

# East of England Agricultural Society



## Farms Business Awards 2010

**ENTRIES CLOSE**  
Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

**JUDGING BEGINS WEEK COMMENCING**  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010

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# EAST OF ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

## Farms Business Awards 2010

### FOREWORD

The Chairman and Members of Council of the East of England Agricultural Society take pleasure in inviting competitors to enter their farm(s) in the 2010 Farms Business Awards.

The main aims of the Farm Business Awards are to recognise and celebrate the achievements and skills of local Farm Businesses.

Again offering **FREE ENTRY** to the competition the Society considers the Farm Business Awards to be a prestigious event and feel that it is important that exhibitors understand that this is not a "Tidy Farm" competition.

Judges, appointed by the Society, will inspect farms entered in the Competition in accordance with a timetable to be drawn up and circulated after the closing date. Judging will take place during week commencing Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

Judges are asked to judge the whole farm as they see it on the day, having regard to standards of cropping and livestock husbandry. They should also take into account the suitability of the chosen farming system to the basic resources in land type(s), buildings and other features such as availability of irrigation. Entrants will also be questioned closely on their cropping and stocking policy. Set-aside will, naturally, be recognised as an acceptable farming practice.

Entrants will also be questioned on their utilisation of full-time, part-time, pool or contract labour and their use of pool or co-operative machinery and equipment. It will be for the entrants to make out their case for their particular system of farming having regards to modern practice and the need to adopt the best possible farming system for the profitable utilisation of the available resources.

When considering the Countryside Management Award, the Judges will seek to recognise farmers who incorporate conservation as part of their farm businesses, having regard to the maintenance and improvement of wildlife and landscape features and farming practice which provides environmental benefits.

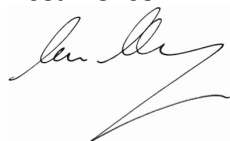
The Special Enterprise Awards are intended to acknowledge new and innovative approaches to maximising the income from a particular holding. It is now necessary for many farmers to seek out new ways of marketing produce, i.e., added value, farm shops, pick your own, etc., or introduce ancillary businesses, ie, caravan and camping sites, livery stables, craft workshops, etc., to enhance or supplement the income derived from their basic farming enterprise. Entrants are asked to specify the activity they wish to be considered for this Award on their entry form.

The category for Best First Time Entrant will apply to competitors entering farms that they have not entered in the past or have not been entered for 10 years or more.

Entrants are reminded that the application for the awards, still includes a complementary ticket to the Farm Business Awards Dinner, which is held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at the East of England Showground in the Huntingdon Suite. Additional tickets, priced at £20 each (inclusive of VAT, pre-dinner drinks and table wines) are available for partners, fellow directors, farm managers, and friends.

We are all very much looking forward to our Awards this year and I look forward to receiving your completed entry form

Best wishes



Andrew Mercer  
Chief Executive Officer

# **FARM BUSINESS AWARDS**

## **CLASS AWARDS**

This is the main competition which applicants are to be judged, (details are on page 5 titled schedule of marks)

The winner of each class will receive a £50.00 cash award, and will also receive certificates. The Reserve in each Class will receive certificates.

## **COUNTRYSIDE MANAGEMENT CLASS AWARD**

This section is optional but we like to encourage farms to detail their environmental practices, (details are on page 6 titled schedule of marks)

A certificate together with a tree will be awarded to the farm making the best contribution to Conservation, having regard to good farm management in each Class.

## **SPECIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD**

Farms are also encouraged to enter the above section and are invited to acknowledge new and innovative approaches to maximising the income of a particular holding, i.e. farm shops, pick your own, livery stables, workshops etc.

A Certificate and will be awarded to each special enterprise winner

## **SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD**

The winner of the Supreme Championship Awards will receive £250.00 cash award, and will also receive a Perpetual Challenge Trophy awarded by the East of England Agricultural Society

## **SUPREME COUNTRYSIDE MANAGEMENT AWARDS**

The Winner will receive a Perpetual Trophy, also the Winner and Reserve will each receive certificates.





## COMPETITION RULES

1. Details of membership and membership application forms are available from the Chief Executive. Competitors do not have to be members of the East of England Agricultural Society.
2. Farms entered, or part of a farm entered, must be within the counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire and/or a fifty mile radius of the East of England Showground. If any part of the farm is within the region then the whole farm must be entered. A farmer residing in the region may not enter a farm that is wholly outside the boundary. Competitors must enter all land occupied within the region where this is farmed as one unit. Any land let under leasing shall not be included in the Competitor's total acreage - it is to form part of the farm to which it is leased.
3. Where competitors are connected with more than one farm or holding, which is farmed as a separate company or unit, each holding or farm may be entered separately or as one unit, if geographically adjacent. Where this applies, it is not necessary that all farms are entered. However, the appropriate sections of the entry form must be completed to give Judges an overall picture of the business and management structure related to the farm entered.
4. In the event of a farm winning the Supreme Championship for the third time in a period of ten years, including the year of the Competition, the entrant will be awarded a "Special Trophy" to record the achievement. The entrant will also be asked to stand down from entering the Competition for a period of at least three years.
5. Judges are appointed by the Society and the inspection of farms will take place during the week commencing Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010. A Steward, appointed by the Society, will accompany the Judges.
6. The Judges will be asked to make the awards in accordance with the Foreword and Schedule of Marks.
7. No information regarding marks or positions, other than winner or reserve in each class, can be given to competitors. However, the Society will endeavour to send competitors copies of the Judges' comments on their farm after the results have been published.
8. Competitors are required to provide with their entry form a farm map, Ordnance Survey or similar, covering the area of the farm entered and, if available, a plan showing the location of the farm.
9. All questions of the eligibility of a competitor or any dispute arising out of the competition shall be dealt with by the Council of the Society whose decision shall be final.
10. Farm Business Awards Dinner. All competitors are invited to a Dinner at The East of England Showground, Peterborough with the Judges, Farms Committee and Stewards on the evening of Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010. THE COST OF ONE DINNER TICKET IS INCLUDED WITH THE APPLICATION.  
  
Additional tickets, for partners, fellow directors, farm managers or friends, will be available at a cost of £20.00 each to include pre-Dinner drinks and table wines.
11. Compliance with Conditions. All competitors on entering the competition agree to abide by the Competition Conditions set out previously and to the Articles of Association, By-Laws and Regulations of the East of England Agricultural Society, in so far as they apply to the Farms Competition (a copy of the Articles of Association, By-Laws and Regulations can be obtained from the Chief Executive upon request).

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