



# Honorary Doctorate Degree (Science) honoris causa Philip Beatson

Philip Beatson's strong commitment to the science of genetics and animal breeding has led to success in the commercial world, but he has always maintained a close contact with Lincoln University.

As Research and Development Manager for CRV Ltd he held the view that application of genetics enables ongoing and socially-acceptable means of improving productivity. His vision of dairy cows living longer, having better functional traits with higher milk yields and ability to get back in calf on an annual basis led to him developing the NZ Merit Index.

His innovative thinking has led to numerous CRV initiatives addressing climate change and sustainability. He recognised the relationship between milk urea nitrogen concentration and urinary nitrogen output and years of on-going research with industry partners, including Lincoln University, has led to the availability of 'LowN' genetics.

His knowledge of sheep breeding technologies enabled CRV to breed bulls whose offspring are more facial eczema tolerant, and he has developed teams of bulls that will breed polled offspring.

He recently led CRV cooperation with Livestock Improvement Corporation to identify low methane emitting young bulls with the aim of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from dairy cattle.

He graduated Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Honours) from Lincoln in 1974 and returned in 1980 holding the position of Lecturer in Animal Breeding from 1981 to 1997.

In this role he was a member of a team that constructed a widely adopted breeding index, which increased lean growth in lambs; he designed the genetic engine for Flockline, a national database holding sheep performance records; he was instrumental in establishing selected and 'control' lines in the University's Coopworth flock and is now mentoring a Lincoln University group aiming to sequence the genome of this unique genetic resource.

He is a former Chair of the Lincoln Old Students' Association and has significant input into a CRV-funded Lincoln PhD programme investigating aspects of the 'LowN' genotype.

**Philip Robert Beatson is a worthy recipient of the Honorary Doctorate Degree (Science).**

Professor Grant Edwards  
Vice-Chancellor

Bruce Gemmell  
Chancellor