

Out the Gate 2026 Programme



Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre

Day One – A sector fit for the future, today



Powered by the B+LNZ
Farmer Council and Kāhui

Programme Wednesday 20 May

9.30am	Opening and welcome Kate Acland - Chair B+LNZ
	Session 1 - What is happening around the world
10.00am	Bonnie Skinner - CEO Sheep Producers Australia - How are sheep producers in Australia performing and looking to the future. What should kiwi producers be aware of or excited about. Future Flock progress.
10.35am	Ray Smith - Director General Ministry for Primary Industries - The state of the sector and the sheep and beef industry. New Zealand's place in the world.
11.10am	Simon Quilty - Global AgriTrends - What are the global markets doing - prices are high now but what is coming down the line? <i>Presented by </i>
12.15pm	Lunch
1.00pm	Mike Casey - Rewire NZ - Electricity on farms in New Zealand. <i>Presented by </i>
1.35pm	Break out Session 1 
2.10pm	Break out Session 2 
2.40pm	Break out Session 3 
3.20pm	Afternoon tea
3.40pm	Political Panel
4.55pm	Wrap up

Break out sessions

ROOM 1 Stream 1 - Diversification

1.35pm Break out Session 1 (Pick one)

Andrew "Pegs" Pegler - Farmlands Flex
Trading electricity - opportunities for sheep and beef farmers.

Presented by 

ROOM 2 Stream 2 - From Whenua to Wealth

Whangaroa Ngaiotonga Trust
"Although man disappears, the land will always remain - Whatungarongaro te tangata, Toitū te Whenua."

2.10pm Break out Session 2 (Pick one)

Dan Steele - Blue Duck Station
Biodiversity as an asset

Phill Kinney/Michelle Perkins - Craigs Investment Partners
Growing wealth outside the farm gate.

Presented by 

ROOM 3 Stream 3 - Future Fit

Prem Maan - Executive Chair Southern Pastures
Dairy beef at Southern Pastures.

2.40pm Break out Session 3 (Pick one)

Craig Carr - Group Managing Directors Carrfields
Arable and seed production.

Conrad Wilkshire - Rural Sector Group Chair REINZ
There has never been a better time to be a sheep and beef farmer.

Will Evans - CEO Cattle Australia
Red Meat Beef sustainability reporting.

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Programme Thursday 21 May

7.30am	Breakfast with Simon Quilty – 30 min breakfast, 30 min facilitated Q&A
8.30am	John Roche – Prime Ministers Chief Science Advisor – Agri science in New Zealand and what’s catching John’s attention around the world
Session 2 – What does the future hold – Science Sessions	
9.05am	Break out Session 1 ↻
9.35am	Break out Session 2 ↻
10.05	Break out Session 3 ↻
10.35am	Wrap up Kate Acland – Chair B+LNZ Alan Thomson – CEO B+LNZ
10.40am	Close of day

Break out sessions

ROOM 1 ☺ Stream 1 – Parasites

9.05am Break out Session 1 (Pick one)

Warwick Catto – Science Strategy Manager Balance Agri-Nutrients
Vigour a new tool in the battle against parasites.

Presented by  **Ballance**
agri-nutrients

ROOM 2 ☺ Stream 2 – Data in sheep and beef farming

Julian Ashby – GM Insights & Strategic Planning B+LNZ
Insights from 75 years of the Economic Survey.

ROOM 3 ☺ Stream 3 – Farming Systems

Sarah Powdrell – Genetics Extension & Operations Manager B+LNZ
nProve tracker – genetic value you can see.

9.35am Break out Session 2 (Pick one)

Dr Andy Greer – Lincoln University and Paul Crick – Los Pastores
Targeted Selective Treatment: reducing drench while maintaining productivity.

Dr Cara Brosnahan – Principal Scientist B+LNZ
Predicting Facial Eczema: powered by farmer data.

Dr Rebecca Hickson – Dairy Beef Development Manager Fonterra
Dairy beef calf rearing – facts and myths from the calf rearing survey.

10.05am Break out Session 3 (Pick one)

Ginny Dodunski – Wormwise Programme Manager
Wormwise in action - what have we learned from four years of farm system change?

Dr Jason Archer – Head of Genetics B+LNZ
Genomics at the population level.

Professor Paul Kenyon – Head of the School of Agriculture and Environment Massey University
Whenua Haumanu