

THE AHUWHENUA TROPHY ROUND UP

SEPTEMBER 2016

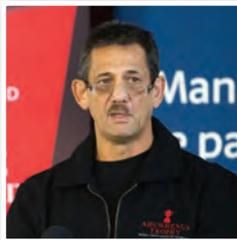
BNZ
MĀORI
EXCELLENCE
IN FARMING AWARD 2017
SHEEP AND BEEF



»» It's time to enter

Calling all Māori sheep and beef farmers – it is now time to enter 2017 Ahuwhenua Trophy BNZ Māori Excellence in Farming Award

Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee Chairman, Kingi Smiler, says entering the competition offers a unique opportunity for individual Māori farmers, trusts and incorporations to get valuable professional feedback on their farming operations.



He says the judges of the competition are highly skilled professionals in the agribusiness sector and they have access to data which can benchmark individual operations. Kingi says all previous participants in the

competition have said it was an invaluable exercise and they gained feedback that they otherwise wouldn't have got.

He has also appealed to farm consultants and other rural professional who work for Māori farmers to encourage their clients to enter the competition.

Kingi Smiler says Māori farmers have a great story to tell their own people and all New Zealanders and entering the competition is a way of doing this.

Information about the competition, including the entry form, is on the Ahuwhenua Trophy website www.ahuwhenuatrophy.maori.nz. Entries close on Friday 27th January 2017.

WHAT PAST FINALISTS AND WINNERS SAY ABOUT AHUWHENUA

"We are very proud to win the trophy and we put it down to the culmination of a lot of hard work by a diligent team. The Ahuwhenua Trophy competition provides the perfect opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the significant role Māori dairy farmers play in the New Zealand economy."

James Russell, Chairman of the Proprietors of Rakaia Incorporation, winner of the 2016 Dairy competition



"The future of Te Rua o te Moko Ltd has many milestones it needs to reach and the success and learning gained from winning Ahuwhenua has provided the confidence to execute the farms objectives"

Chairman of Te Rua o Te Moko Ltd, Dion Maaka - Dairy winners 2014

"Entering the Ahuwhenua Trophy competition helped lift our own performance and we greatly valued the feedback we have received from the judges. One of the key goals is to get young people back on their land and to help shape the economic future of the Far North"

Chad Paraone, Chairman of Parengarenga Incorporation, Sheep and Beef finalist 2015



The Hadfield Whānau - Sheep and Beef winners 2015

"We will continue to reflect on our win and can't afford to be a bit slack now. It's going to help motivate us even more and it has opened up opportunities. We have met so many more people and will be looking at future opportunities and maybe doing things even better on our farm than we have in the past. It was well worth it and our business will grow as a result of entering the competition"

»» PLATINUM SPONSOR



»» GOLD SPONSORS



»» SILVER SPONSORS



»» BRONZE SPONSORS



»» SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT HAS ALSO BEEN PROVIDED BY LANDCORP, TOHU WINES AND WORKSAFE NZ. The Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee supports SAFER FARMS.

YOUNG MĀORI FARMER AWARD



Jack Raharuhi (Winner) and finalists Harepaora Ngaheu and Ash-Leigh Campbell



Jack Raharuhi and Rebecca Keoghan

Twenty four year-old Jack Raharuhi who manages Landcorps Bassets farm at Westport has won the 2016 Ahuwhenua Young Māori Farmer Award for Dairy.

Jack was presented with the award by the Deputy Māori Trustee, Tiaki Hunia at the Ahuwhenua Trophy awards dinner held in Hamilton.

The other two finalists were Harepaora Ngaheu from Te Teko in the Bay of Plenty and Ash-Leigh Campbell from Canterbury.

Jack Raharuhi who hails from Westport says he had a troublesome past as a teenager and left school at fifteen. While he didn't have any experience of the dairy industry he stated working on Landcorps Bassets Dairy unit at Cape Foulwind. He is now the manager of the 450 ha/ 1100 cow farm and is in charge of five staff.



YOUR ENTRY MUST BE SUBMITTED
BY FRIDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2017
TO ENTER GO TO:
www.ahuwhenuatrophy.maori.nz/young.php

He says initially he started on a day to day basis and then really started to enjoy it. He then started studying two years later and came on from there – and winning this award is really big. Jack says over the years he's developed a passion for training other young workers and helping them carve out viable career paths. He says seeing his peers progress through to good results and be appointed to higher positions elsewhere is pretty satisfying.

Jack's boss Rebecca Keoghan was recently named as the Dairy Industry Woman of the year and was at the awards dinner. She's in charge of all the dairy farms in the Westport area and says she's really proud of Jack's achievement.

She says she was over the moon and really stoked for Jack. She says what sets him apart is his innate leadership style and passion for his staff and his own development. It's really great for Landcorp and two west coasters to win major awards which shows that our region punches above its weight.

YOUNG MĀORI FARMER AWARD 2017

Entries for the 2017 Ahuwhenua Young Māori Farmer Award for Sheep and Beef are now open. This award is designed to recognise the effort and progress that young Māori have made in their careers in agriculture. Already the competition has produced a cohort of great finalists and winners and it is an opportunity for young Māori to showcase their talent. It is also an opportunity for farmers to showcase their rising stars.



Jamie Tuuta, Māori Trustee with Hannah Wallace winner of the Young Maori Farmer Award for Sheep and Beef 2015

» PLATINUM SPONSOR



» GOLD SPONSORS



» SILVER SPONSORS



» BRONZE SPONSORS



» SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT HAS ALSO BEEN PROVIDED BY LANDCORP, TOHU WINES AND WORKSAFE NZ. The Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee supports SAFER FARMS.

Another inspirational night with three fantastic finalists

For the first time in the 83 year history of the competition, a South Island dairy farm has won the prestigious Ahuwhenua Trophy for Māori dairy farming.

The announcement was made by the Minister for Māori Development Te Ururoa Flavell at a special function in Hamilton attended by 850 people including representatives from King Tuheitia's family, the Minister for Primary Industries Hon Nathan Guy and other dignitaries, politicians and leading agribusiness people from throughout New Zealand.

The Proprietors of Rakaia Incorporation was chosen from two other finalists, Ngāi Tahu Farming Limited, also based in Canterbury, and Tewi Trust based in the South Waikato.



Hon Te Ururoa Flavell and James Russell, Chairman of Rakaia Incorporation, winners of the 2016 Ahuwhenua Trophy Competition



Tuhi Watkinson, Chair of Tewi Trust, finalist in the 2016 Ahuwhenua Trophy Competition

The Chairman of Rakaia Incorporation, James Russell says despite the low pay-out Rakaia is running profitably and has plans to buy another farm in the near future. The Ahuwhenua Trophy competition provides the perfect opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the significant role Māori dairy farmers play in the New Zealand economy.

Rakaia Incorporation's 216 ha farm, Tahu a Tao, near Ashburton runs around 830 Kiwi cross cows and is managed by 50/50 sharemilkers Mark and Julie Cressey



Te Iti Kahurangi kapa haka group



Hon Nathan Guy and Andrew Priest, CEO of Ngāi Tahu Farming Ltd, finalist in the 2016 Ahuwhenua Trophy Competition

Kingi Smiler, Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee Chairman, says it was great to see the South Island win the dairy competition for the first time. He says if you look at the performance of Rakaia over the last ten to twelve years it's been absolutely outstanding. He says their leadership has been strong and they have got a great farm team.

He says that every year we find another group of outstanding finalists and ultimately a winner who joins the ever expanding alumni that personifies the success of Māori agribusiness and its valuable contribution to Aotearoa.

» PLATINUM SPONSOR



» GOLD SPONSORS



» SILVER SPONSORS



» BRONZE SPONSORS



» SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT HAS ALSO BEEN PROVIDED BY LANDCORP, TOHU WINES AND WORKSAFE NZ. The Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee supports SAFER FARMS.

MĀORI AGRIBUSINESS UPDATE

Prosperity through partnership

*Whatungarongaro te tangata toitū te whenua
As man disappears from sight, the land remains*

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is committed to supporting Māori to unlock the potential of their land to sustainably increase production. MPI has a range of funds that can support Māori land owners to achieve their aspirations.

The Māori Agribusiness Pathway to Increased Productivity (MAPIP) programme aims to partner with Māori to overcome some of the unique challenges facing Māori when developing primary sector assets that are in collective ownership. Here's an example of a project currently underway with support from the MAPIP:

Te Manawa o Tuhoe Trust project

In the Tuhoe districts of Ruatoki and Waiohau, MPI is working with the Te Manawa o Tuhoe Trust to explore the development of 138 hectares into beef farming. The Trust aims to maximise financial return from the land for the benefit of whānau, hapū and iwi which supports the legacy for future generations. MPI support through the MAPIP programme includes funding and independent expertise to complete a feasibility study along with a business case to understand the farm's potential as a beef operation.

MPI's Sustainable Farming Fund (SFF) also supports Māori land owner's primary industry aspirations by funding research projects that look into a shared problem or opportunity. Here's an example of a project funded through the SFF:

Integrated Management to Improve Productivity and Profitability for Māori Agribusiness project

This project looks at benchmarking highly productive sheep and beef farms on Māori land and using the learnings from those farms to increase production on other sheep and beef farms regionally (East Coast). The project is led by the Federation of Māori Authorities and is one of three active SFF projects led by the FOMA.



*Wi Pere
Field Day*

For more information about MAPIP, SFF or any other MPI investment funds, visit www.mpi.govt.nz and click on 'funding and programmes.'

More young Māori into dairying

DairyNZ's Māori Development Manager Tony Finch says the industry needs to create a paradigm shift in the attitude of schools to make them see agriculture as a great career choice and to encourage more young people – especially Māori, to make that choice.

Tony Finch says he believes that overall Māori are quite well represented in the dairy industry but he says as Māori aspirations to utilise more of their land increases, more young Māori will be needed. He says dairying is quite a different beast these days with technology and the way sheds are designed and the land farmed. Tony says it's about improving the perception and making people aware of what is happening in the industry. Tony Finch says part of the solution is promoting leadership within Māori youth. He says the Young Māori Farmer Award, run in conjunction with the Ahuwhenua Trophy competition is one such successful mechanism.

TE ARA MIRAKA

Farmers who supply the Māori owned and Taupo based dairy company Miraka stand to get a bonus of an extra twenty cents a kilogram of milk solids this season if they meet all the criteria of an incentive scheme being run by the company.

Te Ara Miraka Farm Excellence is an initiative CEO, Richard Wyeth says is designed to make sure its 107 suppliers are world class and run businesses that are resilient. He says the initiative has five pillars, namely people, the environment, animal welfare, milk quality and prosperity. Within these are thirty one criteria of which thirteen are mandatory for farmers to meet. These in turn are extrapolated out into a points system – all told one hundred. If they pass the mandatory ones they will get some sort of incentive but if they get the full 100 points they will get the extra twenty cents a kilogram of milk solids at the end of the season. The initiative runs over a twelve month period so it's over the entire season, starting from now right through to next June after which any payments will be made.

Zespri engages with Māori

The Chairman of Zespri Peter McBride says Māori are a significant player in the kiwifruit industry and will be an even greater one in the future. He says currently about ten percent of the total kiwifruit crop is produced on Māori land. He says Māori now have a seat on the Kiwifruit Grower Forum and are they are now in the process of forming their own NZ wide kiwifruit council.

Peter says they are seeing a lot more engagement from Māori. He says he's personally engaged with Māori at a regional level and there is a quite a lot of interest from growers in Gisborne, Te Kaha and in Northland. He says some of the best horticultural land in the Bay of Plenty that is still underutilised is Māori land and it's about how do we unlock that potential and partner with people.

»» PLATINUM SPONSOR



»» GOLD SPONSORS



»» SILVER SPONSORS



»» BRONZE SPONSORS



»» SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT HAS ALSO BEEN PROVIDED BY LANDCORP, TOHU WINES AND WORKSAFE NZ. The Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee supports SAFER FARMS.