

## IFMA NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2009

**IFMA17 Congress – Plenary Presentations and Contributed Paper & Poster availability**

**IFMA18 Congress – Important – Register your interest.**

First - a big welcome to the many new people who have signed up to receive this Newsletter.

### **IFMA17 Congress – A most successful congress.**

We must congratulate and thank the organisers and the many assistants of the 17<sup>th</sup> International Farm Management Congress for an interesting, inspiring and well run Congress. A particular 'thank you' goes to **Carroll Merry** who has spent a great deal of the last 4½ years of his life working diligently on this project, along with his co-directors **Ray Brownfield** and **Bob Swires**, and to the President of the Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, **Fred Helpler**, who so ably chaired the congress. A huge amount of work went into planning and nurturing this Congress – not least as a result of the unplanned for difficulties caused by the worldwide recession and the 25-30% increase in the value of the US dollar. A big thank you too to those in the Conference Department of Illinois State University, particularly **Amber** and **Teri** who had much to do to deliver the congress to all the delegates from registration through to venue organisation – and all with a smile. And we must not forget to thank **Harold Guither** who oversaw the contributed papers and posters and their respective sessions, nor will all those who attended the Pre Congress Tour to southern Illinois forgive me if I were to forget to thank **Don and Doris Cochran** for the superb job they did of guiding the participants through an extremely good week of visits to some top class farms and businesses!

A quick look at the 'end of congress survey forms' confirms that those who attended the congress found it very beneficial and enjoyable, and there was lots of praise and many 'thank you's expressed as well as many helpful comments for future congresses. In particular the plenary papers, the farm tours and our 'hotel embedded hosts' received a great deal of praise. More later on the survey when the report is available.

The [www.ifma17.org](http://www.ifma17.org) website has had a major make-over to accommodate the following:

**The Plenary Presentations** – all 16 presentations are now available in PDF format for viewing and / or downloading.

**Contributed Papers and Posters** – All the papers and poster abstracts are also available – but these are contained in 2 large PDF files as used for the Congress Proceedings – CD and Hardcopy versions. (These papers will be available (probably later in October) in individual paper format (PDF) on the ifmaonline.org website under the Congresses > Congress Proceedings headings).

**Congress Photos - Plenary Speakers** – these are also available, principally of interest to congress attendees (to see the speaker's name right click the photo and click properties). They are in the order of appearance on the stage.

Also on the website you will find numerous press articles about IFMA17 on the Home and News Release pages.

### **IFMA18 – The 18<sup>th</sup> International Farm Management Congress – March 20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 2011 – New Zealand**

During the Congress **Phil Everest** and his team from the \*New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management (NZIPIM from now on) gave us an enticing insight as to what the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress would offer those who attend. A great deal of interest in attending was expressed during IFMA17. As usual Pre and Post Congress Tours will be on offer and an Accompanying Persons' Tour during the congress.

The **IFMA18 Congress website** is now up and running at [www.ifma18.org](http://www.ifma18.org) – although at this early stage there is still a lot of information to come. However it is **important** that you **express your interest** in receiving information about the congress by registering on the website (click the hyperlink) as the IFMA18 organisers will be the principal providers of information for the congress this time. Future IFMA Newsletters will keep you informed of basic congress developments – but the organisers will be sending up-to-date information as and when it is available. Please **register now** before you forget!! It only takes a few seconds. It is going to be a great congress – Andy Macfarlane told me so!!

More news coming soon –

Best Regards,  
Tony.