Avid outdoorsman, forester and student remembered
Richard Lambertus (Bert) Willemse

Bert Willemse, who was the recipient of the NZIF Frank Hutchinson post-graduate award in 2000, died in a mountaineering accident in Mount Cook National Park on January 21 at age 39.

A native of Oamaru, Bert began his forestry career in 1978 as a Woodsman with the New Zealand Forest Service, working in Otago and Southland. From 1984 to 1986 he worked as a self-employed forestry contractor in Southland, and then joined Hickson Timber in Auckland, eventually becoming the Northland Branch Manager of the company. In 1992 he returned to Canterbury as the General Manager of Profarm Supplies.

In 1995 Bert enrolled in the BCom (Forestry) at Lincoln University as a part-time student. He left Profarm in mid-1997 to study full-time. Bert quickly established himself as a top student, and after completing his undergraduate degree, continued into a Master's degree, combining his interests in forestry, finance and rural valuation. At the time of his death, Bert was beginning his thesis research looking at factors that are important in determining what leads people to invest in forestry.

While at Lincoln University, Bert was an active member of Toastmasters and was a representative for post-graduate students on campus. He was a member of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry, the Farm Forestry Association and Hoo Hoo International. He was also active as an assistant coach in junior cricket and managed the Cashmere Wanderers Junior Soccer Club. Bert was a private pilot and a member of the Mid-Canterbury Aero Club.

Bert was perhaps most of all an avid outdoorsman. He was an active mountaineer and a member of the Canterbury Mountaineering Club, spending many weekends away in the Southern Alps.

He will be sadly missed by family, friends and colleagues.

Hugh Bigsby

Indicative MAF Log Prices

The following log prices are reported by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for the December Quarter 2000.

MAF notes: Returns to small growers may be lower than those recorded here owing to scale and buyers' margins. These log prices are historical and indicative only, and may not correspond to actual prices paid, or grades used, in market transactions. The prices are subject to changes when further data becomes available. The sources for this information are Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry industry contacts.