

SANTFA STUDY TRIP NEW ZEALAND

7 Days on Canterbury plains, NZ main grain
produce area held in March 2011





WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN ORGANISING A TRIP, MEETING#1

WHY?

WHO?

WHAT?

WHEN?

WHERE?

HOW?

WHY: ANOTHER CROP WALK, ANOTHER BUS TRIP OR TAKE THE PLUNGE ACROSS THE DIVIDE?

.....SUGGESTED BY ONE BOARD MEMBER AT THEIR QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Why or why not?

To step outside the square.

To visit the speakers on their own turf, rather than bring them to the annual conference



HOW: MONEY

Travel grant from GRDC

Each participant deposit \$300 to ensure commitment

Completion of trip paid \$1500

Total \$1800/participant for 7 days Flights, accommodation, meals inclusive.

- ▶ One – two visits per day
- ▶ Travelled between each visit in 2 Tarago vans, 13 participants
- ▶ 4 days of visits
- ▶ 3 days of travel car/plane

WHAT: LOGISTICS AT NZ

Maximum time with each farmer/presenter

Covered range of sites and ag industries

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WHEN?

- ▶ Consider optimal time to visit to suit the presenters vs the visitors



WHERE: Canterbury Plains, 80% Grain production in NZ

- ▶ 6 people
- ▶ FAR (foundation for arable research) trial site
- ▶ David Fisher – former SA, early adopter no till in Canterbury plains
- ▶ Craig Mckenzie – farm & dairy, Nuffield scholar
- ▶ Randal Hanrahan – forage crop grower
- ▶ David Ward – winner NZ milling wheat comp., no till for 10 years
- ▶ Alistar Henderson – farmer & contractor

WHO DO YOU VISIT?

People that are recommended, by the board , networks

Industry recognition i.e. Nuffield scholars

NZ industry recognition i.e. milling wheat competition

Overseas trip

- ▶ POSITIVES
- ▶ See speaker at their own farm
- ▶ Close the gap between farmers internationally
- ▶ See outside our own backyard
- ▶ NEGATIVES
- ▶ \$\$\$\$\$
- ▶ Travel time

Local bus trip

- ▶ POSITIVES
- ▶ Smaller commitment
- ▶ More affordable in both time & \$\$\$\$
- ▶ Accessible to more members
- ▶ NEGATIVES
- ▶ Similar practices, less new ideas

SANTFA'S FIELD TRIPS COMPARISON

