

SHARE FARMER OF THE YEAR CONDITIONS OF ENTRY 2025

To enter this category you must fulfil the following criteria:



CHECK FIRST . . .

1. Hold one of the following positions:
 - a. Sharemilker whose on-farm income is described as a percentage share of a dairy company's milk payment for that farm.
 - b. Contract Milker whose on-farm income is derived from a payment formula based on a 'cents per kilogram of milksolids produced'.
 - c. Equity Farmer who owns up to 50% of the total farm business in which at least one of the entrants is actively involved in the farm business.
 - d. Lessee of an operating dairy farm business who may own up to 50% of the total farm business for which they hold the lease agreement.
2. If an entrant and/or their spouse/partner own more than 50% of any dairy farming business for milk supply, they are deemed to be ineligible to enter any NZDIA category.
3. You must hold a written contract pertaining to your position until the conclusion of the National Final. The contract must be supplied on request of the NZDIA and available for viewing at judging. The information contained therein will remain confidential to the NZDIA.
4. The entrant or entrants, will be the person or persons named in the written contract up to a maximum of two people who must be actively involved in the farm business on which they are basing their entry. Any spouse, partner or third party that is not named in the written contract is therefore not an entrant and will not be named on any awards received.
5. Be a NZ Citizen, NZ Resident or NZ Work Visa holder at the close of entries for this Awards Programme Year proof of which may be required. Meet all other eligibility requirements for entry.
6. You can enter only one category run by the NZDIA in any one year.
7. Entrants will be required to submit annual accounts for the previous season for their sharemilking, contract milking, equity partnership, or lease business.
8. Entrants in their first season of business will be requested to submit a budget and cashflow for the current season in lieu of annual accounts.

KEEP GOING . . .

9. The regional winner is required to hold the Regional Dairy Industry Awards Field Day on the property on which they are basing this entry. You will be required to provide information specified by the NZDIA including KPI's.
10. Consent for entry into this category is required as follows:
 - Sharemilkers and Contract Milkers – Farm
 - Owner and Farm Employer (if not the same person).
 - Equity Farmers - an authorised signatory for the equity partnership other than the entrant or their spouse.
 - Lessee - the Lessor.
11. Judging for this category will require an on-farm visit by NZDIA judges, therefore the farm must have a Health and Safety Policy in place and the entrant is expected to induct judges on arrival to the farm. Confirmation of the policy is required when entering the awards.
12. NZDIA takes precautions to minimise the disease spread in the Mycoplasma Bovis eradication programme. If you are under any notice or restriction from MPI you are still eligible to enter/continue, however you must promptly inform NZDIA.
13. Proof of area of farm including lease land and run-off to be available on request.
14. Current or former judges of the Dairy Manager of the year or Share Farmer of the year categories must have a two year stand down period between judging and entering the Dairy Manager or Share Farmer categories. There is no stand down period for judging the Dairy Trainee category. No entrant is permitted to judge any category in the same year as entering.
15. Past regional winners of the Share Farmer of the Year category (or its predecessor category) are not eligible to enter the current Share Farmer of the Year category or any future Share Farmer of the Year category.
16. Past regional winners of the former Farm Manager of the Year competition, who won as a Contract Milker, are eligible to enter the current Share Farmer of the Year category.
17. Regional winners are required to enter the national final of their respective category. If circumstances dictate a regional winner is unable to fulfil their obligation, that region will not be represented in that category.

ALMOST AT THE FINISH LINE . . .

18. The regional and national winners agree to make themselves available to the national sponsors for promotional purposes.
19. All entrant details will be held by the NZDIA and may be used for promotional purposes by the NZDIA and their national sponsors.
20. Promotional and advertising rights are at the sole discretion of the NZDIA.
21. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
22. Prizes are not transferable or redeemable for cash.
23. No person may use or approve the use of the NZDIA name or logo or the names or logos of its associated categories for the purpose of the promotion of any person, product or service without the written approval of the General Manager.
24. The NZDIA reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to deny entry to a potential entrant, to deem any entrant ineligible, and to terminate an entrant's entry in the category if the entrant's behaviour is deemed to bring, or potentially bring, the Awards into disrepute. "Entrant" includes where awards have already been announced.
25. In the event that an entrant's entry is terminated or the entrant is otherwise disqualified from the Awards, the NZDIA will reallocate Awards and/or Prizes, at its sole discretion.
26. The NZDIA reserves the right to cancel a category in any region and to cancel any section of a category in any region should continuing be deemed unfeasible. All such decisions are made solely at the NZDIA's discretion and no correspondence will be entered into.
27. Entrants, farm employers and farm owners should be aware that information provided may be made public and that it is the responsibility of all parties to ensure their practices and farms comply with all legal requirements including but not limited to: environment, employment, animal welfare, health & safety and district and regional council regulations.