



RAS Rural Ambassador Award 2026

Entry Form

Entries close 31 March 2026

Full name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: 0 _____ Mobile: 02 _____

Email: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Occupation: _____

I am a member of the _____ A&P Association/Society

Declaration:

I am a New Zealand resident and I declare the above details are correct. I have enclosed my CV, other relevant details and have covered points 3. iv and 4. of the entry conditions. I understand the Award organisers and judges will view these and I give my permission for the information to be used for this Award. I also understand that the information may be used for advertising and promotional purposes should I become a winning Regional Finalist for the Award. I confirm I am over 20 and under 30 years of age as of the 1 May 2026.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Return this form, along with CV, covering letter and photo to: enquiries@ras.org.nz by 31 March 2026.

Checklist

- Form signed and emailed
- CV emailed
- Covering letter emailed
- Photo emailed (jpeg)

See overleaf for conditions of entry. If you require further information on the Award, please contact the RAS Head Office – E: enquiries@ras.org.nz | M: 022 567 7551

Showcasing Rural Excellence

Conditions of Entry:

1. Entrants must be New Zealand residents over 20 & under 30 years of age as of 1 May 2026.
2. Entrants must have a showing background in some way – exhibitor/steward/volunteer/committee member and be a current financial member of an A&P Association. (If not a member contact your local A&P Association and become one). This is mandatory to be accepted for this Award.
3. Entrants must supply a full resume/CV outlining the following:
 - i) Educational background and achievements.
 - ii) Career and industry achievements to date.
 - iii) Personal, career and industry goals and objectives.
 - iv) Showing Background.
 - v) Community involvement, Interests, sports and hobbies.
 - vi) A covering letter outlining why the entrant considers they are worthy of the award.
 - vii) A recent photo.
4. Entrants will be judged initially within their region. Six regional winners become finalists for the award. See RAS website www.ras.org.nz for delineation of District boundaries.
5. Entrants must be prepared to attend a regional panel interview at a time and date set by the organisers. The regional panel interviews will be held in April/May 2025 at locations that suit the majority of entrants. Depending on the circumstances at the time, the use of Zoom as an interview forum may be considered. However, some travel at the entrant's cost may be required.
6. The RAS reserves the right to re-run this competition if the entry numbers are low.
7. Region finalists should be prepared to attend a panel interview via ZOOM in May 2026 and attend the RAS Conference in Christchurch 26-28 June 2026. Finalists are expected to attend all sessions and meetings at the conference on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 June, including dinner the night of the final – Saturday 27 June 2026. On the afternoon of 27 June, finalists will be required to make a 2-3-minute speech/presentation as part of their finals interview process, with Awards being presented at the evening's dinner. Assistance with accommodation for at least one night for finalist (may be on a share basis with other finalists) and air flights, if applicable, will be provided. Any other expenses will be at the sole cost of the finalist.
8. The regional and final interview may cover any of the following:
 - i) Knowledge of their particular industry and achievements.
 - ii) Future goals, long term view of their industry, future objectives.
 - iii) Communication and social skills, along with general knowledge.
 - iv) Showing background and ambitions in this field.
 - v) Interests, hobbies and community involvement/awareness.
 - vi) Some knowledge of the RAS movement/NZ Young Farmers.
9. The overall winner is expected to undertake ambassadorial duties at key events e.g. RAS Conference, Royal A&P Show and/or Royal Events and/or local shows in their District.
10. The entrant gives permission for all of the information submitted by them as part of their entry to be used by the organisers for the purposes of this Award and this information may be used for advertising/promotional purposes should the entrant become a finalist/winner.
11. All finalists will be notified by email. Any information submitted by entrants becomes the property of the organiser and will not be returned.
12. All prizes are to be accepted as given and are not redeemable for cash or other products. Regional winners will receive a RAS Medal of Excellence and free non-transferable 2026 conference registration. The overall winner of the RAS Rural Ambassador will receive RAS monogrammed clothing, a RAS Gold Medal, and a cash prize.
13. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
14. Regional finalists will be invited on to their District Council and are expected to represent their District and support shows in their area in the 2026/27 season.
15. National Winner will be invited on to the RAS Executive as a co-opted member for twelve (12) months – July 2026 to June 2027. This is in addition to the six elected members of the RAS Executive, but they will have full voting rights.
16. By entering this competition, you acknowledge that a COVID environment is hard to predict and circumstances may change very quickly which prevents this competition from progressing according to the conditions noted.
17. The entrant agrees to abide by the rules of the competition as outlined above.