

FORMER TARATAHI STUDENT TAKES OUT YOUNG FARMER DISTRICT FINALS

Former student and current employee of Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre; Tony Dowman has won the Wairarapa District Finals of New Zealand Young Farmer of the Year beating his nearest competitor by 46 points. The win allows Dowman to progress through to the East Coast Regional Finals to be held in Dannevirke on Saturday 27th February.

Around 300 New Zealand Young Farmer members from throughout the country compete in one of 22 District Finals held each year between November and February.

District Finals encourage young men and women to demonstrate a range of skills including fencing, chainsaws, ATV riding, weed and grass identification, as well as general knowledge and interview skills.

Dowman was a student at Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre completing his studies in Dairy in 2003. He then went on to Massey University to obtain a Diploma in Agriculture and the 24 year old is now employed by Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre as the Farm Business Manager.

The Young Farmers Contest which started in 1969 is the flagship event for Young Farmers in New Zealand and is held in high esteem among the rural community. This year's Grand Final will be held in Gore and for the first time ever in the history of the competition Masterton will be hosting the Grand Final in 2011.



Tony Dowman