The 2012 Fieldays Seminar Series
Powered by the University of Waikato

The University of Waikato produces graduates, develops research, and partners with local industries to meet the needs of our local community and the national agriculture sector. Come and listen to some of the people who are leading the way. All seminars and panel discussions are 20-30 minutes with question-time after. All seminars take place in the Premier Feature.

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE</td>
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| 11.00am      | Professor Jacqueline Rowarth, Professor of Agribusiness, University of Waikato. | Food and the environment  
Land is a finite resource. Sustainable management of land is vital for the future and is challenging – when it goes wrong, the environment suffers, and food prices escalate. The balance between efficient food production and food prices is a global concern and New Zealand has a role to play in getting it right. |
| 3.00pm       | Panel discussion facilitated by Professor Jacqueline Rowarth.                  | Collision of land use  
Are we on a collision course between the drivers for New Zealand’s economic growth and our changing lifestyles? Each year 50,000ha is lost to lifestyle blocks. Is the demand for land, increasing urban encroachment and need for recreational areas hollowing out our rural communities? Are these issues even on the government’s agenda? |
| THURSDAY 14 JUNE |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                  |
| 10.00am      | Professor Jacqueline Rowarth, Professor of Agribusiness, University of Waikato. | Efficiency versus productivity  
Farm ownership models affect different aspects of the business. Corporate farming is great because of economies of scale. Individual ownership is great because owners are involved in creating and developing their business. Achieving a balance, particularly around employment for younger generations, is important for our future and requires debate in the face of interest from overseas. |
| 12noon       | Professor Jacques Poot, National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, University of Waikato. | The challenges of future rural population change  
In coming decades New Zealand is expected to experience slower population growth and population ageing. Meanwhile, the increasing international mobility of people creates more uncertainty. While the big cities will continue to grow, population decline is almost certain for many regions. What are the likely trends and what are the implications for rural communities? |
| 3.00pm       | Panel discussion facilitated by Professor Jacqueline Rowarth.                  | This land is my land  
The face of farming in New Zealand is changing. We have increasing foreign ownership, corporate ownership, super farms and the rise of iwi ownership following Treaty of Waitangi settlements. So, what’s the best approach for New Zealand’s future? |
| FRIDAY 15 JUNE |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                  |
| 10.00am      | Panel discussion facilitated by Professor Jacqueline Rowarth.                  | The right to farm  
With seemingly endless moves to license the environment, pressure on water rights and water allocation, the Resource Management Act, and the looming Emissions Trading Scheme, has the regulatory environment in New Zealand become too restrictive? Or is it the only way to save New Zealand’s physical environment? |
| 12noon       | Speaker to be advised.                                                         | Watch out for advice on another engaging University of Waikato seminar.                                                        |
| 3.00pm       | Professor Jacqueline Rowarth, Professor of Agribusiness, University of Waikato. | Opportunity or a death knell  
High standards for welfare and environment are costly in agriculture, yet food prices aren’t rising as fast as inputs. As standards are increasingly regulated, and tools that farmers use to maintain efficiencies are removed, income is eroded. Unless we can create new, high-value markets for food, New Zealand farming will move out of our hands. |