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Press Release

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Meat & Wool NZ and Taratahi helping support next generation of farmers.

Two Taratahi students have recently been selected to be recipients of the Meat & Wool NZ/Taratahi scholarship. Richmond Beetham, Wairarapa Regional Manager for Meat & Wool NZ, said that he was looking to present the scholarships to students who would be excellent role models and ambassadors for the agricultural industry and both Thomas Davies from Tauranga and Joseph Wyatt from Dannevirke showed that motivation and passion.

Thomas has just finished his second year at Taratahi studying the Level 4 National Certificate in Agriculture. The Level 4 students have the opportunity to go on an exchange to Walford Agricultural College in Shropshire, England which is where some of Thomas's scholarship money may go. He is also keen to get a dog going as well.

Joseph only started at Taratahi in January of this year at Level 3 but he has already moved into doing the Level 4 course. He has a huge amount of motivation and drive to complete his Level 4 certificate by the end of 2009. Joseph is keen to get a job down south on a high country property next year for a couple of seasons before heading to Massey University to study vet-science.

Richmond said "both students immediately showed merit and future promise and both had such passion for what they were doing at the moment and huge vision for their futures"

Part of the Meat & Wool NZ farmer levies are spent on all sorts of different skills and education programs. The scholarship not only has monetary value. Both students have had the opportunity to attend an Open Day at headquarters in Wellington where they meet with other scholars and like-minded people. The Open Day gives scholarship recipients from Lincoln, Massey, EIT and Taratahi a better understanding of what Meat & Wool NZ does to help outside the farm gate with market access issues, trade policy, environment, leadership in the industry, and lobbying to government.

Meat & Wool NZ are one of many organisations that provide scholarships for Taratahi students. PPG Wrightsons, DairyNZ, Landcorp and the John Daniells Memorial Trust have also recently awarded scholarships and many more are available later in the year for Taratahi students. All scholarships recognise students who have the motivation, drive, passion and future promise for a career in the rural industry.

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