

SHOWCASING SUSTAINABILITY



'SHOWCASING SUSTAINABILITY' IS A SERIES OF CASE STUDIES FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES WHO ARE REDUCING THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT.



Priority One
Tauranga
Moana

SHOWCASING SUSTAINABILITY

COMVITA



Who They Are

Comvita are a global leader in the creation of Mānuka honey with the purpose of working in harmony with bees and nature in Aotearoa, to heal and protect the world. They actively seek to generate positive social outcomes in their global communities. We sat down with Holly Brown, the Chief Purpose and Transformation Officer, and Heather Johnston, the Head of Safety and Sustainability. They shared that Comvita are aware they have a large role in creating a world where bees and people can thrive together.

Quick Wins

Taking a sustainability lens to everyday activities can offer quick wins. Holly and Heather shared they are re-evaluating specific aspects of their operations to keep improving on their sustainability journey. We collated a small handful of the quick wins Comvita have accomplished.

To Date They Have:

- Redesigned lozenge packaging to be fully recyclable.
- Built a zero-waste system that makes wax blocks out of left-over wax from their hives.
- Removed shrink wrap from their honey packaging.
- Planted over 60 fruit trees on-site.
- Implemented a monitor in their reception area to show how much power is generated from solar panels.
- Gifted new staff a Mānuka seedling for their home.
- Completed a survey of kiwis at one of their manuka forests and found 22!

Inspiration

Comvita are influenced by a consistent desire to be a global sustainability leader. They are driven by the awareness that they could be an inspiration to other companies and industry partners. Being such a large global company with influence already, they feel it is important to lead by example.

Sustainability Scale

This five-stage scale symbolises where the business is on its sustainability journey; from emerging to mature.



Big Wins

Comvita have adjusted their sustainability focus to be more in line with the type of business they want to be and the role they play in positively impacting beyond their own organisational boundaries. To actively work towards this, they have created their Harmony Plan which plays specific attention to climate leadership, restoring the balance of nature, kaitiaki for bees, and positively impacting communities.

Five Ways Comvita are Creating Sustainable Change:

- Refurbishing their office at Paengaroa with the aim to achieve green star accreditation.
- Creating a roadmap towards being 100% recyclable, renewable and compostable by 2025 with a dedicated team to achieve this.
- Putting efforts into reforestation with their Mānuka forests removing 4x more than the amount of carbon produced from their NZ operations last year ([scope 1](#), [scope 2](#)).
- Curating a work environment that promotes self-lead sustainable innovation.
- Focusing on understanding their carbon footprint for all New Zealand operations to determine their starting point. This helps them to know their pathway to be carbon net positive.

Future Aspirations:

To ensure they are progressing on their sustainability journey, Comvita have committed to become:

- Carbon neutral by 2025.
- Carbon positive by 2030.
- B-Corp certified.

27%

OF POWER USAGE IS
SOLAR GENERATED

10 million

MĀNUKA SEEDLINGS
PLANTED THROUGH THE
REFORESTATION
PROGRAMME

4,085 tCO₂e

(TONNES OF CARBON
EMISSIONS)
REMOVED THROUGH
COMVITA MĀNUKA
FORESTS



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