

Tabled at Hearing 21/05/2013

Proposed Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan Hearing

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The intention is not to condemn Overseer out of hand but to draw attention to the anomalies as we see them for the arable producer. We fully understand the need for good, sustainable agricultural practices and the need to be able to quantify them, and are aware that alternatives imposed elsewhere would be even more disadvantageous. However, as with almost all agricultural programmes, the basis of the model is in livestock production, and arable production simply does not fit comfortably within this mould.

Agronomy

- ❖ Cereals, grasses & maize – timings of nitrogen uptake well known and yield targeted
- ❖ Many other crops have well researched nitrogen application

Technology

- ❖ Variable rate irrigation
- ❖ Variable rate nitrogen application
- ❖ GPS control and auto shut-down on sprayer & spreader

Monitoring & Measuring

- ❖ Deep soil N testing
- ❖ Intensive soil testing with GPS sites
- ❖ Soil moisture neutron probes
- ❖ Yield mapping

Profitability

- ❖ Crop yield, including silage
- ❖ Margins
- ❖ Commodities & specialist seeds
- ❖ Discretionary spending