am pleased that I can report to you that the Society is in a strong position, both financially and in terms of membership numbers, as well as in terms of its professional activities. This robust position is the outcome of the innovativeness and hard work of the past several Councils. As you will hear in the reports from Council members, we have been able to increase the funds held in reserve, membership numbers are doing well in most branches, the *Journal's* pipeline is in good shape, and the Society's communications arrangements and outreach are improving, as reflected for example in the continued development of the website.

The Society continues to showcase the high quality and topical work of its members in various ways. For example, the Annual Symposium has raised the public profile of the profession significantly through the discussion of topical issues, and has become a very effective way of increasing membership. The 2003 Symposium looks to be another highly relevant and very successful event. The Society is indebted to the initiators of this event and to all those who help to put them on.

The arrangements with the Australian Agribusiness Association have progressed very well and have been formalised this year with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two associations that encourages various kinds of collaboration. The joint publication, *Connections*, seems to have been successful so far, encouraging the Council to continue the contribution of \$5,000 to this year's publications.

We have mourned the passing of three outstanding members of the Society, John Dillon, Ross Parish and John Quilkey. They made lasting contributions in terms of their activities in the Society, their research, and their training of generations of members of the profession. It is fitting that the Society honours their contributions and the contributions of other giants of the profession. To that end the Council decided that this Conference would be the final year of the Alan Lloyd

Fellowship and that a fund would be set up so that each Annual Conference would honour in a similar manner one of our distinguished fellows.

A challenge for incoming Council and the next will be to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made for the 2006 IAAE meeting to be held in Brisbane. In particular, there is the question of what joint arrangements should be made between AARES and the IAAE Conference.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of Council for their contributions to the Society and for making my job such an enjoyable and fulfilling one. I also thank again the 2003 Local Organising Committee for making this Conference so interesting and enjoyable.

I wish the incoming President and Council a very successful year.

Secretary's Report By Liz Petersen

Activities of the Society during 2002

1. Council of the Society

The 2002 Annual General Meeting was held on 14 February 2002 at the Rydges Hotel Lakeside, Canberra. At the meeting, the following office bearers were elected:

President:	Ron Duncan
President Elect:	Bill Malcolm
Secretary:	Liz Petersen
Treasurer:	Mal Wegener
Manager Promotion and Development:	Lisa Brennan

Julian Alston automatically assumed membership of Council on becoming Immediate Past President. David Feldman attended Council meetings in 2002 as Chair of the Local Organising Committee for the 2003 conference. The Editors of *The Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* are John Mullen and Chris O'Donnell – Chris O'Donnell is a member of the Council. Tracy Henderson is Editor of *News and Views* but is not a member of Council.

During 2002, the following members represented their Branches at Council meetings:

New South Wales:	John Mullen, Jason Crean
Australian Capital Territory:	Ron Duncan, Liz Petersen
Victoria	Bill Malcolm
Queensland:	George Antony, Mal Wegener
Western Australia:	Ross Kingwell, Michael Burton
New England:	Garry Griffith, Bob Farquharson
South Australia:	no representation
North America:	Julian Alston, Phil Pardey, Jennifer James
New Zealand:	no representation

2. Business of Council

Council met four times since the last AGM: 15 February 2002, 31 May 2002, 18 September 2002 and 11 February 2003.

Some of the more important matters considered by Council in 2002 were:

- The conference held in Canberra and the upcoming conference in Fremantle
- The Annual Symposium held in Armidale on 19 September 2002 and the upcoming Annual Symposium to be held in Canberra on 2-3 September 2003
- Progress with *AJARE* and *Connections*
- The memorandum of understanding between the Australian Agribusiness Association and the AARES
- The 2006 Annual Conference of the International Association of Agricultural Economists to be held in Brisbane
- The Young Professionals Exchange Travel Award

Financial management of the Society

3. Committees

The following members were appointed to committees of the Society in 2002:

PhD Thesis Award Panel: Philip Hone (chair), Christy Chang, and Kevin Parton.

Masters Thesis Award Panel: Paul Winter (chair), Rodney Beard, and Michael Burton

4. Branch Activities

Branch office bearers listed are those as at 31 December 2002.

Australian Capital Territory

President: Martin van Bueren

Secretary: Deborah Templeton

Treasurer: Michael Potter

Councillor: Paul Morris

Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
20/08/02	Martin v Bueren, Prof Wolfgang Kasper, Larry Acton (NFF), Warwick Moss (WWF), Jim McColl (CSIRO)	Property Rights Symposium: "Property rights and the rural environment - beyond the textbook"
24/9/02	Dan Sumner	Sundowner: Market and Environmental impacts of the 2002 US Farm Bill
7/11/02	David Vincent	Lunch-time Seminar: Effects of globalisation and economic development on the Asian livestock sector
19/11/02	John Brennan	Lunch-time Seminar: International agricultural research spillovers from ICARDA to Australia
5/12/02	Hannes Gissurarson	Sundowner: Icelandic system of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) in fisheries

Other branch activities:

- Hosted the 46th Annual AARES Conference, Canberra, 13-15 February 2002
- Produced a promotional post-card for the ACT Branch

New England

President: Bob Farquharson

Treasurer: Gary Griffith

Secretary: Robyn Hean

Councillor: Bob Farquharson

The New England Branch didn't provide a report.

New South Wales

President: Bryony Mika

Treasurer: Zhangyue Zhou

Secretary: Inderpal Singh

Councillor: Jason Crean

Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
3 July 2002	Professor Graeme Hugo	Regional Australia: Definitions, Diversity and Dichotomy
1 August 2002	Judson Agius	Biodiversity Credits
28 August 2002	Professor Jeff Bennett	Non-Market valuation and natural resource management
14 October, 2002	Dr Graeme Marshall	Adaptive management in collaborative NRM: The economics of walking the talk
12 December 2002	Dr Gerry Bates	Duty of care for the environment

Queensland

President: Mary-Ann Franco-Dixon

Treasurer: Dinesha Emmery

Secretary: Tracy Henderson

Councillor: George Antony

Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
22/3/02	John Ritchie	Use of seasonal forecasting of streamflow in the Border Rivers.
26/4/02	Paul Reithmuller	Some Aspects of the Livestock Industries in the Asia Pacific Region
15/5/02	Lew Williams	Queenslands commercial and recreational fisheries - technical and some economic issues
28/6/02	John Rolfe	Valuing environmental, social and cultural heritage impacts of water resource development in the Fitzroy basin
6/8/02	Jeff Bennett	Non-market valuation and natural resource management
27/9/02	Glen Dixon	Pricing weather derivatives in the Australian market
25/10/02	George Antony	Torn between social equity and economic efficiency: the evolution and crisis of institutional relationships in the Australian sugar industry
29/11/02	Trevor Wilson	Does PNG have a future?
24/1/02	Mary-Ann Franco-Dixon	Queensland Branch AARES AGM & Presidential Address (topic TBA)

South Australia

President: Thea Mech

Secretary: Jack Langberg

Treasurer: Julian Morison

Councillor: Thea Mech (acting)

Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
28/8/02	Simon Ward	Insight into UK and EU agriculture policy
18/9/02	James A. Carouso	US trade policy, issues in international trade as Doha approaches and the US Farm Act

Victoria

President: Mark Eigenraam

Treasurer: Arthur Ha

Secretary: Charlotte Duke

Victoria has agreed to host the 2004 AARES Conference.

Western Australia

President: Ben White

Treasurer: Michael Burton

Secretary: Tennille Winter

Councillor: Ross Kingwell

Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
March 8	Nuri Dewi Yanti, PhD student	Sustainability analysis of local and transmigrant farming systems in tidal swamplands: a case study in South Kalimantan, Indonesia
March 15	Marta Monjardino, PhD student	The economics of integrated weed management: a multi species approach
March 22	Prof Kay Muir-Leresche	Secure property rights and sustainable development: lessons from Zimbabwe
April 12	Dr Marian Garcia	A repositioning strategy for olive oil in the UK market
April 19	Dr Mathew Tonts	The implications of plantation forestry for rural communities: case studies from WA and SA

April 26	Ben White	Value at risk as a method of measuring farm revenue risk
May 3	Jo Pluske	An economic model to assist the decision in plant breeding
May 10	Dr Marian Garcia	The impact of private standards on exports from developing countries. The case of fresh produce from Mediterranean countries
May 17	Steffanie Scott	TBA
May 31	Atakelty Hailu	Agent based modeling for salinity analysis
June 7	Michele John	The farm economics of salinity management in a low rainfall agriculture environment.
July 26	Dr Atakelty Hailu	Carbon shadow prices for Canadian macroeconomy
August 2	Donna Brennan	Risk aversion and technology choice for Vietnamese rice shrimp farmers
August 9th	Steven Schilizzi	Presidential Address: Contributions to economics to the management of our natural assets: past present and future
August 9th	WA Branch	AGM
August 16	David Feldman	The WA potato industry
August 23	Garry Griffith UNE	Evaluating the returns from beef cattle genetics R&D in Australia
August 30	Tennille Graham PhD student	Salinity, policy, instruments: where to for WA?
Sept 6	Sarah Lumley	Environmental justice and sustainability
Sept 13	Greg Hertzler	A \$2.5 million gamble on crop insurance
Sept 20	Dan Rigby U of Manchester	Right target, wrong mechanism? Agricultural mechanization and poverty reduction in Uganda
Oct 11	Kath Broderick PhD student	Indicators of ecosystem health in a WA salinity recovery catchment
Oct 18	Jing Zhang MSc Student	Understanding behaviors of recreational fishers and valuing recreational fishing
Oct 25	Emeritus Prof Bob Lindner	The economics of crop variety testing
Nov 1	Dan Rigby U of Manchester	Organic food miles and sustainability spatial scale
Dec 9th	Bob Chambers (Uni of Maryland), Ross Kingwell and Ben White	Contracts Between Government and the Firm: case studies from agriculture and environmental regulation.
Feb 11 th 2003	John Quiggin, Robyn Hean, Craig Beverley and variety of other speakers	Workshop Dryland Salinity: Economic issues at farm, catchment and policy levels.
Feb 11 th 2003	Greg Hertzler and various other speakers	Workshop Managing climate risk in agriculture

New Zealand Branch

President: Caroline Saunders

Treasurer: Murray Doak

Secretary: Anita Wreford

Councillor: Frank Scrimgeor

Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
5-6 July 2002		NZARES Annual Conference "New Zealand – the international citizen"
5 July 2002		NZARES AGM

North American Branch

President: Jennifer James

Treasurer/Secretary: Laura McCann
 Councillors: Julian Alston, Nick Piggott
 Meetings held since 2002 AGM

Date	Presenter	Topic
July 29, 2002		Annual Branch meeting
July 30, 2002		Business meeting

The annual branch meeting was held at the American Agricultural Economics Association meetings in Long Beach, CA and consisted of a reception at Shoreline Park. Sixty-two people attended, 15 people joined the Society, and 6 renewed their memberships at the event. Liz Petersen, the first winner of the AARES-AAEA Young Professionals "Heading North" Travel Award, was recognized, and the second "Heading South" was awarded to Tom Marsh of Kansas State University who will be attending the meetings in Fremantle. Nick Piggott coordinated the judging.

A business meeting was held the following day, and the primary topic of discussion was the future of the Young Professionals Travel Awards. The branch would like to see more applications and encourages less senior faculty members to apply. We plan to write department heads and Branch officers to advertise the awards.

An application was submitted to the American Agricultural Economics Foundation for continuation of funding for the new AARES-AAEA Young Professionals awards. The awards have two components, a "Heading South" award to support a North American's attendance at the AARES conference, and a "Heading North" award to support an Australian/New Zealander's attendance at the AAEA conference. We requested funding for another two years of the program, and have not yet heard the Foundation's decision.

Dan Phaneuf of North Carolina State, the winner of the first "Heading South" award attended the AARES conference in Canberra. As mentioned, Liz Petersen, the winner of the first "Heading North" award attended the AAEA conference in Long Beach. Both rated their trips professionally and personally successful, and personal statements to that effect were published in the News and Views.

5. Prize winners

Undergraduate prize winners:

New England: Stephen Dalton, University of New England
 New South Wales: Paul Burke, University of Sydney
 Queensland: Jonathon Newby, University of Queensland
 ACT: Andrew Hodges, Australian National University
 New Zealand: Jenny-Marie Wakelin, Lincoln University
 Western Australia: Michael Young, University of Western Australia
 South Australia: Julia Tan, University of Adelaide
 Victoria: Not prize awarded

Masters Prize winner:

Ben Henderson of the University of Western Australia
 The title of his Masters thesis is "*Efficiency in Western Australian Broadacre Agriculture: A Comparison between Data Envelopment Analysis and Stochastic Frontier Analysis*".
 Primary Supervisor: Ross Kingwell

PhD Prize winner:

Graham Marshall of the University of New England
 The title of his PhD is "Crafting Cooperation in the Commons: An Economic Analysis of Prospects for Collaborative Environmental Governance"
 Primary Supervisor: Brian Dollery

Prize for the Best Article in the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics: Michael Harris and Iain Fraser.

The title of the article is "*Natural resource accounting in theory and practice: A critical assessment*"

AARES /AAEA Young Professionals Exchange Travel Award - Heading South

Tom Marsh, Kansas State University

AARES /AAEA Young Professionals Exchange Travel Award - Heading North
John Gibson, the University of Waikato

2002 Distinguished Fellows

Jock Anderson
Tony Chisholm
Brian Fisher
Bob Lindner

2002 Distinguished Life Member

There were no nominations for a Distinguished Life Member

Winners of AARES financial support to attend the 2003 Conference of the International Association of Agricultural Economists

Anita Wreford, Lincoln University
Graham Marshall, The University of New England

Treasurer's Report **By Malcolm Wegener**

Financial position – cheque account

The balance in the Society's cheque account on 31 December 2002, after reconciliation for unrepresented cheques was \$21 493.

Financial position – fixed deposits

In 2002, the majority of the Society's surplus funds were invested in a Commercial Bill with the Commonwealth Bank which matured on 24 January 2003 having accumulated interest of \$4 620. There were sufficient funds in the cheque account after receiving the surplus from the Canberra conference and advance payments on 2002 subscriptions from Blackwell to place another \$50 000 on Fixed Deposit in November.

When these two investments matured, the principal and most of the accumulated interest, making a total of \$165 000 were re-invested in a Term Deposit on 3 February 2003 for 100 days at an interest rate of 4.6 percent (to mature on 14 May 2003).

Investment Schedule

Fixed Deposit	Date of investment	Term	Interest rate	Interest paid this year
CBA Certificate of Deposit	24 January 2002	365 days (maturing 24 January 2003)	4.2 percent	\$4 620 paid at maturity
CBA Term Deposit	1 November 2002	3 months (maturing 30 January 2003)	4.4 percent	\$542 paid at maturity

An investment of the size that the Society now has represents a prudent approach to financial risk management. The Society is clearly dependent on the financial surpluses from its annual conference to meet a significant proportion of its operating costs each year since membership fees and institutional subscriptions cover just over half of our annual operating costs. In the unlikely event of a failed conference, we need to have sufficient funds available to enable the Society to continue operating for at least one year. The Society has also entered into a number of long-term commitments for which funding needs to be secure.

The healthy financial position of the Society is due largely to the exceptionally big surplus from the Adelaide conference in 2001, the good surplus from the Canberra conference in 2002, and the continuing recruitment of new members into the Society by branches.

Statement of income and expenditure

The Society had another financially successful year in 2002 with an estimated surplus over operating costs of approximately \$19 000. A copy of the statement of income and expenditure for 2002 is presented in the next table. However, the success was almost totally due to the excellent results from the Canberra conference (with a surplus of nearly \$18 000) meaning that the combined effect of the Society's other activities was to just cover costs.

In spite of our healthy bank balance, the Council has been concerned for some time to strengthen the financial base of the society. Subscription rates for Australian and New Zealand members were raised for 2003 and the publishing contract with Blackwell was re-negotiated in 2001 to permit AARES to receive a share of the subscription revenue paid by libraries and institutions and to impose page charges on articles accepted for publication in 2002. These decisions are mostly reflected in the higher amounts budgeted from these sources for 2003.

Subscription rates for Australian and New Zealand members were raised to \$90 for 2003 while keeping subscriptions for members in other countries at their existing level in order to partly remove the disparity in real cost of membership between countries due to the exchange rate.

Statement of cash income and expenditure, 2002

2002 Budget	1 Jan-31 Dec 2002	2002 Outcome	2003 Budget
	Operating income		
18 000	Advertising	1 502.27	1 500
6 100	CD sales	195.44	200
43 200	Conference surplus (net of direct costs)	23 526.61	15 000
4 000	Interest	1 579.98	6 500
	Subscriptions	53 344.00	57 000
4 500	Symposium	7 980.91	15 000
	Royalties	91.30	100
	Other income		3 000
75 800		88 220.51	98 400
	Total Operating income		
	Less Operating expenses		
33 000	AJARE Editorial office	29 162.60	35 000
5 000	Alan Lloyd Fellowship	2 026.10	5 000
7 250	Awards and prizes	4 224.09	4 500
1 000	Bank charges	289.26	300
8 000	Branch payments	9 954.00	10 000
7 000	Connections and Newsletter	6 038.26	6 000
5 00	Council expenses	693.94	1 000
4 000	Conference expenses	5 853.49	6 000
4 500	Honoraria	3 000.00	3 000
500	Postage	557.12	600
	Symposium	6 069.86	6 000
1 250	Sundry expenses	1 141.00	1 250
72 000	Total Operating Expenses	69 008.82	78 650
3 800	Operating surplus	19 211.69	19 750
32 000	Add extraordinary income	32 063.00	
	Less extraordinary expenses		
35 800	Cash surplus	51 274.69	

Notes and explanations:

1. Interest income was reduced in 2002 by the decision to invest surplus funds in a 12-month Commercial Bill with the Commonwealth Bank which was the highest interest rate offered at the time.

2. Other income includes editorial royalties and sundry items. Page charges were introduced for articles accepted for publication in *AJARE* from 2002. Under the re-negotiated agreement with Blackwell, 92% of the revenue from this source will be passed on to the Society.

3. Extraordinary income in 2002 included a late payment of membership subscriptions from Blackwell which was received after the end of 2001 financial year.

4. *News and Views* was distributed electronically in 2002 at a considerable cost saving to the Society. Council agreed to continue publication of *Connections* in 2003.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

31 December 2001		31 December 2002
Current Assets		
40 732	AARES General Account	14 165.41
12 355	GASP (Alan Lloyd Fellowship Fund)	7 328.70
	Aust Tax Office (GST refund)	214.81
108 287	Commonwealth Bank (Fixed Deposits)	160 000.00
	Total Current Assets	181 708.92
Non-Current Assets		
770	Equipment (at written-down value)	667.00
1	<i>Journal</i> and Review stocks	0.00
162 145	Total Assets	182 375.92
162 145	Members' Equity	182 375.92

Note: The nominal amount previously included for *AJARE* and Review stocks has been written off.

Council decided during the past year to re-name the Alan Lloyd Fellowship Fund as the Distinguished Fellows Fund and agreed to replenish the Fund in view of the substantial surpluses made from Annual Conferences and Symposia in the past two years. An amount of \$30 000 of the Society's funds, currently part of the funds held on Fixed Deposit with the Commonwealth Bank, will be reserved to fund the Distinguished Fellows address at Annual Conferences over the next five years, with the option of continuing the lecture series for a further five years if considered desirable.

Audit

The accounts for the Society for 2002 have been audited by John Johnstone. His report was received and endorsed by the Council at its meeting on 11 February 2003. The returns required by the Victorian Corporate Affairs Commission from the Public Officer for the Society were duly submitted during the year.

GST

The Society is registered for Goods and Services Tax and quarterly BAS statements have been submitted regularly since the scheme was introduced.

A significant proportion of the Society's cash flows, particularly the receipt of subscription income from Blackwell is an international transaction that is not subject to GST. The following table summarises GST activity for the past year.

Summary of GST payments for 2002 (cash basis)

Quarter	Income			Expenditure			
	Total income for quarter	Income (GST liable)	GST payable	Total expenditure	Expenditure for input tax credits	GST (input tax credits)	ATO payment (refund)
31 Mar	34 678	1 145	115	14 872	11 611	1 100	(985)
30 June	20 692	1 563	118	20 812	8 450	845	(672)
30 Sept	6 582	6 181	618	3 602	2 232	238	380
31 Dec	58 334	17 875	1 787	22 026	20 031	2 002	(215)
Totals	120 286	26 764	2 638	61 312	42 324	4 185	(1 554)

Branch grants

A transfer of funds totalling \$9 954 was made to branches in December 2002. Payments are made in proportion to the branches current membership numbers and growth during the year. Details of membership numbers and branch payments are provided in the following table.

The standard practice is for branches to receive a base grant of \$300 in addition to \$7.50 per ordinary member or equivalent plus a \$24 bonus for each new member recruited during the year. The Victorian Branch had the highest number of new members due to the successful Symposium held in Melbourne in October 2001. A share of the surplus from the Canberra Annual Conference is due to the ACT Branch. The ACT, NSW and North American Branches all recruited substantial numbers of new members during the year. While 128 new members were added to the membership list during 2002, the total number of members at the end of the year was only a little higher than for the previous year. This turnover in membership represents a problem that the Society needs to address.

Branch membership and branch grants, 1999 – 2002

	Membership				Branch Grants 2002
	1999	2000	2001	2002	
New South Wales	108	99	110	95	1 396
Victoria	98	78	76	111	2 068
Queensland	69.5	73.5	62	60	966
ACT	87.5	74	71	76	1 326
Uni of New England	33.5	21.5	23	31	652
South Australia	28	36	67	60	918
Western Australia	85.5	50	47	47	741
NZARES	41.5	31	38	31	628
North America	35.5	39	98	86	1 257
Other overseas			47	48	
Total	587	502	639	644	\$9 954

Collaborations

The Society has agreed to continue joint publication of the electronic journal *Connections* with the Agribusiness Association of Australia for another year at a cost of \$5 000 and held discussions with AAA about the possibility of other joint activities.

The editorial office for *AJARE* continues to be located at the University of New England while Blackwell Publishing maintain the membership directory and undertake printing and distribution of the *Journal*. Blackwell did indicate their intention to relocate management of the *Journal* to their Melbourne office in 2002 but this was deferred. The shift when it occurs will have GST implications for membership subscriptions since the notices are currently issued from Blackwell's Oxford UK office and are regarded as international payments for GST purposes.

Outlook for 2003

Continuation of the Society's activities remains dependent on the successful financial outcomes from conferences and symposia despite recent steps by the Council to strengthen other sources of revenue such as a share of the subscription income from the *Journal* and setting page charges on published articles.

The results for the 2003 conference seem assured and plans for the symposium on "Market-based instruments for natural resource management" to be held in Canberra later this year are well in hand. The Council is aware of the responsibility delegated to local organising committees to organise and manage these events profitably and is moving to formalise agreements for these activities so that everyone is clear where responsibility lies for financial and other matters. One of the key issues concerns sponsorship for these events which, if available, facilitates successful events by including international speakers as part of the program and permits a lower registration fee to be charged for both members and non-members than would otherwise be the case.

Members of local organising committees usually have close professional relationships with potential sponsors who we expect will continue to contribute an increasing proportion of the funding needed to support the Society's activities and help it deliver on the "public good" aspects of its charter.

Editors' Report

By Chris O'Donnell and John Mullen

This report covers the twelve month period to 31 December 2002.

1. **Statistics.** Summary statistics on numbers of pages and articles printed, papers received, decisions taken, papers under review and the ranking of the *Journal* are provided in the table overleaf. Highlights include:
 - An increase in the number of new submissions in 2002, partly due to increased efforts by the publishers and editors to solicit papers from relevant symposia and conferences.
 - An improvement in the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI) ranking of the *Journal* from 99/166 in 2000 to 79/160 in 2001 (2002 rankings will not be available until June).
 - An acceptance rate for new papers that continues to hover just below 30%.
2. **Publishing.** All issues in the 2002 volume were published on schedule. Proofs for the March 2003 issue are still with authors and the Blackwells Production Editor, Elissa Wilson. All but two papers for the June 2003 issue have been submitted to the publishers.
3. **Supply of Manuscripts.** We have not yet been in a position where we have had to defer a paper because of space constraints, and there are currently no papers available for despatch to the publishers for publication in the September issue. Fortunately, there are a reasonably large number of papers currently under review.
4. **Editorial Board.** Members of the Editorial Board serve to enhance the status of the *Journal* and generally contribute to maintaining the quality of our *Journal* as an outlet for applied economics research related to agriculture and the management of natural resources. We sometimes ask Board members to referee papers, and we occasionally ask them to adjudicate when referees hold contrary views about the merits of a paper. It is *AJARE* policy to change three members of the Editorial Board each year (usually the longest serving members). There have been no changes to the composition of the Board for two years, so this year we changed seven members of the Board. New Board members in 2003 include David Pannell, Deborah Peterson, Donna Brennan, Kerry Smith, Grant Scobie, Yiping Huang and Phil Pardey. These new members replace Colin Brown, Brian Fisher, Yujiro Hayami, Allan Rae, Alan Randall, Carolyn Tanner and Brian Wright. We are extremely grateful for the service these latter Board members have provided to the *Journal* over many years, and the prestige they brought to the *Journal* as members of the Board.

Finally, we would like to thank the Associate Editors (Jeff Bennett from ANU, Ray Trewin from ACIAR, Garry Griffith from NSW Agriculture and Paul Winters from the Inter-America Development Bank), the Book Review Editor (Graham Marshall from UNE), authors and reviewers for their contributions to *AJARE* over the last twelve months. Special thanks also go to Honey Greenwood in the *AJARE/AARES* office.

Chris O'Donnell, University of Queensland
 John Mullen, NSW Agriculture
 Co-Editors, *AJARE*

Summary Information 1999-2002

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Published Volumes				
Volume Number	43	44	45	46
Number of Issues	4	4	4	4
Page Budget	544	672	672	672
Pages ^a	568	680	662	648
Articles	16	19	23	20
Surveys	3	1	0	1
Notes/Comments	0	0	0	2
Policy Forum Papers	5	7	2	3

Book Reviews	14	13	22	22
Obituaries	1	1	0	3
Papers Received^b				
New	67	72	66	89
Revised	17	16	21	29
<i>Total</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>118</i>
Decisions Taken				
Accept	24	26	17	26
Revise and resubmit	27	39	21	43
Reject	33	38	36	39
Withdrawn	0	1	1	0
<i>Total^c</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>108</i>
Acceptance Rate (%)^d	36	36	26	29
Papers under review at 31 Dec.	27	11	23	33
ISI Ranking	99/165	99/166	79/160	n.a.
ISI Impact Factor^e	0.392	0.417	0.569	n.a.

^a Includes editorial text and Blackwell advertising as per agreement with Blackwell.

^b Book reviews and obituaries are not included; each resubmission of the same paper is counted separately.

^c The total number of decisions does not always equal the total number of papers received because some decisions are made in respect of papers received in the previous year(s).

^d Acceptance rate in year x = (papers accepted in year x)/(new papers received in year x) × 100.

^e Impact factor in year x = $\frac{\text{citations in year x to articles published in previous 2 years}}{\text{number of articles published in previous 2 years}}$.

Manager - Promotion and Development's Report By Lisa Brennan

This report summarises activities in 2002 relevant to two key areas:

- growing and maintaining a viable membership base to support the products and services provided by the Society to members, and
- ensuring that membership of AARES continues to create value for members

Membership

At end of 2002 there were:

- 218 Institutional Subscribers, down from last year's count of 305
- 670 individual members, an increase of 31 members since 2001.

Branch numbers remained relatively stable, but with a notable increase in Victoria. The 38 new memberships attributable to the 2000 AARES Annual Symposium in Melbourne would have influenced this increase.

Branch	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Armidale	29	37	26	28	24	30
ACT	84	81	88	85	73	79
North America	17	24	48	60	94	91
NSW	108	105	109	114	110	101
NZ	25	28	38	35	38	31
Overseas	30	34	33	46	47	45
QLD	69	67	67	80	63	68
SA	20	22	28	37	66	62
VIC	100	88	86	85	76	111
WA	32	41	83	54	48	47
Total	514	527	606	624	639	670¹

The Annual Conferences and Symposia draw in the bulk of new members – together, they added 60 new members to the Society in 2002. Approximately 200 members did not renew their membership in 2002 (this is similar to the previous year's number of 168). Although lapsed

¹ The astute reader will notice that the sum of the branch totals is actually 665. At the time of report preparation, there were five members that did not have a branch affiliation specified in our membership records. This discrepancy is being followed up.

memberships are expected, particularly given that most new members join through Conference/Symposium attendance, this does highlight that promotion and development activities should not only target increasing the number of memberships, but ensuring that the products and services offered by the Society are valued by existing members.

In my report to last year's AGM, I mentioned that there were concerns about errors in the processing of membership subscriptions, which are managed by Blackwell. In 2002, we believe that the situation has improved considerably, with few problems reported. That said, members who do experience any difficulties associated with the processing of their membership subscription should notify the AARES Central Office. The contact details are:

Ms Honey Greenwood
AARES Central Office Manager,
School of Economics, University of New England,
ARMIDALE NSW 2351
Phone: 02 6773 3278 Fax: 02 6773 3607
Email: journal.ajare@pobox.une.edu.au

This will ensure that the Office is aware of the concern, and it will be followed up on the member's behalf as promptly as possible.

Members have their say - 2002 AARES Survey of Members

AARES members were surveyed to obtain feedback on a) ways to improve existing products and services offered by the Society and b) to guide the development of new initiatives to benefit members. The survey was conducted electronically, with members directed to the survey by email on 25/9/02. A reminder email was sent on 8/10/02 and responses were collated after the close of the survey on 14/10/02. The survey returned a response rate of 34%, equating to 221 respondents.

A sincere thank you is extended to members who completed the survey, and to Tracy Henderson who converted the questionnaire into an electronic format. Many respondents generously supplemented their responses to the survey questions with valuable comments for improving branch meetings, the Annual Conferences and Symposia, and the various publications of the Society.

A draft report of the survey results was presented to the AARES Outgoing Council Meeting, 11/02/03, and a final report of the findings will be published in the next edition of News and Views.

Branch support

Correspondence with branches in 2002 included:

- Branch Presidents and Secretaries were alerted to the updated AARES Calendar showing timetable of key events and reporting responsibilities of executive committee members at both federal and branch level. This action was taken in response to feedback from branch members who were seeking clarification of the roles of office bearers on branch committees.
- Branches were reminded of the AAA/AARES cooperative alliance and were provided information on the AAA Research Forum. As part of the agreement, the Agribusiness Association of Australia (AAA) is included on mailing lists for branch events. Please continue to forward any notices to David Ginns, Agribusiness Association of Australia (email: <http://www.agrifood.info/>).
- Branch secretaries responded to requests to assist updating email addresses.
- Branches held several well attended events in 2002. In response, branches were supplied a draft letter for use in making follow up contact with visitors (potential AARES members) to branch events, as such contact could potentially attract more members. Branches are, however, encouraged to contact potential members in whatever way they feel appropriate.
- Branches were supplied with AJARE marketing postcards from Blackwell, although an error on the card reduced their value. A new postcard will be supplied in 2003

News and Views now electronic

News and Views was distributed to members electronically for the first time in 2002, as a measure to reduce the costs of printing, postage and labour associated with the production of News and Views in hard copy form. News and Views is made available on the AARES web page and members are alerted to its posting by email.

The transition to electronic distribution ran smoothly, with the only troublesome aspect being the difficulties making electronic contact with members, despite efforts to get email addresses updated prior to electronic distribution. **Accurate email addresses are vital to our ability to deliver services to members electronically.** Please help us ensure your current email address is on the News and Views mailing list by visiting the AARES web site and checking your details.

I would like to acknowledge Tracy Henderson (*News and Views* Editor), Dave Pannell (former AARES Web Manager) and Atakelty Hailu (AARES Web Manager) for their fantastic efforts in producing *News and Views* in 2002.

AARES Web Page

David Pannell handed over the reins to new Web Manager to Atakelty Hailu after 5 years of service in managing the content, layout and programming of our web site. Dave significantly enhanced the web site during his time as Web Manager and his efforts are gratefully acknowledged. Under Atakelty's management, the Society's web page at <http://come.to/aares> has and will continue to grow, evolve and improve.

Connections continues

Connections: Farm, Food and Resource Issues is now into its second year. This electronic publication is a joint product of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) and the Australian Agribusiness Association (AAA). *Connections* publishes topical material on policy and marketing, primary industries and resources, farm and agribusiness in rural and regional Australia. *Connections* represents a commitment by both groups to the extension of information about economic and business issues affecting rural industries, resources and communities. The editors of *Connections*, Bill Malcolm and Glenn Ronan, are keen to receive feedback from you about published articles and issues. You can get access to *Connections* on the web-site of the Agribusiness Association of Australia at <http://www.agribusiness.asn.au/Connections/Index.htm>

Strengthening links with sponsors

AARES gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsors, and the need to engage our Conference and Symposium sponsors in program planning to a greater extent. The duties of Manager Promotion and Development were expanded in 2002 to assist the LOCs in this regard. Learnings from tentative activities in 2002 have provided direction for strengthening our linkages with sponsors in 2003.

Your feedback wanted!

AARES exists for its members – your feedback is valued! Any comments on promotion and development activities undertaken in 2002, proposed initiatives for 2003, or any other suggestions on ways to improve benefits for members are always welcome. Please direct comments to the AARES Central Office or contact me directly (Lisa.Brennan@csiro.au or 07 3214 2375).

Acknowledgements

The input and support that many AARES members, particularly those of the AARES Executive Committee, have contributed to promotion and development activities in 2002 is gratefully acknowledged. The Society is grateful to the Agribusiness Association of Australia for hosting the AARES directory page on its web site, in association with our joint publication "*Connections*".

AARES NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2003

MARKET-BASED TOOLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

When:

September 2-3, 2003, Canberra, Australia

Why:

Market based instruments are emerging as an important tools for management of natural and environmental resources. Recent applications of market mechanisms in Australia include salinity management (Hunter River salinity trading scheme, NSW EPA), environmental services (Victoria's Bushtender pilot program) and renewable energy (Renewable energy tradeable certificates, AGO). Non-government examples include the 'piggy-backing' of environmental outputs on other products via labelling, for example Banrock Wines bundles wetland protection with wine consumption. The importance of these instruments will increase under the sponsorship of the National Market Based Instruments Pilots Program.

What:

A *linked two-day symposium* exploring the concepts, practice and complexities of applying market based instruments to the management of natural resources and the environment will be held in Canberra in September 2003. *Day one* will develop the fundamentals and core concepts of market-based instruments for natural resource and environmental management, the underpinning economic principles and a review of their current extent and status in Australia as well as impediments to their further adoption. *Day two* will delve into these issues in detail including natural resource and environmental management problems and market creation, the potential and limits to market based mechanisms in Australia, market performance measures and integration of more traditional tools with market based instruments.

This workshop is a must for:

- ✓ Regional natural resource management decision makers who would like to understand market based instrument application possibilities and limitations;
- ✓ Industry body representatives who need to understand the opportunities and implication of these tools on their industry;
- ✓ Policy makers who are desiring a better understanding of market based instrument potential, limitations and an insight into the complex policy interactions; and,
- ✓ Researchers working at the market-based instrument research/policy interface and those who just want to know more about the opportunities for research and application.

Registration will be available for the whole Symposium or each day separately.

To receive registration material and further Symposium information contact:

Stuart Whitten
The Markets for Ecosystem Services Project
CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems
Ph: 02 6242 1683
Fax: 02 6242 1705
Email: stuart.whitten@csiro.au

NOTICEBOARD

Nominations for President-Elect and Distinguished Fellowships

The Nominations Committee calls for nominations for President-Elect and Distinguished Fellowships for the year 2004. Formal nominations should be submitted to Ron Duncan by Monday, June 30, 2003 (Fax 679-330-1594; e-mail: duncan_r@usp.ac.fj; postal: Pacific Institute of Advanced Studies in Development and Governance, University of the South Pacific, PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji Islands).

Nominations for President-Elect should be dated and signed by the nominator, a seconder, and the candidate.

Distinguished Fellowships are awarded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to agricultural and resource economics and/or the activities of AARES. Past winners of this prestigious award are shown on the AARES web page at: <http://www.general.uwa.edu.au/u/aares/prizes.htm>. Nominations should include a brief biography (see the December 2001 and 2002 issues of *AJARE* for some examples).

Assistant to Manager Promotion and Development wanted

Are you energetic, people oriented and interested in becoming more actively involved in the AARES? If so, an opportunity exists for a member to assist the AARES Manager of Promotion and Development to design and carry out activities in two key areas:

- Growing and maintaining a viable member base to support the products and services provided by the Society
- Ensuring that membership of AARES continues to create value for members

Although a number of tasks for this new position have been identified, there is also plenty of scope for this position to evolve on the job, and you will be encouraged to be creative in developing new initiatives.

This position presents a great opportunity to develop new skills, strengthen your network of agricultural and natural resource economists, and contribute a valuable service to the Society.

Please direct enquiries to Lisa Brennan, AARES Manager – Promotion and Development: 07 3214 2375 or Lisa.Brennan@csiro.au

AARES Member Survey – report out now

A sincere thank you is extended to members who completed the AARES Member Survey last year. The survey results were presented to the AARES Outgoing Council Meeting (held 11/02/03), and are now accessible through the AARES web page at <http://come.to/aares>. The results provide a valuable reference to help steer the development of new initiatives and improve existing AARES products and services, and will receive further consideration during the coming months. Feedback on the results is welcome. Contact Lisa Brennan, AARES Manager – Promotion and Development: 07 3214 2375 or Lisa.Brennan@csiro.au

First Notice: AARES-AAEA Young Professionals Exchange Travel Awards

AARES and the Foundation of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) will offer two travel awards during 2003. These awards are intended for agricultural and resource economists of all ages but in the early stages of their careers. Thus stage of career rather than age is what defines an appropriate applicant. The objectives of the awards are to provide the winners with an opportunity for professional and personal development and international professional and cultural exchange. Each award will have a value of US\$2,000 to be used to assist the winner to participate in the annual conference of either the AARES or the AAEA. Applicants for both awards must be members of both the AARES and the AAEA.

The first award, "Heading South", will be given to a North American resident to support their participation in the February 2004 Annual Conference of the AARES in Melbourne. The award includes US\$1,500 cash plus registration and lodging at the Conference. The closing date for the "Heading South" award is usually July 1.

The second award, "Heading North", will be given to a resident of Australia or New Zealand to support their participation in the August 2004 Annual Conference of the AAEA in Denver, Colorado. This award is valued at US\$2,000 cash.

Australian and New Zealand residents are now invited to consider applying for the "Heading North" award, for travel to the August 2004 AAEA conference. Applications should include (1) a paper for presentation at the conference, representing their original and unpublished work, (2) a one-page biographical statement, and (3) a one-page statement in support of their application, indicating what they would hope to accomplish through the award, and why they would be

deserving of the award. The winner of the award will be determined by a committee, based on the submitted materials, with some emphasis on the quality of the paper.

Electronic submissions (preferably in PDF form) should be e-mailed to Garry Griffith (garry.griffith@agric.nsw.gov.au). Applications must be received by December 19, 2003, and the winner will be announced at the AARES 2004 conference in Melbourne.

But don't wait until December - start thinking about a paper now! Please address any questions about the application process to Garry Griffith (garry.griffith@agric.nsw.gov.au, phone 02 6770 1826).

Connections Extends Editorial Team

News in brief:

1. AARES Council renews contract with AAA for Connections
2. Positive feedback from AARES members about Connections
3. Connections Editors announce extensions to the Editorial team

Connections: Farm, Food and Resource Issues Editors, Bill Malcolm and Glenn Ronan, are very pleased that AARES Council have endorsed Connections in the most positive way by renewing the contract with the Australian Agribusiness Association (AAA) for joint production for a further 12 months following the initial one year pilot period.

Bill and I were also pleased to hear some very positive feedback about the society's e-extension product first hand from some members at the February AARES 2003 conference in Fremantle. New England University's Roley Piggott has found *Connections* to be a good source of material for students. North Carolina State University's Nick Piggott has been able to use *Connections* articles to good effect, introducing US students and colleagues to 'some genuine agricultural policy' concepts and discussions. A number of inaugural year authors including Al Watson, John Freebairn, Bob Richardson and Julian Alston were also happy to discuss *Connections* first year and keen to see other members follow their lead to build on the successful beginning. A number of conference attendees expressed interest in contributing an article, which is terrific.

The perennial challenge to editors is to keep the show rolling; to identify relevant material and to engage the commitment of researchers to spin-off a short extension style article for Connections. We saw many good research papers at AARES 2003 and hope that authors will progress their paper to research publication. We also encourage authors of published research to spare a thought for extending their work to a broader audience.

Perhaps we need to provide some extra little incentive for extension writers. WA University's Stephen Schilizzi has suggested that we give an award to the author of the article with the most hits on the website. During the AGM Sydney University's Fredoun Ahmadi-Esfahani also raised the issue of incentives for authors. While we are still thinking about these ideas we would also welcome ideas on sponsorship of any incentives or awards to authors.

One of the conclusions that we came to during the pilot period for the infant *Connections* is that it needed more carers. Accordingly we are pleased to announce that we have recruited several new Associate Editors:

Mary-Ann Franco-Dixon – Queensland (francom@dpi.qld.gov.au);

Roley Piggott – New South Wales (rpiggott@metz.une.edu.au);

David Feldman – Western Australia (dfeldman@agric.wa.gov.au) and

Julian Alston – United States (julian@primalucdavis.edu)

These willing volunteers will provide a local knowledge and presence as collectors and converters; collecting relevant material and ideas and helping authors to convert their material or ideas into a suitable length and style. Please give our new Associate Editors a hoiy if you would like a little help in converting your research or topic of interest into extension. Bill and I welcome these members to the Connections Editorial team to help us to maintain the standard that we established in 2002 jointly for AARES and AAA.

Glenn Ronan
Co-Editor
Primary Industries & Resources South
Australia
Ph: (08) 8207 7903
Email: ronan.glenn@saugov.sa.gov.au

Bill Malcolm
Co-Editor
University of Melbourne, Victoria
Ph: (03) 8344 5015
Email: b.malcolm@landfood.unimelb.edu.au

Australian Agribusiness Congress 2003

August 27-28, 2003, Southee Pavilion - Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush

The 2003 Congress will follow the well received format of the 2002 event, by examining the performance of and trends within the major sectors of the Australian Agribusiness Sector. This year we are paying special attention to Trade issues - recognising that the global trading environment has become more volatile, with armed conflict, a stalled WTO process for agriculture and the emergence of bilateral trade agreements such as the Australia - USA FTA currently being negotiated. We have taken notice of feedback from our 2002 delegates, particularly their desire to make the event more relaxed. So we have created a program that will be less intense and provide more opportunities for interaction with presenters and more networking opportunities. Forum - 27 August. As part of our commitment to research and knowledge development, we are once again holding a Forum - inviting professionals from the agribusiness sector to submit presentations that advance knowledge in the agribusiness sector. For 2003, we are holding the Forum before the Congress, once again at the suggestion of our 2002 delegates. For further details go to <http://www.agrifood.info/members/default.htm>

New Zealand Association of Economists Annual Conference 2003

Date: 25-27 June 2003

Venue: Sheraton Hotel, 83 Symonds Street, Auckland

Aim: Informing and fostering dialogue between other economists, and others interested in economic issues.

Theme: The programme theme is "Business Economics" with the focus being on economics as it applies to business, both directly through informing business practice and indirectly through the impact of government policies.

Keynote Speakers: Ed Lazear (Stanford University), David Collander (Prof of Economics, Middlebury College); plus a World Bank Economist from Asia Pacific Office – *name tba*.

You can help by: organising a themed session • reporting on completed research • reporting on work in progress • offering to chair sessions or discuss papers • encouraging postgraduates to attend and present papers • encouraging recent graduates to enter Jan Whitwell Prize • contacting the conference convenor Mary Hedges (mary.hedges@aut.ac.nz) with any suggestions/bright ideas for speakers, themes, workshops.

Key Dates: Please Note: These dates will be strictly adhered to.

9th May 2003 Submission of Abstracts including those for "Jan Whitwell" entries

30th April 2003 Early Bird Conference Registrations

12th June 2003 Submission of Full Papers including those for "Jan Whitwell" entries.

20th June 2003 Standard Conference Registrations

20th June 2003 Entry to Jan Whitwell Prize including Conference Registration (unless registered as an "Early Bird")

Please address preliminary enquiries to:

Val Browning – Secretary/Manager

New Zealand Association of Economists (Inc)

PO Box 568, Wellington 111 Cuba Mall, Wellington

Tel: [04] 801 7139 Fax: [04] 801 7106 Mobile: 025 283 8743

E-mail: economists@nzae.org.nz Web site: <http://nzae.org.nz>

4th International Crop Science Congress 2004 (4ICSC)

Theme: New directions for a diverse planet

Date: 26 September - 1 October, 2004

Venue: Brisbane Convention Centre

City/State: Brisbane, Queensland

Country: Australia

Further details: Contact the Congress Managers - Intermedia Convention & Event Management, 11/97 Castlemaine Street or PO Box 1280, Milton QLD 4064, Tel: +61 7 3858 5554, Fax: +61 7 3858 5583

Web: <http://www.cropscience2004.com>

Email: 4icsc04@im.com.au

Call for Contributed Papers – International Farm Management Congress

The 14th International Farm Management Congress will be held in Perth, Western Australia, from 10-15 August 2003. The Organising Committee welcomes contributed papers, posters and computer demonstrations on any issue related to Farm Management. Topics for these presentations are not limited to the principal themes of the Congress.

Please visit the Congress website (<http://www.ifma14.com>) for details and to register your interest in receiving registration details.

A small number of contributed papers may be selected for presentation at a plenary session or symposium. Contributed papers will be presented either orally or as a poster. Parallel contributed paper presentations and poster sessions are designed to accommodate highly specialised as well as more general papers. Posters will be on display throughout the Congress. However each poster will be 'featured' in the refreshment area for one of the refreshment breaks during the congress. The presenters of these featured posters will be introduced to delegates at the preceding plenary session.

At least one author or presenter of each paper must register to attend the Congress by the early-bird registration deadline for the paper, poster or demonstration to be included in the Programme and Proceedings.

Schedule

Please note the following schedule:

- Second call for contributed papers closes: 28 February 2003
- Full written papers due: 9 May 2003
- Early-bird rate registration deadline: 9 May 2003

Proposals and inquiries

Proposals should consist of a title, a brief abstract (100-200 words), and the name, contact details and brief biographical note (approximately 50 words) for each author and the name(s) of the author(s) expected to attend the Congress. Please indicate if you have a preference for presenting orally or as a poster, or if your presentation is a computer demonstration. All correspondence will be with the first author unless you designate another author as the principal contact.

Proposals and inquiries should be sent (preferably by email) to the Congress Secretariat, Debbie-Anne Scott, Eventedge, PO Box 749, WEMBLEY, Western Australia, 6913. Email: info@eventedge.com.au Fax: ++61 (08) 9387 1499.

Farmer / Manager Papers

In addition to papers from experts in government, industry and academia, the Organising Committee wants to particularly encourage farmers and farm managers to make a presentation. Three of the Contributed Paper sessions will be reserved exclusively for up to twelve farmer presentations. As a guideline these papers should tell the audience about your farm, the production systems and markets, the social, economic and environmental constraints, and discuss some of the main issues facing the farmer.

Each presenter will have twenty minutes for their oral presentation and discussion, so will have to be highly selective in the material presented from their written paper. Farmers are encouraged to include pictures in their presentations. Farmers with limited experience in making this type of

presentation are encouraged to work with a consultant or academic to ensure their written papers are sufficiently comprehensive and their oral presentations are appropriately paced. Joint authorship is acceptable.

A prize will be awarded to the best farmer presentation. A small committee will decide the winner based on (a) the coverage of the written paper, (b) description and discussion of management issues, and (c) content, clarity and timing of presentation. The prize will be reimbursement of the winner's Congress registration fee.

Specifications for Congress papers

The proceedings of the Congress will be published. The full text of all papers must be submitted electronically by the 9th May 2003. All papers must be camera-ready and formatted to a consistent style. Details of the required format will be available on the Congress website.

13th Annual World Food and Agribusiness Forum, Mexico

The International Food and Agribusiness Management Association are promoting their upcoming 13th Annual World Food and Agribusiness Forum and Symposium to be held on 21-24 June, 2003 in Cancun, Mexico. You can register online at <http://www.ifama.org>

8th European Workshop on Efficiency and Productivity Analysis, Spain

The 8th European Workshop on Efficiency and Productivity Analysis will be held in Spain in September. For further information go to <http://ww.uniovi.es/8ewepa>

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND CENTRAL OFFICE

<p>President</p> <p>Bill Malcolm Phone: (03) 8344 5015 Fax: (03) 8344 4095 Email: b.malcolm@landfood.unimelb.edu.au</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Liz Petersen Phone: (02) 6125 4953 Fax: (02) 6125 4896 Email: Liz.Petersen@anu.edu.au</p>
<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Mal Wegener Phone: (07) 3365 2939 Fax: (07) 3365 9016 Email: malcolm.wegener@mailbox.uq.edu.au</p>	<p>Manager: Promotion and Development</p> <p>Lisa Brennan Phone: (07) 3214 2375 Fax: (07) 3214 2308 Email: Lisa.Brennan@csiro.au</p>
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<p>Editors: AJARE</p> <p>Chris O'Donnell Phone: (02) 6773 2815 Fax: (02) 6773 3607 Email: codonnel@metz.une.edu.au</p> <p>John Mullen Phone: (02) 6391 3608 Fax: (02) 6391 3650 Email: john.mullen@agric.nsw.gov.au</p>	<p>Manager: AARES Central Office</p> <p>Honey Greenwood School of Economics Armidale NSW 2351 Phone: (02) 6773 3278 Fax: (02) 6773 3607 Email: journal.ajare@pobox.une.edu.au</p>

DEADLINE AND ADVERTISING

The deadline for receipt of any items for inclusion in the next edition of *AARES News & Views* is **15 July 2003**. Please send items to Honey Greenwood at the Central Office:
journal.ajare@pobox.une.edu.au

Advertisements in *AARES News and Views* are welcomed. Mailing list exceeds 700. Prices from \$250 to \$500 (including GST). Enquiries to Lisa.Brennan@csiro.au