

# Ahuwhenua Trophy – Maori Excellence in Farming Award 2007

Information and registration forms for the 2007 Ahuwhenua Trophy have just been released with the closing date for financial records and governance information to be delivered to Meat and Wool New Zealand of 26th January 2007.

Geoff Milner & Associates would like to encourage those Maori Incorporations and Trusts who farming not less than 2,500 stock units to participate. The rewards from participation are many:

- For the Farming Enterprise – the opportunity to participate in a very effective (and cheap) benchmarking and consulting process not to mention the opportunity to win Region 2 East Coast/Poverty Bay
- For the Taonga – without participation, the support of the sponsors may diminish
- For Maori Farming generally – this Taonga celebrates a long tradition of Maori Farming

For those entities that are unsure about what maybe involved in participating, Geoff Milner & Associates offers a “free” service to facilitate the entry of your Maori Incorporation or Trust into the Ahuwhenua Trophy such is our commitment to this kaupapa and the close-off date of 26 January 2006.

Please contact Geoff Milner on 0800 GMILNER (0800 464 5637) to discuss.

## Key Governance Activities for Management Committees

Coming up to Christmas/New Year, Maori Farming Committees should have considered (or at the very least about to consider) the following key issues impacting the farming business, especially given the present and forecast dry conditions and the fact the most docking will have been completed:

1. Stock policy in terms of when to sell – especially given the falling schedule and drying conditions (making no decision is likely to be the worst decision!)
2. Given docking results together with present and forecast market prices, has a reforecast of the full year financial result been completed and decisions taken?
3. Have Farm Management and Staff got in place a robust plan to manage against the effects of fly-strike – has this plan been presented to the Committee?
4. Has an appointment been made by the Chairman to meet with the Bank or Finance Representatives to provide a “heads-up” in terms of a six monthly result with a full-year forecast?
5. Following completion of the Annual General Meetings – have Maori Land Court records been updated?

## Ruatoria Office Location found and signed-up

Geoff Milner & Associates are pleased to announce that they have secured office premises in Ruatoria. Over the next four to six weeks we will be setting-up the office (which includes two other Agri-businesses with interests in the Maori Farming Sector on the Coast) and will hold a formal public opening in late January or early February 2007.

## 31 March 2007 Year-end

For those businesses on the Coast with 31 March 2007 balance dates, your financial year-end is just around the corner. As you enjoy a break with the whanau and reflect, I would like to invite you to call in for an obligation free korero to discuss your needs.



What Geoff Milner & Associates have found is that for many 31 March 2007 balance date, many clients are still waiting for their 31 March 2006 financial statements and tax returns to be filed. If this sounds like you and you are fed-up with the service you receive, give Geoff Milner a call.

## Thank you

Geoff Milner & Associates would like to thank the support he has received during 2006 from the following Coast clients.

- Pakihiroa Farms Limited
- Hereumu Station
- Te Oranga Farms Partnership
- Radio Ngati Porou
- East Coast Rugby Football Union
- K&M Contractors
- Kie Kie Marae
- Iritekura Marae
- Wairapiro Bay Te Puia Springs Community Services Charitable Trust
- Te Runanga O Ngati Porou

As one of the sponsors of Pa Wars, we look forward to seeing you in Ruatoria on the 3 January 2007. Go hard Tu Au Au Marae!

**Why support the Gisborne based accounting firms when you can have your very own firm on the Coast? Don't continue to send hundreds of thousands of dollars out of district! Make the switch to Geoff Milner & Associates and help establish a practice on the Coast employing local people feeding back into your Community.**



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**Contact Geoff Milner now on 0800 GMILNER (0800 464 5637) for an obligation-free proposal**