

QUARTERLY PROGRESS SUMMARY: January – March 2017

High Performance Mānuka Plantations PGP Programme

Summary of progress during this quarter

- Honey samples from the four main plantation trial sites showed no medical grade mānuka honey. This is attributed to unfavourable weather affecting flowering and bee activity, as well as the young plantations not yet dominating nectar sourced from surrounding pasture species.
- Few of the mānuka plants in the riparian trial sites have survived due to weeds, pests, flooding or late frosts. For this reason, and with the increasing importance of monoflorality, the riparian trial work has been scaled back.

Key highlights and achievements

- The MFNZ exhibition and trade site at Central Districts Field Days, 16-19 March 2017, Feilding was well attended with the inclusion of mini-seminars covering programme learnings.
- MFNZ has set up a consultancy service for landowners wishing to plant mānuka for medical grade mānuka honey which includes expertise from a beekeeper and forestry and financial experts.

Upcoming

- Updated version of the technical notes for plantation mānuka.
- Continued development of the mānuka plantation model.
- Framework to quantify the potential economic value of plantation mānuka at a national level.

Communications & Technology transfer

- Trade display, information site and presentations at the National Field Days, 14-17 June 2017, Mystery Creek.
- MFNZ is sharing a trade display and information site with Comvita Limited at the Apiculture Conference, 9-11 July 2017, Rotorua

Investment

Investment period	Industry contribution	MPI contribution	Total investment
During this Quarter	\$57,685	\$91,404	\$149,089
Programme to Date	\$1,325,843	\$1,151,150	\$2,476,993