

# Hawke's Bay Farm Forester

**HBFFA & NZ Landcare Trust Biochar Field Day 16 October**



***Here's something a little different and a first for our region. The HBFFA in association with the NZ Landcare Trust invite you to a Biochar field day at Te Tua Station.***

A range of presentations and demonstrations will cover the production of 'Biochar' and its applications in agriculture.

## **What is Biochar?**

Biochar is a fine-grained charcoal that is high in organic carbon and resistant to decomposition. It is produced from heating (generally burning) organic materials to hot temperatures under oxygen limited conditions. The resulting carbon is stable will stay in this form for 100's of years.

The benefits of using charcoal to improve the texture and productivity of soils has been known for centuries.

More recent applications include as a soil amendment for reducing nutrient leaching and as an animal health supplement - Biochar has been shown to improve growth rates in livestock, lower methane production and reduce the need for drenching.

Biochar is currently being investigated as a means to lock up carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, thus a method to help reduce the impacts of global climate change

**When:** Saturday 16 October from 10.00am

## **What to bring:**

Bring suitable clothing including sturdy footwear, sunscreen and hat. The afternoon will finish with a bbq, but bring a long a picnic lunch, snacks, plenty to drink and a couple of dollars for a raffle.

## **Where:**

Meet at the Te Tua woolshed, 3005 State Highway 50. Te Tua is 11.4km south of Fernhill on Roy's Hill Rd (SH 50), or 7.4km west of Bridge Pa on Maraekakaho Rd. Look out for the HBFFA banner

