

AUTUMN 2010

Seasons



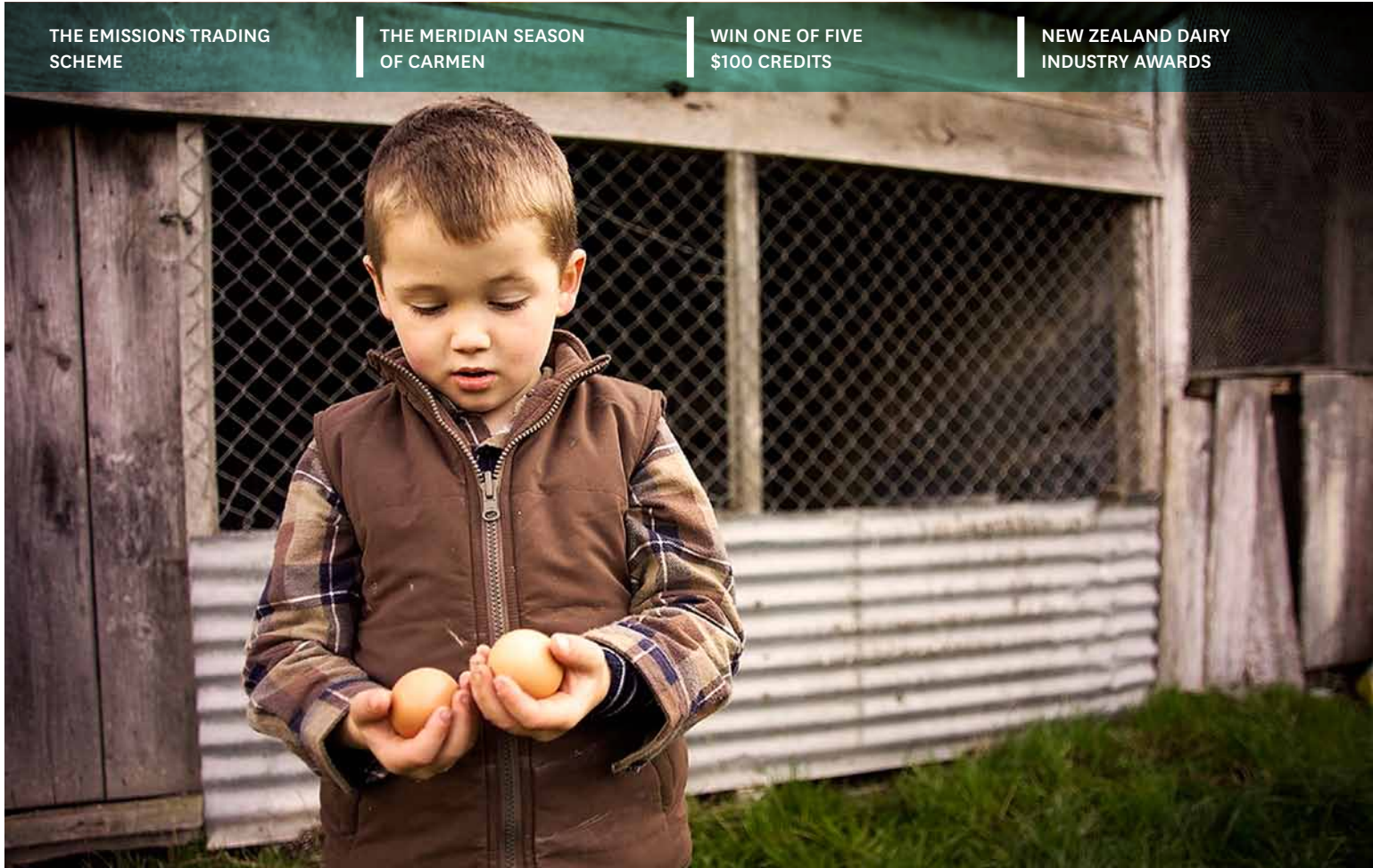
meridian

THE EMISSIONS TRADING
SCHEME

THE MERIDIAN SEASON
OF CARMEN

WIN ONE OF FIVE
\$100 CREDITS

NEW ZEALAND DAIRY
INDUSTRY AWARDS



New 'Boost' for energy saving on dairy farms and commercial sites

A Christchurch engineer has developed a simple way to add a 'plug and play' heat exchange device (called 'Boost') to refrigeration units that delivers high temperature hot water 800% more efficiently than conventional electric heating elements.

The 'Boost' was initially designed for larger dairy farms or small factories where there is a refrigeration unit plus an ongoing need for hot water. The 'Boost' is a simple robust

device with controls that automate a number of small tasks normally left to farm workers so the unit is both a labour and energy saver.

The adapted refrigeration technology adds a specially designed heat exchange device which boosts up any chiller unit by at least 25%, saving power by reducing its run time plus heating water to over 85°C.

Early installations of the Enersol 'Boost' unit have seen some dairy shed power bills dropping by around 30%.

The 'Boost' provides liquid sub-cooling which is used in commercial applications to increase the performance of the chiller unit and allows Enersol to capture heat in a positive way.

For more information about the 'Boost' system, contact Russell Whyte, Product Manager by email sales@enersol.co.nz or phone **021 222 2008**.

WIN
one of five
\$100 credits
off your
electricity
bill*

If you currently pay your Meridian accounts by Direct Debit or through one of our rural buying groups (ATS, CRT, or RD1), congratulations you're already in the draw.

If not, call our Agribusiness Team on **0800 496 777**, anytime between 7.30am to 7.30pm Monday to Friday or email agribusiness@meridianenergy.co.nz before 30 June 2010 and we'll put you in the draw. Alternatively, you can download a Direct Debit form from our website, www.meridian.co.nz



*See www.meridianenergy.co.nz/YourFarm for full terms and conditions.

We'd like to hear from you

We'd like to hear what you think about *Seasons*, and what you'd like to see in future issues.

Please let us know by writing to us at:

Seasons

Meridian

PO Box 10840

Wellington 6143

or emailing us at:

seasons@meridianenergy.co.nz



Your discount for the Meridian Season of *Carmen*

As a Meridian customer you receive a 10% discount off standard ticket prices to *Carmen*.

Carmen's allure is the stuff of legend. Sizzingly seductive, few can resist her charms.

An electrifying contemporary ballet, set in modern day Rio de Janeiro, *Carmen* is guaranteed to set pulses racing.

This stylish, sensuous production featuring Didy Veldman's powerful choreography has been hailed as "brilliant dance theatre" and a "raunchy and fast-paced production not to be missed".

Dates and locations for the Meridian Season of *Carmen*:

WELLINGTON: 5–6 June and 9–12 June
St James Theatre
Ticketek 0800 TICKETEK
(Mobiles (04) 384 3840)

INVERCARGILL: 17–19 June
Civic Theatre
TicketDirect (03) 211 1692

CHRISTCHURCH: 23–26 June
Isaac Theatre Royal
Ticketek 0800 TICKETEK
(Mobiles (03) 377 8899)

PALMERSTON NORTH: 29–30 June
Regent on Broadway
TicketDirect (06) 357 9740

NAPIER: 3–4 July
Municipal Theatre
TicketDirect (06) 835 2702

AUCKLAND: 7–10 July
Aotea Centre at THE EDGE
0800 BUY TICKETS
(Mobiles (09) 357 3355)

Please note:

- 10% off adult, child or concession tickets.
- Available in all seating categories – except Inner Circle in Wellington and Auckland.
- Booking service fees apply.
- Book by phone or at the theatre ticket office – offer not available online.
- Meridian customer number must be quoted at time of purchase (located on your bill).
- No maximum number of tickets.

To find out more about the Meridian season of *Carmen*, visit <http://www.nzballet.org.nz/season/meridian-season-carmen>



Fieldays[®] 2010

The Meridian Agribusiness Team will be at the New Zealand National Agricultural Fieldays[®], Mystery Creek[®], Hamilton from 16–19 June. We will be at site G30 so come in and meet the team!

The World Ploughing Championships held in Methven

Meridian was proud to sponsor NZ Plough 2010, the 57th World Ploughing Championship held in Methven from 15-18 April.

Spilling over 160 hectares of Methven farmland, NZ Plough 2010 was one of the largest agricultural events to be held in the South Island. It featured world-class ploughing, vintage and horse ploughing, plus one of the biggest vintage machinery displays New Zealand has seen in recent years.

Purpose-sown crops were harvested and processed using machinery and methods common during the 1920-1940s.

The New Zealand Silver Plough Championships were followed by the World Ploughing Contest when 58 contestants from 30 countries vied for world supremacy.

Representing New Zealand were Bruce Redmond (Methven) in the world conventional ploughing class and Paul Henson (Palmerston North) in the reversible class.

For the first time since 1982 a New Zealander took out a title – congratulations Bruce!



Mr J.D. Stubbs competing in the 1947 Rakata Ploughing Match.

Trade, craft and food stalls, live entertainment, scenic helicopter rides and the Aorangi Young Farmer of the Year regional finals offered a great way to end the school holidays. The Ashburton Vintage Military club also staged a mock battle on Thursday and Sunday providing entertainment for all.

For information on NZ Plough 2010 visit www.nzplough2010.co.nz.

Dairy Womens Network

The Dairy Womens Network was established in 1998 by New Zealand dairying women, following the second International Conference for Women in Agriculture held in Washington, DC.

The network's purpose is to develop and educate women, to add value to the business of dairying. Women have welcomed the professional and personal support the network offers through activities such as Dairy Days, regional meetings, a daily e-digest and conferences.

National Conferences are held by the Dairy Womens Network alternatively in the North and South Islands. Hundreds of women attend these events for the unique mix of dairy industry discussions and memorable, motivational speakers. The next conference is 12-13 May in New Plymouth.

Meridian is proud to be associated with an organisation that offers professional and personal support through its activities helping dairying women in their busy lives.

Visit www.dwn.co.nz to find out more information about the Dairy Womens Network.



The New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme

- *what it means for farmers*

The Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) is one of the ways the New Zealand Government is responding to climate change by meeting its international obligations under the Kyoto Protocol.

Some businesses will have to measure the greenhouse gas emissions directly associated with their activities or the products they make. They then have to buy and surrender to the government enough carbon credits to account for their emissions.

Though agriculture does not officially enter the ETS and will not have to pay for emissions until 1 January 2015, agricultural participants will be required to report their emissions from 2012 though to 2014.

Initially the responsibility for reporting emissions for the agriculture sector will

be at the processor level, with individual farmers not required to measure and report their emissions under the ETS.

For example, from 1 January 2012 a meat processing company will have to measure and report on the greenhouse gas emissions that were created during the farming of the animals that are being processed in its plants.

After 1 January 2015, the company will have to buy and surrender enough carbon credits to account for these emissions. This will be an added cost to its operations and this cost will likely be subtracted from the price the processing company pays the farmer for the product.

The government has put in place measures to reduce the overall impact of the ETS on the agricultural sector.

For example, from 2015 agricultural participants will receive a free allocation of carbon credits accounting for 90% of their emissions.

This allocation will be phased out slowly at the rate of 1.33% per year, dropping to 50% in 2050. This allocation regime will result in a significant reduction in the price of greenhouse gas emissions faced by agricultural participants.

Farmers may experience some immediate price increases resulting from the ETS. For example, fuel prices will rise starting from 1 July 2010 when transport fuels are included in the ETS. It is projected that the ETS will add initially around 3 cents a litre to the price of fuel.

Further information on the ETS and how it will impact on agriculture can be found at:

www.carbonfarming.org.nz/ets-agriculture.html

www.climatechange.govt.nz/emissions-trading-scheme/questions-and-answers-amendment-act.html

Various sectors of the economy are scheduled to enter the ETS at different times as follows:

Sector	Entry Date
Forestry	1 January 2008
Stationary Energy and Industrial Processes	1 July 2010
Liquid Fossil Fuels and Transport	1 July 2010
Waste	1 January 2013
Agriculture	1 January 2015

Passion for progression

Meridian recognises the critical role the agribusiness sector plays in the New Zealand economy, and is committed to assisting farmers in the sustainable operation of their farms. Meridian is proud to again sponsor the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards (NZDIA).

Meridian is proud to be presenting the Meridian Farm Environment Award. Smart farm management is the focus of the annual NZDIA which promotes the progression of dairy farmers by delivering an industry wide, New Zealand wide awards programme.

Each year twelve regions host three competitions – Sharemilker of the Year, Farm Manager of the Year and Dairy Trainee of the Year. The regional awards were held this year during February and March.

The NZDIA National Final will be held on Saturday 15 May 2010 at the Energy Events Centre, Queens Drive, Government Gardens, Rotorua. Tickets are on sale from 29 March 2010, see www.dairyindustryawards.co.nz for more details.



Look out for the winners' details in the next issue of Seasons.

Meet the team

Introducing Agribusiness Manager Natasha King

When you ask Natasha King to tell you about herself, she coyly answers, "I like seafood chowder and ham. I have two children, enjoy diving, fishing, hunting and team sports." But there is a lot more to Meridian's Agribusiness Manager.

Natasha has her roots in rural New Zealand. As the daughter of three-time Golden Shears Open Champ and current MP Colin King, Natasha grew up in Otorohanga on a dry stock farm. She then went on to marry a dairy farmer and move to Canterbury to go sharemilking.

After years of being on the farm, Natasha decided to make the move into the office. Natasha has worked for a number of key players within the agriculture industry and brings this knowledge and experience with her to Meridian.



Natasha heads up the Agribusiness team which is responsible for managing Meridian's rural customer base spread throughout the country. For Natasha, it's essential that her team also understands your business.

The team has specialised agricultural knowledge and what they don't know Natasha is dedicated to ensuring they learn. Recently, this led to a number of the team members graduating with a National Certificate in Rural Servicing through Agriculture ITO.

Natasha is passionate about what she does and the industry she serves. To have this industry experience in Meridian means that as a valued customer you have access to people who understand your business and who you can relate to.