



DEVON WINNER FOR FARMWEB'S MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2009



Photo shows:

Ken Isherwood, Operations Director of FarmWeb Ltd presenting the award to Kirsten Self of Ottery Insurance Services

When she left school and began milking more than 220 cows on a nearby farm, Kirsten Self never imagined that she would be receiving a national award for professionalism and good business practice in the insurance industry.

Kirsten, who is a senior adviser at

Ottery Insurance Services in Ottery St Mary, Devon was chosen from more than 80 brokers across England, Scotland and Wales as FarmWeb's Member of the Year. FarmWeb is the UK's largest national network of specialist agricultural insurance brokers and provides insurance services to the farming industry.

She was presented with her award by Ken Isherwood, FarmWeb's Operations Director. Mr Isherwood said: "Kirsten is an extremely worthy winner. This award is voted for by our underwriters who all commented on her professionalism, excellent communication skills, her attention to detail and her proficiency with 'Connect', our IT system".

Although not from a farming family, her interest in agriculture began as a teenager, when Miss Self helped on a farm in East Budleigh, milking 220 cows. Her interest was such that she went on to study agriculture at Bicton College. Her career in the insurance sector began 24 years ago, but her links with rural life and farming came to fore when she began work as a farm specialist at Ottery Insurance Services. "Farming is very much at the top of my agenda I've always found it fascinating and I thoroughly enjoy helping farmers. Having had an interest in agriculture for most of my life, I have hands on knowledge which certainly helps with what is a complex and varied industry". Her reaction on receiving the award? "I am both surprised and delighted to have been recognised by the industry", she said.

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