

High Performance Manuka Plantations *PGP Programme*

Quarterly Progress Report

April to June 2012 (Quarter 4 2011/12)

Executive Summary

There are four projects / objectives in the High Performance Manuka Plantations PGP Programme.

Work was progressed in the following areas during Quarter 4 2011/12:

Objective 1: Determine the key environmental factors which influence plant growth, flowering, nectar yield and nectar quality through controlled greenhouse trials

Good progress is being made. Plant material from several Manuka clones, and a range of soils have been collected with the trials ready to begin from mid-August 2012.

Objective 2: Determine the effects of site, microsite and stocking rate on growth, flowering, nectar yield and quality

Data on plant establishment, survival, growth and flowering has been recorded for year 1 of the established Manuka variety trial plots and broad acre Manuka plantings at two sites in the lower North Island.

Development of a field nectar sampling technique is on-going.