

BEVAN & WENDY HOPCROFT

WINNERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND EWE HOGGET COMPETITION – 2015

The Chateau on the Park in Christchurch provided this year's venue for the 19th winner of this competition being announced amongst an audience of over 80. At the end of a most enjoyable night Bevan & Wendy Hopcroft, the Composite winners were named this year's winners of the NZ Ewe Hogget Competition, and received prizes to the value of over \$10000, and will host a Field Day later in the year.

The evening was again a very special occasion with people allied to the sheep sector, and passionate sheep farmers practicing excellence and all positive in their outlook for the sheep industry.

The evening commenced with this year's MC Rob Cope-Williams inviting the National Convenor, Stephen Rabbidge to give an overview of this year's competition. Stephen spoke of the finalists visited, and the extremes of country and challenges they all face, and spoke of the optimism he has for the competition to continue to grow.

Special Awards recipients went to –

MerialAncare Flock Performance Award	–	Bevan & Wendy Hopcroft
Ravensdown Large Flock Award	–	Fraser Avery – Bonavaree Farm
Tru-Test Flock Phenotype Award	–	Bevan & Wendy Hopcroft
Young Achiever Award	–	Hamish Williams
Overall Best Quality Wool Award	–	Pete Michelle – presented by the NZ Ewe Hogget Committee

The three National Judges Nic Clarke, Preston Hope and Stewart Morton then spoke about their experiences during the National Judging and the qualities of the competition and competitors, all giving their own slant on their judging experience.

All the Breed Finalists were asked questions and received awards for winning their section, with a slide show in the background displaying pictures of their farms.

Noel Hamilton the Convenor from the Southland West Otago section informed the audience of the history behind the competition and then announced the Overall Winner.

Bevan & Wendy, on accepting the cheque and the Alliance NZ Ewe Hogget Cup, said this award is as meaningful an experience as when they bought their farm. Bevan said how competitive he is and by entering the competition previously he had learnt so much and increased the farm's performance. He encouraged farmers to enter this competition and thanked his fellow finalists and the sponsors.



Bevan & Wendy Hopcroft

The next day they flew out to Rarotonga

