



Best Practice in agricultural aviation

PROGRESS

REGIONAL MEETINGS

OUTCOMES

They spoke – we listened

The main issues that the meetings identified were:

- “Lifestylers”
- Public perception
- Regulations around waterways/water bodies
- Notification
- Product
- Client facilities

You spoke – we listened

Issues you identified were:

- NZAAA Website due overhaul
- NZAAA submitting to Council Plans
- Pattern Testing fixes
- Wind Monitoring Masts
- AIRCARE™ Compliance costs too high
- Ag Industry needs positive publicity

You spoke – we listened

- Two television appearances
- Four newspaper articles
- Federated Farmers National Conference
- Federated Farmers Newsletters
- Open offer to address Federated Farmers Regional Meetings
- FMG Risk



NZAAA

Aviation in Agriculture

The past – the future



The Ag Aviation Industry

100 Businesses

➤ 104 aeroplanes

➤ 210 helicopters

➤ 340 pilots

➤ 700,000 tonnes of fertiliser including lime

➤ 70,000,000 litres agrichemicals

The Past



**158 Ag Pilots have lost their
lives whilst providing
services to NZ Landowners**

The Past

Ag Aviation:

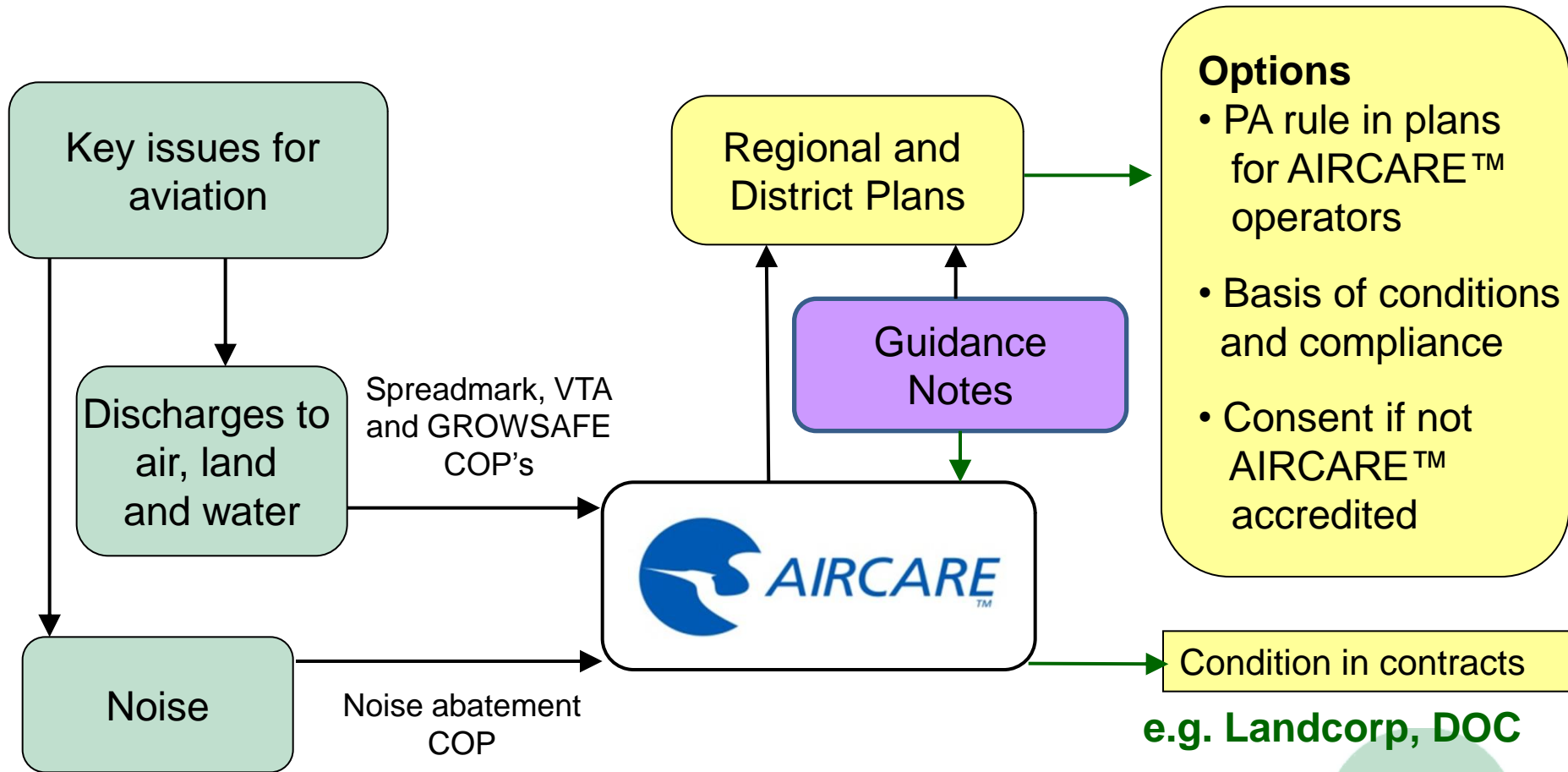
- Attracted cowboys
- Didn't care a toss for the environment
- Accepted its high accident rate as inevitable
- Made do with substandard or no airstrip facilities

NZAAA Mission Statement

NZAAA exists to ensure the sustainability of Agricultural Aviation in NZ by:

- Developing and advocating best practice in both flight safety and environmental safety
- Promoting professionalism and profitable business
- Facilitating adoption of best practice programmes by members and stakeholders

AIRCARE™ and potential Plan linkages



WHY?

Partnership

- Federated Farmers and NZAAA have embarked on a partnership
- Civil Aviation Rule 137 – first outcome

We need your help with other issues

Regional Meetings - Issues

The main issues that were identified were:

- “Lifestylers”
- Public perception
- Regulations around waterways/water bodies
- Notification
- Product
- Client facilities

Notification

CLARITY of Responsibilities

Farmers not understanding their responsibilities under Regional Council rules

Farmers not getting on with their neighbours

Notification

Typically complaints don't go to landowners

Farmers need to understand when to notify, who to notify and whose responsibility it is

NZAAA encourages pilots to get written evidence from the landowner that notification requirements have been met

SPRAY PLAN CLIENT TO COMPLETE *Please tick the appropriate boxes to acknowledge that you have:*

- Identified hazards to Ground Crew
- Received a safety briefing
- Identified hazards to the pilot
- Identified application/work area(s)
- Identified sensitive boundaries/adjacent areas
- Discussed chemical requirements
- Notified affected neighbours
- Obtained any necessary consents/permits

Landowner Name.....

Signature.....

Environment BOP

Nature of applicator	Aerial
Certain agrichemicals	
Comply with manufacturers instructions	
Drift beyond the boundary	f) The applicator must notify Environment Bay of Plenty immediately in the event of any discharge of agrichemical beyond the boundary of the subject property.
Status of NZS8409	c) Comply with 8409:1999
Qualifications or training	b) The applicator must hold a minimum of a: (i) Pilot Chemical Rating (CAA) (aerial application) and; (ii) GROWSAFE® Pilots Agrichemical Rating Certificate or equivalent.
Notification	Owner/occupier to notify any occupier of property within 200m of the application, no earlier than 20 days or later than 12 hours before agrichemical use

Hawkes Bay

Qualifications or training	<p>c) i) <i>Commercial users</i> – as set out in Schedule XI (e.g. GROWSAFE Introductory Certificate)</p> <p>ii) <i>Contractors</i> – be <i>Registered Chemical Applicators</i></p> <p>iii) <i>Employee of contractors</i> – as set out in Schedule XI(e.g. GROWSAFE Introductory Certificate)</p> <p>d) <i>Pilots</i> – GROWSAFE® <i>Pilots Agrichemical Rating Certificate</i></p>
Notification	<p>h) Notification must happen where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On private land within 50 me of an adjacent property where agrichemical applications occur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more then 2 times a year - where spray drift may occur <p>by preparing a property spray plan to be provided to adjacent owners or HBRC on request.</p> <p>h iv) Where bee keeping may be affected notify affected parties.</p>
Spray Plan	<p>h i) Spray plan as in 8409 App M4 as notification for h)</p>

Tasman

Qualifications or training	<p>e) Contractors must have a GROWSAFE® Registered Chemical Applicators Certificate <i>or similar</i> or under supervisions of person with those qualifications.</p> <p>j) i) a) When wind condition are such that drift may occur to adjoining properties then GROWSAFE® Standard Certificate is required.</p>
Notification	<p>h) Must notify adjoining property within 30 metres of point of discharge (other than those in g)) when wind conditions are such that drift may occur to adjoining properties.</p> <p>List of matters specified, including time given in the rule.</p>
Spray Plan	Notification requirements specify information to be made available
Signage	j) i) c) When likely to be drift signs must be on roads adjacent.

Product

Boutique blends

Fertiliser physical property is the main issue

Fertmark and Spreadmark

We cannot control the flight path of dust so cannot keep fertiliser out of water

Product

Three pilots fined

One planner said, “If the fertiliser companies want to be around in 30 years time they better start cleaning their act up now.”

It's time farmers asked themselves if they can do without aerial topdressing

Product

The product needs to change –
shareholders' call

Solution:

Shareholders to require Fertmark to
cover fertiliser physical property

Client Facilities

Department of Labour
TE TĀHĀ MAHI



**SAFETY GUIDELINE
FARM AIRSTRIPS AND
ASSOCIATED FERTILISER
CARTAGE, STORAGE AND
APPLICATION**

**ble
Fund**
d Forestry
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following organisations and personnel contributed to the preparation and development of this guideline.

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- Federated Farmers of New Zealand Inc.
- The Agricultural Health and Safety Council
- New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association (NZAAA) and members
- Rural Women
- Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand (CAA) staff
- Department of Labour health and safety staff
- Northern Lime Millers Association
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry



Client Facilities

THE PAST

Pilots have tolerated substandard facilities

- Dangerous airstrips
- Rough airstrips
- Leaking bins
- No bin at all

THE FUTURE

Pilots will no longer tolerate substandard facilities

Client Facilities

Fonterra requires all-weather roads

Shearers require comfortable quarters

Yet topdressers often get something else

Client Facilities

The topdressing industry wants to deliver a *quality job in safety* but it can't do that when working off the ground

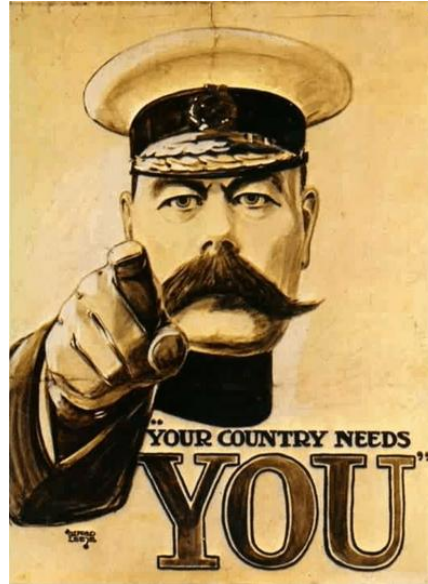
Lumps of turf, rocks and rubbish pose a threat to the pilot – as well as producing a poor job

Client Facilities

Many existing bins were built in the mid 1970's and haven't seen maintenance since.
Many are too small

These issues are costing your industry

Airstrip issues rest with



Professional pilots need to take ownership

Client Facilities

Electric Fence feeder wires



Client Facilities



Client Facilities



WIRE STRIKE



WIRE STRIKE is the greatest danger to helicopter pilots, causing the most fatal accidents each year.
Electric Fence Wires strung across gullies and copper telephone wires are invisible to see, especially with spray on the bubble and sun in the eyes.
Please advise pilots of all wires and remove unnecessary electric fence wires.
Keep electric fence wires to ground level or if the wires must be strung across gullies, positively mark them every five metres as to be seen clearly from the air.
Please Think carefully before helicopters arrive for Ag Operations as numerous wires have been found that the pilot was not advised about.

TAKE ACTION NOW BEFORE AN ACCIDENT OCCURS!

GH

merino

CAA's HSE Unit letter to Federated Farmers 25.10.11

trained to look for poles as a clue. Often in the case of feeder wires, once the wire leaves the proximity of a structure and becomes elevated there is no such clue that a wire lies ahead.

- At least one wire manufacturer is now colouring its wire green. That of course camouflages the wire even better.

A requirement of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (the Act), is that

- Employers are required to take all practicable steps to provide a safe working environment, and
- Principals are required to take all practicable steps to ensure that no employee of a contractor, or if an individual, no contractor is harmed while doing work that the contractor was engaged to do.

It is clearly not safe to run wires across gullies then require pilots to carry out low level operations over that property. We believe that this is an obvious and clear breach of the requirements of the Act.

Wire strikes can kill pilots. A pilot in Gisborne has hit and fortunately survived two strikes with feeder wires. One was 60' above the ground, the other was 400'.

I ask that you inform your member farmers of the following:

Where it is proposed that any wire is to cross a gully or other open area, the wire is to:

- a) Follow a fence line with the wire tied down onto the fence it is following so that the wire follows the contour of the fence, or
 - b) If a fence is not available to tie the wire down to, find a different method, for example by using poles, but in that case the wire should be no more than at normal pole height.
- It follows that clear identification of the wire is given to the pilot.

Your attention to this important and concerning matter is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



Ed Randell
Manager, Health and Safety Unit
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand



The Past



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Spreading the word

Ag Aviation wants to work in partnership with Federated Farmers to address the issues that most threaten our mutual sustainability

- Notification
- Fertiliser physical properties
- Poor farmer buy-in to pilot safety (Safety Guideline Farm Airstrips and associated fertiliser cartage, storage and application and wires)

End of Fed Farmers Address

Your concerns are being addressed

NZAAA Cttee can't do it alone

NZAAA is empowering YOU to take ownership

Questions?