

Young Guns show off their potential at Taratahi

Secondary school students from across the Wairarapa got the chance to test their agricultural skills, knowledge and stamina at Taratahi's prestigious Lower North Island Young Guns competition on Wednesday. The day-long event saw students from Chanel College, Dannevirke High School, Makoura College and Kuranui College compete in eight different events – every section was hotly contested!

The eight events comprised of Small-Bore rifle shooting, General Knowledge, Tractors, Fencing, ATVs, Water Troughs, Electric Fencing and a mystery section which involved orienteering. Feedback from the competitors included the phrases: "Awesome!" "Really Cool!" "Fantastic!" and "Want to do it again next year!"

"Young Guns gives secondary school students the chance to get out of the classroom and prove to themselves, and their peers, just what they can do on the farm," says Caren Oliver, Taratahi's Course Co-ordinator. "All the students have already had some kind of involvement with Taratahi, but the competitive nature of Young Guns means that they push themselves to the next level... with some incredible results!"

The event at Taratahi's Wairarapa campus was the first of the two regional events – the second will be held at Stratford on October 27th, and the Grand Final will take place on November 2nd.

Results:

First place overall: Kieran McGruddy (Chanel College)

Second place overall: Sam Craig (Chanel College).

Kieran and Sam were awarded with trophy cups, prizes and a place in the Grand Final.

Separate Event Winners:

Small - Bore Rifle Shooting: Rihari Carroll (Kuranui College)

General Knowledge: Kieran McGruddy

Tractors: Kieran McGruddy

Fencing: Kieran McGruddy.

ATVs: Jarrod Prince (Kuranui College)

Water troughs: Sam Craig

Electric fencing: Sam Craig

Mystery section (Orienteering): Sam Craig.

Every event winner was awarded with a prize.

Other competitors: Luke Brookes (Chanel College), David Harris (Dannevirke High School), Kane Dodd (Makoura College), Patrick Meehan, Rhys Ellis, Sean Spooner and Shaun Duffy (Kuranui College). Every participant was awarded with a voucher to attend a TATC Taster course – valued at \$80.



Overall winners, Kieran and Sam



Getting to grips with the fencing section



Hooking up a water trough is trickier than it looks!!



Show us your tractor work!!