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Food and Agriculture Lecture Series 2012

Mother's eating habits affect her daughters' milk production

Prof Hugh T. Blair

Acting Director, National Research Centre for Growth and Development, New Zealand

Date: Tuesday, 31 July 2012

Time: 5.00 - 6.00 pm

Place: Agriculture Lecture Theatre Room (G.013, Agriculture North Wing)

Parking: Hackett Drive, Entrance No. 2, 3 and 4 (visitor parking)



What makes a healthy start to life? This is the single overarching question and focus of the National Research Centre for Growth and Development (NRCGD), a New Zealand Government-funded Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE). To address this question, NRCGD brings together leading scientists from six partner organisations across New Zealand.

Within NRCGD, Professor Blair is the Site Leader for Massey University and is leading several projects investigating the effects of fetal programming on later life productivity in sheep and cattle and the possibility that these programming effects may be transmitted between generations.

Professor Blair's Public Lecture examines how this applies to sheep, focusing on how a mother's eating habits affect her daughters' milk production.

Professor Hugh Blair received his Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Hons) degree from Massey University in 1976. This was followed by a PhD from the same university in Quantitative Animal Breeding and Genetics in 1981, and a one-year postdoctoral position at Cornell University, New York, in 1981/82.

Professor Blair has been employed at Massey University since 1976 and became Professor and Head of the Department of Animal Science in 1995. Since 1998, he has been the Deputy Head of the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences. His teaching and research expertise is in applied animal genetics and he holds several industry consulting positions.

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