

Post Quake Farming Newsletter

21 August 2019



You will notice a few changes here. We have been beavering away over the winter – starting with our new website at <https://postquakefarming.co.nz>.

As we are rolling out more material and info from our workshops and field days, this should be a handy site for you to check back on things and get contacts for what you might need. Facebook continues as a handy way to interact for those of you who do FB. But it isn't essential. Any way you like – website, email, facebook, phone call, carrier pigeon - we are always keen to hear from you, even if it's "constructive criticism."

Now the days are getting longer and farm accessibility is getting less dodgy, it's time to lock in your Post Quake Farming activities for spring:

1 BT Applications

The first personalised workshop for getting 1BT applications nailed down is happening this week in Cheviot. We have five farming couples attending, plus experts to help them with their forms.

These workshops are for you if:

- You are a farmer in the project area who knows the basics of 1BT and have specific questions on how best to apply
- You're close to applying to the fund and want to see a real-life example of a successful application.
- You've done some work on land-use capability, but might still have some questions about integrating trees into your farming operation, including selecting the right trees.

By the end of the day, you should be well on the way to submitting your own application.

These workshops are all RSVP only: Attendees have some homework to do beforehand, and it works best with no more than five or six farms at a time. If you're almost ready, contact us to get one set up in your area.



Telling our story kicks off in Kaikoura

Telling your story through social media workshop, 4.30pm -7.30 pm KDC, Kaikoura.

We're excited to launch the first event in our Telling Your Story workstream.

This workshop is a great opportunity for those of you who are thinking about how you could harness social media to promote your farm or side-hustle, and who you need to hit up to turn your next business ideas into reality.

It's led by Joanna Fountain, Senior Lecturer/Rural Social Science Researcher, and Senior Lecturer in Tourism Management at Lincoln University.

Jo's research focus is on the significance of food, wine, agri-tourism, and festivals in enhancing rural resilience, community engagement, and consumer/tourist experiences in the face of rapid change for rural regions.

She is currently a researcher in the Rural Programme of 'Resilience to Nature's Challenges' National Science Challenge, with a focus in the North Canterbury/Kaikoura regions. She's a senior researcher and theme leader in Lincoln University's Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Tourism, for the theme 'Optimising Food, Wine and Agri-tourism for Community and Rural Resilience.'

Krissy Griggs is Marketing Executive at Hurunui Tourism & Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa. She's the expert on leveraging social media in the region.

Terri Anderson specialises in stakeholder engagement and can help you to define and prioritise your organisations and people for your new ideas (clue: everyone at the workshop is likely to be a key stakeholder).



Stacking hay into circular thatched haystacks, from a load in a horse-drawn cart. Guess where and which year?

Integrated forestry and farming 4WD tour

19 - 20 September – Two day forestry integration 4WD Tour (Ward)

Are you one of our farmers in the Project Area who has decided, or is very likely, to establish forest of some kind on your property within the next two years?

Join this tour for a deep-dive look at forestry options across various sites in the Flaxbourne/Ward area. You'll be joined by carbon/forestry consultant Ollie Belton, and Dr Adam Forbes, our forest ecologist who specialises in native forest regeneration. Staff from Marlborough District Council will also come along to help you with any information they can.

Ask us for more information! Please register soon as numbers are strictly limited.

Horticulture suitability assessments: What we've learned

23 September - Horticulture Suitability Assessment debrief, Ward. Lunchtime session (details to be confirmed)

Dr Brent Clothier will present on his findings from the Horticulture Suitability Assessment, recently completed by Plant & Food Research. We will discuss next steps, including the expansion of the assessment, and ways in which the Project might support the proposed Flaxbourne Irrigation Scheme.

24 September – Horticulture Suitability Assessment debrief 10:00 am, Culverden Rugby Club.

All are welcome to this debrief on the Horticulture Suitability Assessment recently completed by Plant & Food Research, combined with a field trip to the horticultural trial site being run by Ngai Tahu Farming at Balmoral Forest.

Just over 40,000 hectares of land has been assessed as likely to be suitable for tree or vine-based horticulture within the Post Quake Farming Project Area. A detailed desktop assessment for six horticultural crops - apples, kiwifruit wine grapes, blueberries, hazelnuts and walnuts, and avocados has also been undertaken.

We're combining this debrief with a field tour to the horticulture trial site at the former Balmoral Forest. Here we'll discuss what's been done, and talk to the experts and staff from Ngai Tahu Farming. This will help us better understand the technical detail around next steps, and also build networks with and between farmers interested in future horticulture developments.

This day should give you a good idea of which crops are likely to grow in the Project Area and what is involved in further investigation. We will also outline - and seek your opinions on - what's next in this workstream.



Integrated Farming and Forestry Field Day #4

4 October – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

We will start at Steepdown, 300 Blunts Road, Kaikoura and finish at Lynton Downs, 1717 Inland Road, Waiau, with BBQ and refreshments after.

At Steepdown we will look at how native reversion has worked successfully in the ETS, as well as a new area of poplar poles proposed to be used as a combination of permanent carbon forest and grazing (agroforestry). We will also discuss the Environment Canterbury SCAR programme which can support fencing, pole planting, and native tree planting on land identified as having erosion issues.

At Lynton Downs we will take a tour of a commercial plantation forestry business, including tree management, typical income and costs, markets, risk management, and other aspects of production forestry.

As with our other forestry integration field days the focus will be on real life examples or scenarios demonstrating the various ways forestry can integrate into hill and high country farms in North Canterbury.



Talk to us

You get the most out of PQF events if both farming partners can go along too. At some of our Field Days we are offering childcare if needed.

Talk to us about what you need: after all, it's your project.



Postquakefarming



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