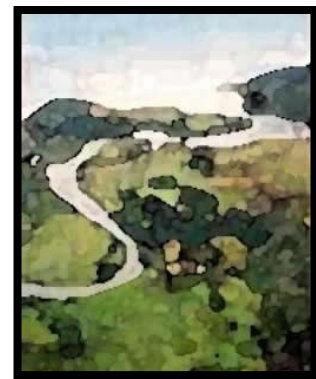


Demonstration Farm Summary

Takou River Farm

Takou Bay



Name of Farmer/Grower: Anna and Ian Sizer
Organic Certification: Organic FarmNZ Cert No:FN-168-2003 Fully Certified
Organic Production: Beef Cattle
Contact Details: Email: takouriver@xtra.co.nz Tel: 09 407 8065

Mission Statement

The mission at Takou River Farm is to research, apply, and integrate organic farm and woodlands management in order to create a sustainable economically viable operation. We want to preserve the natural beauty of the landscape, keep our soils and woodlands alive and save it for future generations.

Objectives

To implement and demonstrate agriculture and woodlands management practices that is organic, sustainable, and economically viable
To establish and maintain a breeding program for organic Hereford Cattle that are healthy and contented. To provide our customers with the highest quality and good tasting meat.
To enhance the soil through natural-source soil amendments that builds healthy top soil that is alive, balanced and provide quality organic grass for our cattle.

Summary of Takou River Farm

56 hectares of pasture and woodland. The conversion of Takou River Farm to organic certification commenced in July 2003 when two independent audits were completed to verify the suitability of the farm including soil test reports. The main issues included gorse/tobacco weed eradication, major depletion of the soil nutrients in the top soil, These issues and cattle management and are being addressed as follows:

Gorse and Tobacco weed eradication

- 1) All suitable grazing areas that can be accessed by a tractor and mulcher have been isolated by post and wire fencing
- 2) A stone removal programme has been implemented in these grazing areas
- 3) These areas are being mulched twice per year
- 4) All areas outside the grazing area are being planted with native trees to form a shelter belts with over 10,000 natives trees have been planted to date.

The Land

- 1) The soil tests conducted in November 2006 outline the deficiencies of minerals and trace elements – use of Lime with ROK Solid Full Spectrum and ORGANIC 100 are used to help restore the soil health by providing nutrients for the microorganisms that enhance the soil.
- 2) A programme of fencing of water ways to minimize contamination

Cattle Health

- 1) Use of natural mineral salt licks
- 2) Homeopathic drenching using apple vinegar and garlic
- 3) Pasture rotation programmed to avoid wet ground conditions for cattle and proper grazing of pasture

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require more information or would like to visit the Farm.