

## SIR ARTHUR WARD AWARD

### Paul R Kenyon

Paul joined the staff of Massey University in 1999 and in the ensuing 12 years has produced an incredible 92 papers in refereed scientific journals, 76 refereed abstracts and conference papers and 82 extension activities and industry presentations, while still carrying a normal teaching load in sheep production to veterinary and agricultural students. By any standard Paul has an incredible output, which indicates his scientific excellence, motivation and drive to succeed.

Paul's area of expertise is sheep production. Areas where he has made a major contribution include pre-lamb shearing to increase lamb birth weight and survival, nutrition of twin and triplet-bearing ewes to increase lamb survival, increasing the reproductive performance of mated hoggets and use of brassicas, herbs and specialist legumes for summer/autumn finishing of weaned lambs. Throughout Paul's career there has been a strong focus on solving problems of the sheep industry. During this time he has maintained strong contacts with industry bodies, such as The New Zealand Sheep Council and Beef + Lamb New Zealand. A theme which has run through all the areas investigated is firstly a thorough definition of the problem, applied research into finding a solution or solutions, followed by writing up of the work for publication in both scientific journals and in industry media. He has always made a point of presenting his results to the sheep industry, as shown by his average of seven such publications per year for a 12 year period. There is no evidence of this output decreasing. Paul is very much a complete teacher, researcher and extension person, who carries out his work to the end point of industry uptake. For many years he has been in demand as a speaker at industry conferences and field days.



In terms of administrative duties Paul is the Deputy Leader of both the Massey University International Sheep Research Centre and the Massey University component of the National Research Centre for Growth and Development, a New Zealand Government funded Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE). In this capacity he undertakes frequent trips to both North Western China and Uruguay on Sheep Research Centre business and to Auckland University on National Research Centre for Growth and Development business. Paul's ability to solve problems of the New Zealand sheep industry and to

then communicate these results within New Zealand is now going international. His work in the fetal programming area that has been undertaken as part of the CoRE is likely to have future application to the international sheep industry.

These contributions in supporting the New Zealand and international sheep industries fulfils the requirements of the Sir Arthur Ward Award that the nominee has "contributed towards the adoption of a practice (or practices) that has facilitated more efficient animal production". Paul has done this in several areas of sheep production, and in the process has trained both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Most of his students have gone on to develop careers in land-based industries, in both New Zealand and internationally.

*Tom Barry and Hugh Blair*