



Te Onetapu – the sacred soils of the ancestors

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How can traditional knowledge and western sciences combine together to support a strong connection to a world and material culture now rarely seen in the 21st Century?

Captain James Cook and Sir Joseph Banks encountered a culture and society when they arrived in 1769 at Aotearoa (New Zealand) not seen elsewhere in the world. Te Onetapu (the sacred soils) represent not only the act of developing gardens but also provide a metaphor for layers upon layers of meaning and which now can be seen at the Te Parapara Garden at the Hamilton Gardens in Hamilton, North Island, New Zealand. Te Parapara Garden is believed to be the only garden of its type in the world. The garden contains plants that would have been familiar to Sir Joseph Banks, including natural materials used by pre-European Maori and made into portable small carved objects and woven textiles that were collected during Cook's epic voyages between 1768-1779.

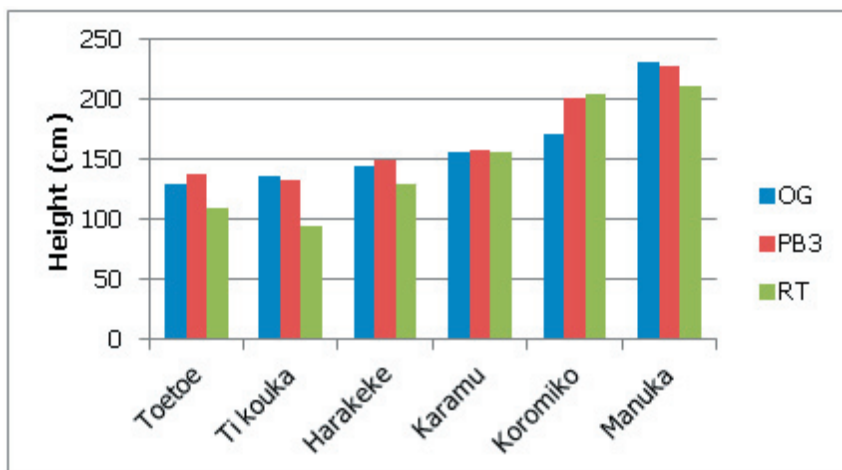
The Te Parapara project provided a unique opportunity for traditional Maori material and cultural knowledge and concepts, and western science disciplines of ethnology and archaeology, to come together in the creation and recreation of old concepts and carved structures within a setting that had been lost from New Zealand's landscape since the early 19th Century.

In my presentation, I discussed the meaning of Te Parapara for museum professionals, anthropologists, ethnologists and empirical researchers in reviving a lost technology by bringing it forward to the present, and the relevance of this reconnection for Maori people of the 21st Century to the life force of their ancestors in a powerful dynamic way.

Bringing Down the Price of Restoration Planting

In conjunction with our Annual General Meeting at Taupo Native Plant Nursery

OUR AGM will be held this year at Taupo Native Plant Nursery on August 16 starting at 10.00 am. Philip Smith has offered to host us at the nursery and demonstrate the way in which he is producing open grown native seedlings at about \$1 each. Members will be aware of the very successful work we have done, led by David Bergin and Roger MacGibbon, and partnered with Philip on establishing restoration plantings of native cover using open grown (bare rooted) planting stock. The AGM provides an excellent way of seeing how this is done and witnessing what we believe will be a revolution in the economics of native plant establishment.



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Open Grown (OG) plants grow as well if not better than container grown (PB3) plants.

Climate Action on the Mahurangi Farm-Forestry Trail

SUCH have been the negative political consequences of doing so, it wasn't until in his final four-year term that President Barack Obama felt he could talk openly about addressing anthropogenic global warming. Similarly, it wasn't until safely at his side, that Prime Minister John Key has been happy to be the president's 'excellent' climate-action 'partner'¹.

President Barack Obama's belated regulation of power-plant carbon dioxide emissions will likely coincide with a rash of new climate records, thanks to help from the onset² of another, increasingly stronger³, El Niño, and the inevitable conclusion to the 'Arctic death spiral', next year⁴. The imperative for an all-of-the-above response will include tree planting on a scale of the 1970s–80s heyday of the New Zealand Forest Service. In the rush, it is important that opportunities are not lost for some of those trees to be indigenous—many property holders, who were otherwise predisposed to planting to indigenous species, may be stampeded into planting radiata pine. This is where the Mahurangi Farm-Forestry Trail can help.

The farm-forestry trail came about as a direct result of brainstorming with Dr David Bergin on a field day bus, at the 2009 indigenous forestry conference that celebrated Tāne's Tree Trust's first decade. The discussion was of the need to establish good indigenous forestry demonstration sites in readily accessible locations. Meantime, an ideally accessible site existed on the busy Sandspit Road 4.4 kilometres outside Warkworth, next door to The Parsley Pot café. It was already demonstrating the comparative establishment performance of open-ground and container raised plants—the first such scientifically designed comparison, which directly led to Tāne's Tree Trust's trials at Waihaha³. During discussion of a second phase to involve succession species with the property holder Shelley Trotter, Shelley laid out her vision for an adjacent streamside trail, and for a larger network of trails. Because the stream, Duck Creek, already ran past several exotic farm forestry stands, the opportunity for a farm-forestry trail was irresistible.

Duck Creek was already of interest to Auckland Council, being a priority subcatchment in the Mahurangi Action Plan, a council and community response to the elevated sediment accumulation rate in the Mahurangi Harbour. With the impetus of the then upcoming 2013 New Zealand Farm Forestry Association conference, and funding that came available at short notice from the Rodney Local Board, the 1.6-kilometre trail was surveyed and signposted. A subsequent grant has seen the trail formed and bridges and culverts installed. In addition to the exotic stands, two pairs of demonstration plots of productively managed regrowth tōtara have been measured—the most southerly demonstrations of the regime pioneered by the Northland Tōtara Working Group.

In August, the first of the new farm-forestry plantings will commence, with nurse species being planted by Trees for Survival. Next year, two plots will be interplanted with tōtara raised by Taupō Native Plant Nursery by the open-ground method. One block will be planted at 1372 stems-per-hectare (2.7-metre spacing) and the other block at 3086 (1.8-metre spacing). A third block will be planted at 3086 stems-per-hectare, but with no nurse species. The plantation will subsequently be thinned to a final density of 500–600 stems per hectare.

Indigenous Farm forestry, with its emphasis on actively growing trees and wood products suitable for substitution of high-carbon materials, can play a useful role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Mahurangi Farm-Forestry Trail provides a perfect opportunity to literally walk farmers and decision makers through the possibilities, having rendezvoused at The Parsley Pot, and culminating, at the far end, at the Mahurangi River Winery and Restaurant.

Cimino Cole

Project coordinated by Mahurangi Action—for further information visit mahurangi.org.nz

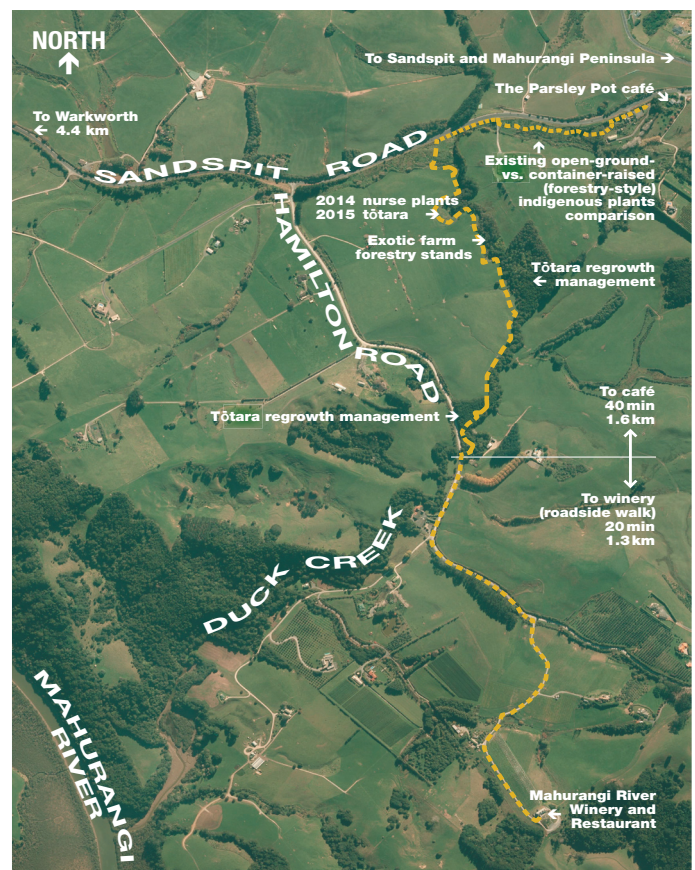
1 Barack Obama Praises Kiwi Prime Minister as Climate Change Ally, *The Guardian*

2 Pacific Ocean Remains Primed for an El Niño in 2014, Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

3 El Niño is Stronger This Century, But the Shift Can't be Linked to Climate Change Just Yet, *Carbon Brief*

4 White House Warned on Imminent Arctic Ice Death Spiral, *The Guardian*

RIGHT: What's not to like? With a café at one end and a winery and restaurant at the other, and handy to Warkworth and State Highway 1, the Mahurangi Farm-Forestry Trail is the epitome of accessibility



TTT Technical Handbook New technical article update

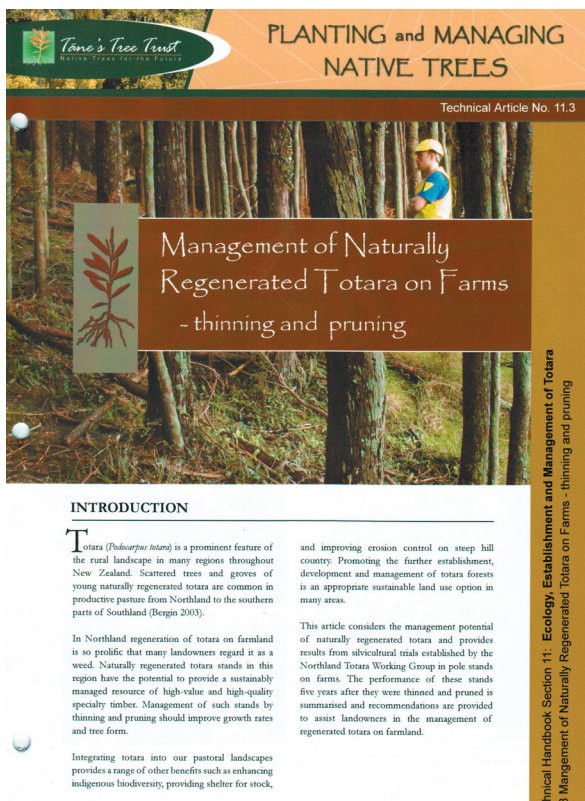
Michael Bergin

THE latest addition to the series of technical articles in the TTT Technical Handbook is Technical Article No. 11.3 Management of Naturally Regenerated Totara on Farms – thinning and pruning.

'This article considers the management potential of naturally regenerated totara and provides results from silvicultural trials established by the Northland Totara Working Group in pole stands on farms. The performance of these stands five years after they were thinned and pruned is summarised and recommendations are provided to assist landowners in the management of regenerated totara on farmland.'

The technical article also includes a brief introduction of the Northland Totara Working Group (NTWG) who work closely with TTT on many totara based projects throughout Northland. Together the NTWG and TTT are working towards a regional and eventually national industry revolving around the sustainable management of totara and other species as explained in the article.

'Provide the sustainable management of totara for commercial wood use is seen as an effective incentive to develop this resource on private farmland integrated with current agricultural land uses, an outcome that will also lead to many environmental and landscape benefits. Development of an industry based on this sustainable land-use option is the longer-term vision.'



Copies of the technical article are now available from the TTT office, office@tanestrees.org.nz. Individual article copies cost \$5 for TTT members and \$10 per article for non-members. Copies of the complete TTT Technical Handbook are also available at \$35 for TTT members or \$55 for non-members.

Bare rooted Native Plants at Bargain Prices

As outlined in the note about the AGM Philip Smith is able to produce large numbers of bare rooted native species at prices around \$1 each and possibly even lower if the order is large enough. Philip needs orders of up to 1000 plants to be able to offer the low price for bare rooted native plants. Thus far he is offering flax, manuka, kanuka, carex and karamu. Other possibilities will be discussed at the meeting. So if you have a need for a number of any of these species we will act as broker and accumulate numbers and act as distributor for plantings for next year. We have proven that these plants establish and grow as well, if not better, than container grown plants, they are certainly easier and lighter to transport and handle so planting costs are also reduced.

Please email the TTT office office@tanestrees.org.nz with your enquiry but even better come along to the AGM where we will be highlighting the whole

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The Nursery is at 155 Centennial drive, this is just off the new Taupo bypass at the first exit, as you exit it will be straight in front of you. See their web site for further information <http://www.tauponativeplant.co.nz/>

Also in this Newsletter the offer we are putting together to act as broker in putting together larger orders of plants. Refer to the feature box in this newsletter on bare rooted seedlings at bargain prices and be in touch with us.

There will be one other field visit during the day and we aim to conclude the day before 4pm.

Bank Account Change

TTT is now banking with SBS. The change was motivated by no bank fees, competitive interest rates and free internet banking allowing all invoices to be paid with the click of a button rather than cheque.

Please take note of the new account number if paying by direct credit:

031355 0729129 00



NZ Arb 2014 Conference

Registrations Open Now – ‘NZ Arb 2014 Conference’ Rotorua, 16-18 Oct 2014

You're invited to join around 200 arborists, urban foresters, business owners, researchers and educators in Rotorua for one of the biggest events on the arboricultural calendar. Registrations are open now and discounted earlybird rates are offered for a short time only.

Alongside the NZ Arb Conference is the NZArb/Husqvarna National Tree Climbing Championship. This event will showcase some of the country's (and world's!) best climbers, showcases new climbing techniques and provides a platform for the latest innovations in arborists' gear.

Registration available online at nzarb.org.nz

DONATIONS and BEQUESTS

All donations and bequests are gratefully accepted, and enable Tāne's Tree Trust to do more research and information sharing.

Donations: A note from the treasurer:

All members should be aware that all donations, but not subscriptions, are eligible for a 33.33% tax rebate on your income tax. We will be able to send you a certificate of donation for you to submit to IRD with your tax return.

Please remember us in your bequests.

AGM Reminder

Please note that Taupo meeting

Saturday 16 August 2014

is your opportunity to learn about reducing the cost of planting and have your input into our AGM.

Hope to see you there!

MEMBERSHIPS

As a charitable organisation we rely on our members to pay their memberships to assist with the costs of running the trust. We are currently experiencing difficult financial times and ask that all members please ensure their membership is up to date, or if you wish to no longer be a member please advise us at office@tanestrees.org.nz. Membership notices are currently being sent out.

OFFICE

If you wish to contact the office, please contact us on office@tanestrees.org.nz and Mel will reply as soon as possible. Or you can contact us on **027 900 7853**. Please note our phone number 07 858 4404 no longer works.

DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

If you have an email address and would like us to email you newsletters and TTT information rather than post, please either fill out the form attached, or email Mel, office@tanestrees.org.nz with your name, address, membership number and email address. This helps reduce the amount of paper we use. Thanks.