

# Christine Christensen



Born and bred in Winton, Southland, I grew up on a sheep and deer farm before attending Massey University, completing a Bachelor of Applied Science with First Class Honours in Agriculture. I worked as a technical sales agronomist with Cropmark Seeds and am now a Research Officer with the Fertilizer & Lime Research Centre at Massey University. I'm in the final stages of completing my PhD in Soil Science, focussing on nutrient cycling on dairy farms. I am married to James and together we farm a 120 ha hill country property in the Manawatu.

Over the past 10 years I have held several roles within New Zealand Young Farmers. I have been Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of Fitzherbert Club. I have also served on the Taranaki/Manawatu Regional Executive, as Regional Administrator and then as Regional Chairman. During my time as Chairman the region grew to be the largest in NZ, with

excellent communication between all clubs. The Young Farmer Contest has also been a major part of my time in NZYF – I have been a four-time regional finalist, 2005 and 2010 committee member and 2013 convenor. I also convened the very successful 2009 National Conference in Palmerston North.

It is now the right time for me to continue serving New Zealand Young Farmers, as a board member. I am a leader by example, and 'making things happen' is a strength that is well-known by others. I am passionate about the opportunities for NZYF members, about the networks with industries, and most of all, about the future of the organisation. I want to help lead that future.