

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Tena Koutou katoa

Tuatahi, e mihi ana ki te whaea e Maria kua hoki atu koe ki tua o te arai, ki te kainga tūturu mō ngai taua mō te tangata. Haere, haere, haere hoki atu, waiho mā matou e mihi tonu e tangi tonu mou me ngā mate maha o te motu.

Rātou ki a rātou, ko tātou te hunga ora, Tēnā tātou katoa.

Māori Kiwifruit Growers Launch

It seems like an age since our Māori Kiwifruit Growers incorporation was officially launched by the Minister of Māori Development, the Hon Te Ururoa Flavell at Hua Whenua orchard, Welcome Bay in mid June. It was a fantastic event and a tribute to you all for your effort and faith that you've placed in our growers forum. Zespri was well represented by Bruce Cameron, Lain Jager who spoke at the ceremony and the many staff who helped organise the day. A big thank you to Marita and her whanau for hosting us that day. He Mihi māhana ki a koutou katoa

Institute for Business Research at the University of Waikato

Last month, Amy and I were fortunate to be at the Parliament launch of a report from the University of Waikato focusing on the Economic Contribution of Kiwifruit Industry Expansion to the Bay of Plenty, Northland and New Zealand Economies. The link to the full report is below, of particular interest to us was the forecasted impact within Māori employment and production figures for the future and what that means in terms of our Māori Kiwifruit growers incorporation today. With an increased focus on regional economic development it's important for the forum and its members to be aware of what's occurring particularly in our members regions.

Zespri Governance and Development Programme

I'd also like to acknowledge the recently confirmed participants in the Zespri Governance and Development programme and the strong Māori presence with both Kiritapu Allan and Collen Neville, ka nui te mihi ki a kōrua.

Horticulture NZ Conference 2017

More recently I was asked to present at the Horticulture NZ Conference in Tauranga. The panel I was part of focussed on disruption to the industry and the changes that were occurring within Kiwifruit and the establishment of our Māori forum. The support and positive comments I received at the conference for the forum are testament to you all as Kiwifruit growers.

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On a personal note, I'm about to start a new role as GM Māori Strategy for Fonterra which is exciting for a whole range of reasons including the ability to be based permanently out of Auckland. To focus on this new role, I've made the decision to resign off a number of Iwi boards, Trust boards and other governance roles with the exception of this role as Chair of the Māori Kiwifruit Growers forum and as a director of the Kiwifruit development partnership between Te Tumu Paeroa and Quayside Holdings Ltd.

It's an exciting period for the entire kiwifruit industry and for Māori growers in particular and I look forward to your support and guidance to contributing to that positive outlook.

Nga Mihi ki a koutou katoa, ma te waahi ngaro tatou e manaaki i nga wa katoa.

Tiaki

MAORI KIWIFRUIT GROWERS LAUNCH MEDIA RELEASE

The Māori Kiwifruit Growers Forum was officially launched on 14th June 2017 in Tauranga, representing a first for the kiwifruit industry.

The forum has been created to advocate for the interests of Māori growers in the sector and is a partnership between Māori kiwifruit growers, Te Puni Kōkiri and Zespri.

Minister for Māori Development, Hon Te Ururoa Flavell attended the launch at Te Hua Whenua Orchard in Welcome Bay.

Zespri CEO Lain Jager said Zespri works for all kiwifruit growers to provide the tools and information they need to grow their businesses and Māori growers are an important and growing part of the kiwifruit industry.



“This is about supporting the development of a really strong and cohesive eco-system for Māori growers in the New Zealand kiwifruit industry. Māori have recognised the need for this forum, where specific skills and information sharing will help grow the success of their kiwifruit investment, and we are proud to support them,” said Mr Jager.

Eleven committee members including Tiaki Hunia as Chairman, have been appointed to lead the forum, officially incorporated in March 2017, with Te Puni Kōkiri committing funding for the next two years.

Speaking at the launch, Mr Hunia said he expected the forum to provide Māori growers with timely and relevant data and information to support their decision-making, and help them see increased net returns from their work.

“Longer term, we hope to lift Māori growers from their current eight percent share of Zespri production up to 20 percent,” he said. “We also want to play a role in providing growers with opportunities to gain education and training to ensure their businesses thrive.”

Chief Executive of New Zealand Kiwifruit Growers Incorporated (NZKGI) Nikki Johnson said NZKGI welcomed the newly-appointed Forum. “As an advocate for all kiwifruit growers in New Zealand, NZKGI is looking forward to working closely with the Māori Kiwifruit Growers Forum in the future to support this important part of our industry.”

INDUSTRY NEWS



NZKGI AGM

Thurs 24th Aug 11.00am – 12.30pm
ASB Baypark
81 Truman Lane
Mount Maunganui

NZKGI Forum

Thurs 7th Sep 8.30am
ASB Baypark
81 Truman Lane
Mount Maunganui

Zespri AGM

Thurs 24th Aug 1pm
ASB Baypark
81 Truman Lane
Mount Maunganui



Know someone finishing high school soon?

Tell them to apply for a Zespri scholarship! Zespri has two scholarships to award to outstanding students planning a future in any field of the kiwifruit industry.

What they get:

- Up to \$15,000 (\$5000 per year for three years) towards tuition fees.
- Mentoring and support from people working in the kiwifruit industry.
- Opportunities to be involved in the kiwifruit industry.

Applications open 21 August – 30 September 2017 and are available online at www.zespri.com

KIWI LEADERS TE AWANUI HUKA PAK

Te Awanui Huka Pak's people development strategy, named 'Kiwi Leaders' was created in response to a call from our shareholders who expressed their desire to have more influence in the industry, not only from a production perspective but also to have our whanau better represented in high level employment and education opportunities across the whole horticultural value chain.

We have developed an integrated approach to achieving this vision which can be tailored for different entry levels. We aim to empower our people by giving them the opportunity to learn, grow and teach. That includes the facilitation of governance training, cadetships (earn while you learn), scholarships (direct financial support), mentoring and internships (overseas exchanges) as well as a coordinated youth engagement

For further information on the Kiwi Leaders programme please contact Monique at Monique@teawanui.co.nz



LA ZESPRI OFFICE OPENING

Zespri officially opened the new office in California on 26th July. The popularity of SunGold is driving sales across this region, which is set to grow strongly. Our new carving "Te Puawaitanga" was set in pride of place in the new office, the ceremony was attended by senior Zespri executives, Ambassador Tim Groser and Mayor of Newport Beach Kevin Muldoon.

Pita - Te Tai Tokerau

"The learning's have been fantastic and to be in the company of the CEO, Lain Jager and the Deputy Chair, Bruce Cameron were great. Great in that we were able to have the bonus of talking with key people in and around Zespri who could provide background and context in regard to what we were experiencing.

Even more so that we were able to develop relationships with many of the key identities in the industry that went beyond just a professional association. And while we developed relationships with others, the internal team relationships were great and I appreciate the strong bonds created amongst us as a travelling team."



TE PUKE REGIONAL HUI

On Tuesday, 18th July Homman Tapsell and George Skudder (the Te Puke representatives) hosted the inaugural Te Puke Māori Kiwifruit Growers Forum hui at Seeka Head office.

Facilitator: Homman Tapsell/George Skudder
Attendance: approx 30 Growers

Manu Wihapi opened the meeting with a 'Karakia' and a brief explanation of the carving done by 'James Tapiata' at the main entrance of Kimihia House.

Homman officially opened the hui welcoming all those who attended and thanked Michael Franks (Seeka) for allowing the Te Puke growers use of their 'Auditorium.' Michael explained Seeka's role with the several cadets (for Orchard Managers) that are involved in their programme. He also mentioned aligning themselves with future development of Māori land for kiwifruit.

Amy Porter of Zespri explained the role of the Māori Kiwifruit Growers Forum and the journey so far, followed by a presentation from Ngaria Rolleston on the Kiwi Leaders training programme.

Maria Horne explained the opportunities and the difficulties their Runanga in Maketu had when their work module for unemployed persons was initiated. Her main concern was that Māori unemployed whanau who are seeking permanent employment and asked that the forum research and see if there are solutions in assisting those throughout the rohe.

Further discussion for the qualification criteria that is required for our whanau to enter into the training schemes, and that level 2 or 3 would be the minimum.

Robotics was raised by Jim Gray and discussed further by Hinga Marsh. Hinga sent out a flyer recently on how picking and pollination robots are not too far in the future approx 5 years, Hinga will update us of their progress.

In conclusion Hinga, suggested that a working body be formed with himself, Maria Horne etc. to organise employment for our whanau in the region.

Manu closed the meeting with a karakia and grace.



REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT LIST

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