

THE AHUWHENUA TROPHY ROUND UP

NEWS FROM THE 2012 COMPETITION TEAM
MARCH 2012

Tēnā koutou katoa

»» Our Judges

Once again we've had a healthy number of entrants in this year's competition and the standard is high. Past entrants say that the excellent feedback and advice they get from our first rate judges is a major drawcard.

There are two judging panels, each with four members. The first will begin visiting all entrants' properties in order to choose the three finalists, from 5 March. Our three finalists will be announced around the middle of March.

The second panel, which has the difficult task of choosing the winner of the Ahuwhenua Trophy, will be visiting the finalist's farms between 25 April and 10 May.

The supreme winner will be announced at the Gala Awards dinner to be held at the SKYCITY Convention Centre in Auckland on Friday 8 June.

Past winners of both Ahuwhenua trophies say that the judging process enabled them to identify what they were doing well and how they could improve their operation and that they benefitted greatly from what is essentially an outside audit by experienced and highly qualified judges.

BNZ
MĀORI
EXCELLENCE
IN FARMING AWARD 2012
DAIRY



Ahuwhenua
Field Days

THURSDAY »» 26 APRIL
THURSDAY »» 3 MAY
THURSDAY »» 10 MAY



FINALIST JUDGES



DOUG LEEDER
CHIEF JUDGE

Once again we are fortunate to have the services of Bay of Plenty dairy farmer Doug Leeder as our Chief Judge. Doug is a former Chair of the "industry good" organisation, Dairy InSight and has been Chief Judge of the Ahuwhenua competition since the Ahuwhenua Trophy for Excellence in dairy farming was re-introduced in 2006.

He has farmed in Eastern Bay of Plenty since 1981 and now runs a 680 cow operation near Opotiki. He has a strong interest in governance and, in the last 15 years, has used his considerable skill and experience in this area within the dairy industry. Doug has also served on several health sector crown entities.



STEPHEN VEITCH

BNZ SENIOR PARTNER, EAST WAIKATO

Stephen Veitch has 13 years banking and finance experience in Hawkes Bay, South Waikato, Central Plateau and Bay of Plenty areas. Stephen grew up in Dannevirke, southern Hawkes Bay, before attending

Massey University. More recently he was based in Wellington where he worked in the areas of commercial property investment and development.

As BNZ's Senior Partner for East Waikato, Stephen Veitch looks after nine Agribusiness Partners and a Commercial Property Finance Partner in the wider Hamilton, Matamata and Morrinsville area.

He currently lives in Hamilton with his wife Teri and two children, Ella and Nikau who whakapapa to Ngati Awa and Ngati Manawa.

MORE FINALIST JUDGES OVER THE PAGE...

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TAFI MANJALA

DAIRYNZ REGIONAL LEADER,
NORTHLAND

Zimbabwe born Tafi Manjala has 14 years experience working with farmers, eight of which have been in Northland. He and his team work through farmer networks in the region to help farmers achieve their business goals. Tafi was, for three years, a finalist judge of the Farm Manager of the Year section of the Dairy Industry awards. He has also been a judge of the Ballance Farm Environment Awards and the Regional Sharemilker of the Year competitions.

Tafi has lived in New Zealand since 2002. He has two children and enjoys being a lifestyle beef farmer, leasing land and running 50 head of steers.



PAUL KLEE

FONTERRA'S REGIONAL MANAGER,
LOWER NORTH ISLAND

Paul Klee has been involved in the dairy industry since 2000, working with Fonterra as an Area Manger in Taranaki and Hawke's Bay prior to moving into his current role as Regional Manager, Field Services, Lower North Island.

Paul is a Massey graduate and holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in Agribusiness with Honours. He is passionate about the dairy industry and farming in general and takes an active role in growing his own farming interests in Hawke's Bay.

FIRST ROUND JUDGES



PETER MACGREGOR

AGITO'S STRATEGIC
RELATIONSHIPS MANAGER

Peter (Ngati Kahungunu; Ati Hau Nui a Papaarangi; Ngati Raukawa; Maniapoto and Ngati Paoa) is AgITO's Strategic

Relationships Manager. He has held a variety of positions in the Housing, Education and Training and the Land Development divisions of the former Department of Māori Affairs and several other positions through to Te Puni Kokiri. He has been energetically promoting the benefits of the reinvigorated competition at field days, and to farm workers and employers as part of his day job, since AgITO became a bronze sponsor in 2005. This is the second year Peter has judged the competitions preliminary round.



PAUL RADICH

FONTERRA SENIOR AREA MANAGER,
NORTH TARANAKI

Paul Radich grew up in Stratford where he still lives, on a farmlet with his family. He has a BA in education and has worked, as an educator, in New Zealand, Japan and England. He spent three years with the Taranaki Regional Council as an environmental educator, before moving to Fonterra as an Area Manager and then Regional Services Manager for the Lower North Island. He is currently a Senior Area Manager in North Taranaki.

Paul has a passion for the NZ dairy industry and the Co-operative. He says that being a judge in the 2010 Ahuwhenua Trophy was a highlight of his career and he is very excited to be involved again. "The Ahuwhenua competition has a great history and it is a privilege to be able to witness and be a part of this showcase of the very best in Māori farming."



PAUL BIRD

FARM CONSULTANT, DAIRYNZ

Paul Bird has been a farm consultant for 20 years working in NZ, Ireland and the UK. Paul was involved in developing and delivering the DairyNZ Mark and Measure courses that have been running for 10

years. He is currently working as a Consultant to DairyNZ on various business related projects including investigating success factors in large multi-unit dairy businesses. He has interests in commercial property and shares. He also aims to spend as much time as possible with his wife Anne and two boys.



DUNCAN MATTHEWS

AGRIBUSINESS PARTNER,
CENTRAL PLATEAU, BNZ

Duncan grew up on a sheep and beef property near Hawera, Taranaki, and graduated with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science & a Rural Valuation Diploma from Massey University. After returning from overseas travel, Duncan began his banking career with BNZ in 2003.

He has been based in Taupo for the past 9 years and now manages predominately larger clients alongside a range of Māori trusts and incorporations. Duncan enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters in the outdoors of the Taupo area.

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Ahuwhenua on YouTube

Don't forget to check out the videos documenting the field days held last year on the farms of our finalists in the 2011 Ahuwhenua Trophy Sheep and Beef competition. You can find them on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/AhuwhenuaTrophy>



»» Fingers crossed for TV Series on the 2012 Ahuwhenua Finalists

Plans are well advanced for a three part television series showcasing the finalists in this year's competition.

Māori Television has committed to broadcasting three half hour episodes of 'Ahuwhenua - Excellence in Māori Farming' although the producers are waiting to hear if an application for funding from the Māori broadcasting funding agency, Te Mangai Paho, is successful. The decision will be known on 16 March 2012.

The project is being produced by the Ahuwhenua Trust in conjunction with Radio Ngati Porou Charitable Trust. The Ruatoria based manager of Radio Ngati Porou, Erana Keelan-Reedy, will produce and direct the series.

Erana has a formidable track record as a television producer. She has been making Māori language programmes for the last 20 years for both TVNZ and Māori Television, has worked on news and current affairs shows like Marae and Te Kaea and produced a number of documentaries.

Erana has directed a range of different programmes that show case Māori achievement in everything from sports to cooking and she's looking forward to looking at how Māoridom's top farms operate.

"I was brought up on a dairy farm so I know my way around a cowshed, though my grandfather's cowshed was nothing like the cowsheds of today. I'm a country girl at heart so I'm looking forward to donning the gumboots and getting behind the camera again."

Now's THE TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT WAIATA

The Gala Awards dinner to be held at the SKYCITY Auckland Convention Centre on Friday, 8 June promises to be just as inspiring and heartwarming an occasion as previous Gala Awards dinners.

Waiata are an important part of our Gala Awards dinners and we are encouraging sponsors to start thinking now about their choice of waiata.

It's never too early to dust off the vocal chords and give some of those tunes a test run.



Tickets for the Gala Awards dinner are available from Joan Nathu at joan.nathu@maoritrustee.co.nz, or phone 04 803 2851.

Tickets cost \$138.00 excl. GST. Tables, at 10 people to a table, are \$1,380.00 excl GST. Book your tickets now because they are always snapped up very early.

"We know the dairy business is doing a great job of fuelling the global economy, with a strong showing in emerging economies like India.

"Dairy farming is a huge part of this country's heritage. The dairy sector is the life-blood of New Zealand's agricultural sector, and at BNZ we are proud to again sponsor the Ahuwhenua Trophy Māori Excellence in Farming competition."

Richard Bowman
BNZ Head of Agribusiness

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MAF hui make productivity a priority

MAF is currently undertaking a series of regional hui and field visits with Māori in the primary sector. The information and ideas gathered will help MAF plan and prioritise initiatives to increase the productivity of Māori primary sector participants.

Where possible, MAF will also work with other government agencies and industry groups, to maximise collaboration and use resources more efficiently.

Members of MAF's Māori Primary Sector Partnership branch are attending the hui. Headed by Ben Dalton, Deputy Director-General Māori Primary Sector Partnerships, this branch leads MAF's work to empower Māori in making the most of the economic opportunities that their land offers.

"We are very keen to develop our thinking in conjunction with the sector," says Ben.

"Our goal is to partner with Māori in creating programmes founded in the 'real world'. Our current priority is to plan and develop solutions that respond to the issues identified in the 2011 MAF report: Māori Agribusiness in New Zealand: A Study of the Māori Freehold Land Resource.

"Our ongoing sponsorship of the Ahuwhenua Trophy is one way that we can promote the achievements and innovation of Māori working across the agriculture, horticulture, pastoral and

aquaculture industries, and we'd like to do a lot more to support Māori in the primary sector."

If you'd like to meet with MAF or show them around your primary sector operation, please drop Doug Jones an email at doug.jones@maf.govt.nz.

The team is keen to hear about the opportunities and challenges your business faces, as well as your ideas about how they can best support Māori in the primary sector.



Te Awahohonu Forest Trustee and Farm Manager Bob Cottrell (second from right) shows MAF staff around the Hawkes Bay property, which is in red meat production. MAF staff from left: Annette Carey, Wayne Ormsby, Alanie Thomson, Gillian Mangin, Sandra Mauger, and Ben Dalton.

"E Rau Rangatira mā. Me whakatūpato ōu koutou mahi, hei oranga whakaruru ōu koutou whānau ki te kainga."

To all the Hundred Chiefs. Work safely at your work, protecting your family at home.

"Te Tari Mahi (Department of Labour) is pleased to support the Ahuwhenua Trophy BNZ Māori Excellence in Farming Award 2012 and Farmsafe, to promote good work safety awareness amongst the Māori farming community."



Ātene Andrews
Principal Advisor Māori,
Te Tari Mahi-Department
of Labour

QUAD BIKE SAFETY - GETTING IT RIGHT

An increase of 200% in quad bike helmet sales in the past year indicates that the quad bike safety campaign run by Te Tari Mahi-Department of Labour is working. Departmental inspectors visited 518 farms over the last year and reported that many farmers have taken steps to improve safety by either purchasing helmets or making sure their workers were properly trained in riding quad bikes.

The Department's Principal Advisor Māori, Ātene Andrews says that the quad bike safety campaign has four key steps: always wear a helmet, make sure riders are experienced or trained, never let kids ride adult quad bikes, and choose the right vehicle for the job.

For more information on this important initiative visit the Te Tari Mahi quad bike safety page <http://www.dol.govt.nz/quad-bikes/> or check out their latest Quad Bike Safety newsletter <http://www.dol.govt.nz/quad-bikes/Newsletters/December-2011.asp>.

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