

## QUARTERLY PROGRESS SUMMARY: January – March 2016

### High Performance Mānuka Plantations PGP Programme

#### Summary of progress during this quarter

- Nectar and honey samples from key sites were completed this quarter for plantation and wild mānuka. Preliminary results confirm that plantation cultivars consistently outperform wild mānuka with respect to DHA levels.
- Good progress has been made on measuring the impact of both scale insects and mycorrhizal fungi on the growth of mānuka.
- The long term temperature trial is under way and will continue until November.
- Land assessments are being undertaken for 2017 commercial plantings.

#### Key highlights and achievements

- Manuka Farming New Zealand website ([www.manukafarmingnz.co.nz](http://www.manukafarmingnz.co.nz)) went live in February.
- A commercial consultancy is now available through Manuka Farming New Zealand to land owners wishing to plant mānuka. Through the consultancy landowners will gain the knowledge and expertise developed in the High Performance Manuka Plantations PGP programme.
- The High Performance Manuka Plantations PGP programme and the Tutira plantation were featured on TVNZ Rural Delivery on Saturday 2 April.
- MRPL presented at the Venture Taranaki Manuka Seminar. This event was a sell-out and was a great opportunity for MFNZ to commence building a presence & commence discussions with landowners.



- On site presence at Central District Field Days in Fielding from the 16th to the 19th of March.
- A protocol for taking nectar samples in the field has been developed and was trialled by one of the co-investors.

#### Upcoming

- Manuka Farming New Zealand will give a presentation at the inaugural East Coast Farming with Technology Expo being held at Wairoa from 13-14 April.
- Full analysis of results to understand timing of mānuka flowering and weather on DHA to sugar ratios will be completed.

- PGP trial sites will be visited to assess survival and growth rates of the high performing cultivars.
- Technical notes covering learnings from the PGP trial sites will be updated.

### **Communications & Tech transfer**

- Manuka Farming will have a stand at Mystery Creek Field Days in Hamilton from the 15-18<sup>th</sup> June.
- The PGP programme was featured in Ministry for Primary Industries' February 2016 Agri-Gate newsletter. This highlighted progress in the Programme and the formation of Manuka Farming New Zealand, the commercial arm of MRPL.

### **Investment**

| <b>Investment period</b> | <b>Industry contribution</b> | <b>MPI contribution</b> | <b>Total investment</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| During this Quarter      | \$55,525                     | \$83,282                | \$138,807               |
| Programme To Date        | \$1,118,601                  | \$783,697               | \$1,902,297             |