

Thursday February 28 2008

NORWAY'S Asmund Kringeland, 25, races through the fleece to a respectable finish at New Zealand's premier shearing competition today.

Kringeland has been shearing in New Zealand for the last three months and competed in the Golden Shears in Masterton today coming 25th out of a field of 65 in the Intermediate Shearing Event.

"It was a great experience. I've been to other competitions but nothing compares to this, there's definitely something special," he said.

Kringeland said he was working with New Zealand shearers Jason and Sam Winn in Norway and they invited him to come downunder for a season.

"So it's my first time out here. I just love it," he said.

Kringeland said he worked around the Christchurch area in New Zealand's South Island.

The Golden Shears runs from Thursday February 28 to Saturday March 1 and sees competitors from New Zealand, Norway, Australia, the UK, Ireland, Canada, and South Africa battle for the top titles.

It is a favourite fixture of the New Zealand rural calendar in a country whose national identity is strongly linked to its rural industries, especially wool growing.

For a full programme and live video action see www.goldenshears.co.nz.

For free images or further information contact the Golden Shears Media Group at goldenshears@pete.co.nz or phone 0064 21 488 137 or 0064 27 5788 137.