

Primary Growth Partnership: Dairy Post - Farm Gate Programme Executive Summary (July - September 2011)

The major agreements are now in place and appointment of key people is continuing. However, contracting has taken longer than desired. Each of the theme areas are continuing to make progress and a number of reviews are planned to ensure that the programme is continuing to focus on delivery of knowledge that will support consumers and industry.

The Master Research Agreement between Fonterra and Massey University which hosts the Riddet Institute has been finalised and executed.

The Fonterra-ZESPRI Term Sheet that facilitates the Fonterra-ZESPRI Agreement has been completed and this will allow the kiwifruit-related objectives to commence.

A robust scientific review process is important to ensure the programme will deliver knowledge that is relevant to both consumers and industry. Meetings and workshops have been held for "Creating and Managing Food Structures" to refine, and prioritize the key projects. These meetings have involved a number of external experts (both from NZ and internationally) who are potential principal investigators for the programme.

Agreement between Massey and Auckland Universities has been reached for the "Transforming Manufacturing and Supply Chains" theme resulting in the start of projects in the area. Detailed work plans have been agreed to guide the work.

Advertising for the recruitment of a Chair (Professor) in Nutrition is progressing, with a new re-worked advertisement placed on various scientific websites, and within universities working with the Riddet Institute.

Planning for an expert "Robust Health and Wellness Benefits" panel is underway, and international experts have been contacted. Contracting of these experts needs to occur before dates can be confirmed – likely timing will be December 2011.