

IFMA NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2010

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In this Newsletter:

Journal of International Farm Management new bumper Edition – Volume 5, Edition 2

New articles in the “Articles” Section of ifmaonline.org:–

“IFMA: Its Origins, Ethos and History” by Philip James

“Country Reports” – Council Members’ Reports to the 1st Council Meeting in Bloomington.

“IFMA17 Congress Delegate Evaluation Report” by Tony King

Johannes Christensen (Past Council Member - Denmark)

Journal of International Farm Management new bumper Edition – Volume 5, Edition 2

A new Edition has been added to the Contents Section of the Journal. With 6 papers this is the largest edition so far of the relatively new online version of the Journal. The papers cover a diverse range of subjects:– attitudes of Australian sheep farmers to animal welfare; the impact of transitioning from Communism to joining the EU for Bulgarian horticultural farmers in the Plovdiv region; the adaptation by Swedish sugar beet growers to a new regime for sugar beet in Sweden; the potential impact of the EU mid term review on the cattle and sheep sectors in Ireland and whether the CAP “cohesion objectives” are being met by the support levels; and two papers from the USA, one on financial persistence and the other on the technical and cost efficiency of No-till farms. So there is lots of interesting material to read. We are grateful to all the authors for their contributions to the Journal, and I know John Gardner is always pleased to receive new papers for the Journal.

New articles in the “Articles” Section :-

“IFMA: Its Origins, Ethos and History” by Philip James

Some of you may remember Philip James who was involved in the very first international farm management congress held in Warwick, England under the auspices of the Farm Management Association in 1971. The formation of the IFMA came 3 years later when Canada held the 2nd International Farm Management Congress in Quelph, Ontario in 1974, and Philip became the Hon. Secretary of the new organisation. The rest (as they say) is history – and now you can “read all about it” in the Articles Section on the website! (This article stemmed from the interest shown in Malcolm Stansfield’s impromptu presentation at last year’s IFMA17 congress.)

“Country Reports” – Council Members’ Reports to the 1st Council Meeting in Bloomington.

The IFMA Council meets just before and just after each congress. At the first meeting Council Members are asked to present a short report on matters “concerning” farm management in their country or region since the last congress and their outlook for the future. The reports, in bullet form mainly, are reproduced here. Not all Council Members were able to make the meeting in time – so unfortunately we don’t have reports from Nigeria or The Netherlands. It is intended that more regular reports are produced and put in the Articles section from Council and other members in future. These will very much be personal views and we would welcome contributions from any Member that would like to produce short (bullet points if you like) synopses from time to time. The “Article” section of the website was intended for this purpose – please see the page for details of how to submit articles.

“IFMA17 Congress Delegate Evaluation Report” by Tony King

At the end of the 17th IFMA Congress delegates were asked to complete an evaluation form. Our thanks to the 60 people who took the time, and the results have been assembled into a simple report that you can see a summary of and download the full report.

Johannes Christensen (Past Council Member - Denmark)

It is with great sadness that I report the death in January of Johannes Christensen. Johannes was a regular attendee of IFMA congresses and was instrumental in the planning and organisation of the 7th IFMA Congress held in Copenhagen in 1988. Johannes was a member of Council for many years relinquishing his place to Brain Jacobsen in 2005. He attended his last congress in Ireland in 2007, not being well enough to join us in Bloomington. He was popular with other delegates and an invaluable member of the Council. Certainly a man to look up to and we will miss the gentle giant of a man that he was!

Expect another Newsletter with news of the 18th IFMA Congress soon.

Best Regards,
Tony.

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IFMA Website - www.ifmaonline.org

17th IFMA Congress, USA website - www.ifma17.org

18th IFMA Congress, New Zealand 2011, website www.ifma18.org