



Macaulay Land Use Research Institute Seminar

Friday 28 May

Prof. Henrik Moller

Centre for Study of Agriculture Food & Environment, University of Otago, New Zealand

Agricultural intensification, deregulation and neoliberalism in New Zealand: lessons for sustainable land use and biodiversity conservation in Europe?

Accelerating agricultural intensification in a deregulated and neoliberal political landscape threatens biodiversity conservation and the sustainability of efficient food production in New Zealand. Organic and Integrated Management certification, together with food market accreditation schemes like GlobalGap, are expected to entice farmers to provide environmental care for the public good. This seminar will draw on evidence from the Agriculture Research Group On Sustainability, a transdisciplinary longitudinal study of 105 organic, Integrated Management and conventional farms spread across a range of farming intensities in New Zealand (.argos.org.nz), to consider the following questions: Do market accreditation schemes really alter what happens on New Zealand farms? Can European consumers trust that by buying New Zealand produce they will promote biodiversity and land care, both in New Zealand and in Europe? What are the main opportunities for collaborative research amongst UK and New Zealand scientists, economists and sociologists for each country to promote more sustainable food production to feed a hungry world?

Professor Henrik Moller has led the environment objective of New Zealand's Agricultural Research Group on Sustainability for the past 6 years. Henrik is a population and community ecologist who has a special interest in applying social-ecological resilience thinking to guide sustainable agriculture and wild food gathering. He will be visiting Aberdeen from 28 May until 11 June 2010 and would welcome discussion on potential NZ-UK research collaborations. He can be contacted at .moller@otago.ac.nz or via Skype on 'henrikstable' to set up a meeting.

2pm in Macaulay Suite B

All welcome

**For further information please contact Jenna Gray: j.gray@macaulay.ac.uk Tel 01224 395065
The Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen, AB15 8QH
www.macaulay.ac.uk**