

MPI Sustainable farming fund – funded projects 2014

No.	Project Title	Executive Summary	Primary Contact
401291	Deer Industry Advance Parties	Formation of farmer-led groups who identify and implement focused opportunities to lift profit on their individual farms which are consistent with the deer industry's mission. And share results with the wider deer farming community.	Innes Moffat 04 4716111
401294	Integrated Management to Improve Productivity and Profitability for Māori agribusiness	Provide an integrated suite of farm management and benchmarking tools to increase returns for sheep and beef.	Malcolm Garnham 042398323
401297	A new approach to a sustainable bee population	Develop an environmentally sustainable alternative to chemical treatments for Varroa that will make the bee population healthier and cheaper to maintain, and provide pollination security for all bee-dependent agricultural sectors. Pollination security is crucial for primary production sectors that contribute approximately \$5.1 billion p.a. to the NZ economy.	Julie Varney 03 545 6566
401298	Growing cypresses and eucalypts: improving access to best-practice information	Produce practical grower information on cypresses and eucalypts, the two most promising diverse species-groups in New Zealand.	Harriet Palmer 04 973 3077
401440	An Irrigation Demand Calculator for NZ	Develop a freely accessible web-interface for the IRRICALC.	Andrew Curtis 03 341 2225
401443	Pest management in land use modification on the South Island West Coast	Develop recommendations for pasture pest management on the West Coast and communicate these recommendations to the wider community to address the issue of economic losses occurring through lost pasture production and long term reductions in pasture quality.	Sarah Mansfield 03 325 9990
401449	Control of giant buttercup	Case studies and field experiments will be conducted to enable effective management of giant buttercup in dairy pastures to reduce lost production revenue estimated at \$155 million/year nationally.	Graeme Bourdot +64 325 2497
401451	Improved control of tutsan (Hypericum)	Preventing the further spread of tutsan as well as reduce its abundance in New Zealand	Rosalind Burton 07 8958052

	androsaemum) in New Zealand	through introduction of a new biocontrol agent.	
401454	Integrated Aquaculture Solutions (IAS)	Feasibility project to develop a new aquaculture related activity that will be integrated with the discharge of dairy farm effluent by employing freshwater fish to consume aquatic plants grown in dairy effluent to produce commercially valuable fish products.	David Cooper 094258493
401457	Future Forages and their role in dryland systems	Determine yields over time for plantain and lucerne to improve the flexibility of farming systems. This information will be crucial in determining their ultimate role within future dryland systems.	Beverley Thomson 068748757
401458	Tūhono Whenua kiwifruit orchard productivity – achieving consistent and sustainable high orchard gate returns.	Lift the productivity and profitability of collectively owned Māori kiwifruit orchards in the Bay of Plenty, Northland and Gisborne by working with orchards at the operational and governance level.	Malcolm Garnham 042398323
401463	WOW- Working for Opihi Water	Provide a coordinated approach to develop widespread understanding of water quality issues and realistic land management solutions to improve the quality of the surface and ground water in the Opihi catchment.	Phil Keene 03 338 2634
401469	Farming with the Environment for Customers	The project is about developing farm systems across multiple properties that deliver sheep and cattle to proprietary specifications resulting in integrated supply chains that are able to supply branded beef and lamb products.	Alan McDermott 03 3582200
401476	New mite for biological control of Vespula wasps	Explore the potential of a new mite recently discovered in wasp nests as a sustainable biocontrol solution for Vespula wasps.	Ronny Groenteman 6433219904
401477	Impact and management of Argentine stem weevil under reduced levels of parasitism	Applied research will be conducted in order to provide a current economic analysis of the pest status of the Argentine stem weevil and develop sound advice to arable seed and cereal growers and the pastoral sector on mitigating its effects.	FAR 033455783
401482	Converted dairy waste as food source for land-based aquaculture	A two-year on-farm trial involving a process which converts dairy wastes into animal protein for use as a food source for fish populations occurring naturally in farm drains and adjacent waterways.	Russell De Luca 07 549 1823
401484	Root zone reality: a fluxmeter network to	Research to provide farmers and regional authorities with robust measurements of	FAR 033455783

	measure and manage nitrogen leaching losses on cropping farms	leaching losses from cropping farms across sites and seasons. This is important for improving freshwater quality whilst sustaining productivity.	
401487	Māori Incorporations/Trusts: Conducting business in your sector	Developing effective governance skills through education across key aspects of the industry, covering areas such as feed and animal systems, financial planning and reports, value chains, people management, leadership and the impact of public policy and regulations on business.	Chris Torrie 068691417
401488	IPM strategy development and demonstration for forage and seed brassicas	Provide seed and forage brassica growers with demonstrated methods to control all insect pests of brassicas while aiming to eliminate the need for organophosphate (OP) and synthetic pyrethroid (SP) insecticide applications.	Abie Horrocks 03 3259435
401491	Waikura Valley Land Restoration Project	Address the critical environmental risks associated with the large scale, active gully erosion problem in the Waikura Valley on the East Coast by researching and trialing new methods and tools to stabilise the severely damaged area.	Karen Te Kani 0211902003
401495	Integrated management of slug pests	Deliver guidelines and extension activities to support a fully integrated approach to managing slugs, based on pest monitoring, cultural control methods, optimising use of chemical molluscides and investigating the potential for biological slug control in New Zealand.	FAR 033455783
401499	Biological control of Californian thistle in hill-country sheep pastures	Investigate the use of a leaf-feeding beetle to control California thistle in hill country sheep pasture.	Michael Cripps 033259936
401501	Good management practices for intensive winter dairy grazing on arable farms	Produce a grazing risk-assessment framework for arable cropping with good management practices to mitigate negative environmental impacts.	FAR 033455783
401512	Brix and Pasture Energy Scale	Create awareness of opportunities to use the brix and pasture energy scale technology to improve the professionalism of farming by lifting the value of produce leaving the farm and reducing costs.	John King 03 332 5705
401514	Sustainable Dairy Grazing	Ensure the success and profitability of dairy support systems by understanding what a successful dairy grazing business looks like,	Kevin Wilson 034890911

		determining what resources are available to help sustain a successful business.	
401518	FeedRight: improving farm decision making around nutrition and feed management on pasture-based dairy farms	Deliver a piloted training and accreditation system for Rural Professionals to up-skill and deliver ruminant nutrition and feed management advice pertinent to NZ dairy systems to farmers, as well as extension delivery directly to farmers to increase their capability.	Kim Mashlan 07 8594077
401520	Otago Local Food Economy Project	Examine opportunities for economic and community development arising from local food economies by considering their potential in two traditional farming areas of Otago: Waikouaiti and Manuherikia.	Rhys Millar 034779242
401521	On-Farm Fertiliser Application Calibration	Development of fertiliser application calibration procedures suitable for farmers applying nutrients with their own equipment, allowing for on-farm checks to ensure that their own application equipment is performing to expectations.	Dan Bloomer 06 876 6630
401525	Grapevine growth stage monitoring for prediction of key phenological events	Transform the successful Marlborough VineFacts™ Newsletter from a regional to a national service while also extending the focus from Sauvignon blanc (SB) to other major grape varieties.	Janette McKibbin 09 306 5524
401530	Promoting responsible use of antibiotics on dairy farms	Provide dairy farmers and vets with new tools to manage antibiotics in a way that maximises their current effectiveness and preserves their efficacy for the future, resulting in more targeted and cost-effective use of antibiotics for herd owners.	Chris Compton 07 8895159
401531	Optimising Copper Use for Sustainable Control of Pseudomonas Syringae pv. Actinidiae in Kiwifruit Orchards	Improving use of spray technology for optimising coverage, spray programme options utilising available chemical modes of action to improve control whilst reducing the risk of resistance build up, and guidance on copper deposits in soil to allow growers to make informed decisions on chemical use.	Mike Chapman 075747139