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# Introduction to New Zealand Farm Systems

## Course Outline

The course will provide the student with the knowledge and integrated skills to identify key components of farm systems and to understand major drivers influencing agricultural systems.

**Co-ordinator:** School of Agriculture and Environment (Massey University)

Updated October 2020

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**Availability:** Enrolment will be offered periodically as demand dictates.

**Location:** Online study with a compulsory live online interview.

**Delivery mode:** This course will be delivered through online distance learning.

**Aim:** This course will introduce the participants to the scale and operation of agriculture and its importance within New Zealand, provide a framework for appreciating 'systems', along with an understanding of major drivers that have, and will continue to, shape New Zealand agricultural systems. This course will also highlight how a rural professional might engage and communicate with a farmer and will reinforce that while systems are complex, there are common ways of describing them and that potential changes at a system level have multiple impacts and multiple solutions.

**Entry requirements:** This course is suited to students or professionals holding a Bachelor's degree. There are no formal prerequisites for the Introduction to New Zealand Farm Systems course.

**Workload:** Approximately 48 hours of online study and written assessments and 2 hours of online tutorials and oral assessment.

**Learning outcomes:**

- 1) Describe systems concepts and apply these to a farm system
- 2) Explain key factors that shape farm systems
- 3) Identify issues unique to different farm systems

**Certification:** Successful participants will receive a Massey University 'Certificate of Completion' in Introduction to New Zealand Farm Systems' and have their achievement and 5 credits added to the academic records at Massey University.

**Assessment:**

	<b>Assessment type*</b>	<b>Assessment Title</b>	<b>Weighting (%)</b>	<b>Link to Learning Outcomes</b>
1	Test	Online quiz: Farm systems concepts and components.	40	1, 2, 3
2	Oral/Performance/ Presentation	Interview: Compare and contrast different farm systems and outline further steps in order to better understand the farm systems.	60	1, 2, 3

**Requirements to successfully complete the course:**

Complete the online quizzes and be able to competently describe key aspects of farm systems and how to interact with farmers.

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**Credit to other tertiary qualifications:**

The 'Certificate of Completion' is a recognised University achievement. A student may wish to have the work completed on this course credited towards a postgraduate course in Agriculture offered by Massey University. This can be achieved by enrolling in the appropriate course and applying for credit to the Course Co-ordinator for the work completed in this short course.

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