



PIONEER CONFERENCE ON THE HORIZON



Agricultural Contractors have been faced with two particularly trying seasons with low global grain prices, the downturn in the dairy industry which in turn reduced the acreage being planted, and the ever challenging weather for both planting and harvesting. Despite the NZ feed grain prices edging up and the improving dairy sector outlook that has increased the appetite to purchase more supplementary feed times have been tough. It is hoped that the Fonterra cap of 3kg per day on the use of palm kernel may see a rise in the use of grass and maize silage, hay, and turnips. With some farmers looking to reduce

their reliance on palm kernel it is important that homegrown feed is of high quality and in sufficient quantities to meet the demand as well as be able to cope with the vagaries of the seasonal weather. The 2016-17 year marks the 40th year of Pioneer brand maize seed in New Zealand and the Yates family who introduced this have continued to look for ways to produce high quality seeds to deal with New Zealand growing conditions and deliver quality crops to meet market needs. Their work in the field has never been more critical than at this point in time and their new state of the art seed treatment plant in Gisborne is part of the drive to take maize growing in NZ to an even higher level. The 2017 Pioneers Conference is being held in Wellington in early June. The annual event run by Genetic Technologies Limited sees a programme that will not only focus on product research and development but also on environmental regulations and their impact plus Teams, Leadership, and Peak Performance.

LUUKA PREPARES FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN PAU



Luuka Jones has enjoyed her break following the Olympics and is now back preparing for the next Olympics in Japan in 2020. After the games in Rio it looked as if she was going to lose her first class Scottish Coach Campbell Walsh, however, he is back training Luuka and the plan is underway.

"I go to Pau in France at the end of April and will base myself there to train and compete in the toughest events possible leading up to the World Championships in September this year. By then I should know the World Championship course really well, given that we will regularly train using the man made course with the river running alongside. It will be great to be able to prepare in Europe fulltime with the best competition over there and travelling to events will be so much easier. The city is close to the Pyrenees and is ideal for walking and cycling. I am very excited about seeing 'The Tour de France' which passes through Pau this year," said Luuka. "It has been so nice to be home and enjoy friends and family and the beauty of New Zealand but now the hard work begins."

PF OLSEN A FINALIST IN NZ WORKPLACE H&S AWARDS



The 2017 New Zealand Workplace Health & Safety Awards are being held in Auckland at the end of May. The awards are presented by Safeguard in association with WorkSafe New Zealand and will recognize the achievements of people from all around the country in a wide range of categories relating to their Health & Safety approach and performance. The finalists have been decided and we were excited to learn that PF Olsen are a finalist in the *IMPAC Best Collaboration Between PCBU's*, along with Safe Rebuild Canterbury and WorleyParsons NZ. This recognition is the result of the focus PF Olsen have placed on collaborating not only with their crews

but also with the many service providers who interact with their crews on work sites and forest roads. Nic Steens (pictured) has led a number of training opportunities relating to the collaborative approach needed for working in the forest industry. PF Olsen and McFall Fuel have worked closely on the non-negotiables required and the PF Olsen training programme grew out of this and involved other service providers along with crews. "Working together means sharing responsibility to manage the known risks and any others that you think might happen as the work continues. We need to apply the three C's—Consult, Cooperate and Coordinate as best we can, so that collectively we ensure our work places are safe for all workers and others," said Nic at a recent training session.

What's Happening @ 0800 623 255

SITE SAFETY APPROVALS



The demand for Site Safety Approvals to be completed from customers grows month on month. A number of industry groups have been placing a great deal of emphasis on site safety in their regional and national discussions. At a recent meeting of the Fuel Distributors Industry Safety Committee, the Fuel Storage on Farms Guidelines were pretty much finalized with Federated Farmers very supportive of what has emerged. When it comes to Tripod Tanks (pictured) it seems that a collective effort by all groups is needed to ensure that they are a farm tank of the past. At the same time Off Road Bridge ratings require more work so that the clearer guidelines that are beginning to emerge can also be agreed on.

When it comes to Commercial Sites, Tank Compliance for fuel storage over 5000 litres, must be signed off by an approved certifier. "We have a checklist to help customers prepare their sites, the access, and the actual location of their storage effectively," said Logan Fleming, the Business Development Manager for Compliance. "Our approach is a positive one of working with customers which sees all signage requirements, site plans, and the tank in the best location all prepared and ready for the certifier."

McFall Fuel offer a comprehensive range of well constructed and compliant tanks for customers to choose from to best suit their industry needs. The lease to own farm tanks are proving to be very popular with farmers because they see the long term benefits of getting their storage right.

REPORT CARD ON HEALTH & SAFETY

The Health & Safety at Work Act 2015 has certainly changed the cultures in some work places, the language we use, and the way we think about what we do in everyday lives. In a recent Safeguard survey of the state of health and safety in New Zealand, people who responded were a little more optimistic than last year but it is clear that there are still way too many concerns.



One area of concern for many businesses is the plethora of generic documents being used to achieve the compliance checklist for site safety. A good example of this is the Site Safety Approvals that need to be completed for customers. "The variance in the forms and the information required from and within different sectors makes the exercise a challenging one," said CEO Sheryl Dawson. "There must be a better way to do this, than how it is being approached at present. It appears that what most companies require is the insurance liability held and the comfort of knowing that the McFall Fuel personnel entering sites are trained and regularly monitored and reviewed. Plus that the Health & Safety requirements that support the carrying out of the work safely are well ingrained and that their site rules are followed."

USE OF AD BLUE ON THE RISE



McFall Fuel offer customers Ad Blue in three sizes — 10 litres, 200 litres, and a thousand litres. With the ever growing demand from customers who have machinery and vehicles requiring Ad Blue we are now able to offer better pricing on all three sizes. Ask your sales representative about the new pricing which will commence for all customers on May 1st.



WIN A SUPERMARKET VOUCHER

Over the next two months (May & June) for every 100 litres of Ad Blue purchased by you, you will have one entry in the draw to win one of the five \$200 supermarket shopping vouchers on offer.

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