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## Organics Newsletter April 2024

Kia ora,

It's a busy time for the organics sector, with Organics Week and associated events rapidly approaching next month. Then in June the AsureQuality Organics team will be at [Mystery Creek Fieldays](#) alongside our [Sustainability Assurance](#) colleagues.

### **Organics Week Aotearoa, 1-7 May**

Highlighting our long-standing commitment to the New Zealand Organics Sector, AsureQuality is once again proud to be a **silver sponsor** of this year's [Organic Week Aotearoa](#).

This is a week-long celebration of organic agriculture featuring events up and down the country. This year's theme is "Where nature thrives" and promises to showcase organic producers as guardians of biodiversity through organic farming. We're looking forward to getting out and about, and being inspired by the stories from our country's amazing organic producers.

### **Would you like to share the beauty of your farm by hosting a farm open day or farm tour during Organic Week 2024?**

Event organisers are looking for organic farmers who would like to host a farm open day or tour. Closer connections between organic farms and local communities can help with re-connecting people to the land, showcasing your commitment to land management and kaitiakitanga and fostering engagement and local pride. All whilst helping grow customer demand for your products.

Register your farm event [here](#), so the team can assist with marketing, and connect you with locals to help with setup. For more information, contact the Organic Week team on [events@organicweek.co.nz](mailto:events@organicweek.co.nz)

A key event in this year's Organics Week is the [Organic Futures Symposium](#) in Wellington on 3 May which promises to be inspiring. With the theme of "Navigating the changing terrain of Organics in Aotearoa New Zealand", the day will focus on the evolving landscape of organics, with speakers sharing their insights and expertise on navigating the challenges of genetic engineering and the demand for outcome-focused evidence for our domestic and international markets.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to discuss a specific example, please get in touch via [organics@asurequality.com](mailto:organics@asurequality.com) to talk to our Technical Manager – Matt Gallagher.



*Jamie Tucker, Programme Coordinator in the Sustainability Assurance team at AsureQuality*

The symposium is followed by the **OrganicNZ Awards** night, and we're excited to congratulate Jamie Tucker, programme coordinator in the Sustainability Assurance team at AsureQuality, who is a finalist in the [Organic NZ Emerging Leader of the Year](#) category.

Jamie founded [Laughing Pūkeko](#) market garden in Canterbury and is a strong advocate for organics, volunteering at OANZ and engaging with Eat NZ as a 2022/23 Kaitiaki. This winter she'll be delivering workshops on backyard veggie garden planning through Selwyn District Council. Jaime and her partner are currently looking to purchase farmland so they can continue growing organic, nutrient dense food. She says, "We're fortunate in the organics sector that we take the opportunity to uplift and celebrate our fellow growers and makers, and it's an honour to be nominated."

For more information and to purchase tickets for the Symposium and Awards night, visit [Organic Futures Symposium](#). We look forward to seeing you there!

### **MyOrganics – online introduction**

You will have seen our recent communication about the up-coming re-launch of our newly upgraded MyOrganics system, with improved functionality for completing your tasks online. We're pleased to offer two introductory webinar sessions, designed to help you get up and running quickly with the new system.

MyOrganics Webinar sessions:

- [12.00pm, Thursday 2 May - register here](#)
- [12.00pm, Monday 6 May - register here](#)

### **Discussion and destiny at the ODPG Conference**

The AsureQuality team were proud to sponsor the Organic Dairy and Pastoral Group (ODPG) 2024 Conference in Havelock North earlier this month. With the theme of "Discussion and Destiny", the conference provided a fantastic opportunity for the organic farming sector to share thoughts on the pressures they face, and the pathways forward. For AsureQuality, it was a great chance to engage with farmers outside of the usual auditing context, and our team members returned feeling energised. [Read more here.](#)



Ngā mihi

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