



written by **SARA CARBERY**



photograph by **GABRIELLE DRUMMOND**

AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE

GETTING AHEAD WITH RURAL BUSINESS

JOSH MCKAY'S ADVICE TO ANYONE CONSIDERING A CAREER IN AGRICULTURE IS: APPLY FOR AS MANY SCHOLARSHIPS AS YOU CAN. JOSH RECEIVED A BEEF + LAMB NEW ZEALAND SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE DURATION OF HIS BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE (UP TO \$5000 PER YEAR), SOMETHING HE IS IMMENSELY GRATEFUL FOR.

"Both Massey and Lincoln have scholarship databases where you can search and apply for scholarships," he says.

"Believe me they take the pressure off your finances and will save you thousands in the long run!"

Josh grew up in East Taratahi, next to his grandfather's 120-hectare property, and attended Rathkeale College in Masterton.

After studying English, statistics, geography, agriculture and biology in his final year, Josh enrolled at Lincoln University to study Agricultural Commerce.

"I guess the opportunity to be a part of the sector that is the backbone of the economy, lots of job opportunities when you finish and the ability to work with or alongside the best rural people in the world fuelled my passion for study towards the degree."

Josh describes his time at Lincoln as the best years of his life, to date.

"It is a self-motivating time in your life whereby everything is up to you, and no one but you. If you want to drink beer every night you can. If you want to study every night you can."

"But in fairness you need to know when to knuckle down, lay off the beer and do some study for tests, assignments



JOSH TALKS WITH A CLIENT ABOUT CREFIFLEX'S LATEST INTEREST RATES.

or exams. I guess it's all a balancing act – a fun, entertaining one!"

While at Lincoln, Josh and the rest of the students in the Commerce faculty received an email asking if anyone was interested in applying for a PMSA (Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia) to study in Indonesia.

"I thought this sounds a bit of alright, chucked my CV in and got accepted. I was lucky enough to be a part of a group of 20 from New Zealand to head to Indonesia for six weeks and learn about foreign agribusiness and trade!"

Josh is currently working in the lower North Island based out of Greytown, as a finance specialist for Crediflex New Zealand. His job involves organising finance and smart lending solutions for business growth and success.

Ten years down the track, Josh (21) would like to own and run a small finishing farm while continuing to work in the rural business finance and solutions sector.



EVERY YEAR BEEF + LAMB NEW ZEALAND SUPPORTS 30 TERTIARY STUDENTS COMPLETING AGRICULTURAL QUALIFICATIONS. THEIR ANNUAL LEADERSHIP, SCHOOLS AND FARM TRAINEE PROGRAMMES ALSO DIRECTLY BENEFIT APPROXIMATELY 4500 INDUSTRY PEOPLE. MORE THAN 34,000 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ALSO ATTEND AGRICULTURAL CAREER INFORMATION EVENTS AND AGRIBUSINESS CURRICULUM IS BEING DEVELOPED FOR MANY MORE SCHOOLS BY BEEF + LAMB NEW ZEALAND AND ITS PARTNERS.

KEY FACTS



- **JOSH MCKAY** HAS A BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE FROM LINCOLN UNIVERSITY.
- IN YEAR 13, HE STUDIED ENGLISH, STATISTICS, GEOGRAPHY, AGRICULTURE AND BIOLOGY.
- **JOSH** RECEIVED AN ANNUAL \$5000 SCHOLARSHIP FROM BEEF+LAMB NEW ZEALAND FOR THE DURATION OF HIS STUDY.



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For more information on scholarships offered by Beef + Lamb New Zealand, visit www.beeflambnz.com/scholarships