

He Maramataka Māori

MĀORI LUNAR CALENDAR

THE RISING OF MATARIKI INDICATES THAT THE NEW YEAR IS HERE. HOWEVER THE NEW YEAR, LIKE THE FIRST OF JANUARY, DOES NOT BEGIN UNTIL THE APPEARANCE OF THE FIRST 'NEW MOON' AFTER THE RISING OF MATARIKI. THE FIRST NEW MOON INDICATES THE BEGINNING OF THE LUNAR CYCLE, WHICH RUNS FROM NEW MOON TO NEW MOON. THIS YEAR, THE NEW MOON OCCURS ON THE 18TH OF JUNE DURING THE TIME OF MATARIKI.

Day 1

Whiro

Moon entering a new phase - an unfavourable day for planting food or fishing. A good night for eeling.

Day 4

Ōue

A good day for establishing tuber beds, planting food and fishing

Day 8

Tamatea-ā-aiō

Eel, fish and kūmara are abundant but small. A productive day to collect shellfish. Fishermen beware!

Day 12

Māwharu

A most favourable day for planting food. Kūmara are large but rot quickly. A good day for fishing and a good night for trapping crayfish and eel.

Day 16

Rākaunui (full moon)

A very good day - crops are bountiful. A good day for fishing but not eeling

Day 20

Korekore te whiwhia

An unproductive night on the shore - winds sweep the sea

Day 24

Tangaroa-ā-roto

A productive day for fishing and planting food

Day 28

Ōrongonui

A very productive day for planting food, fishing and eeling.

Day 30

Mutuwhenua (new moon)

Unproductive day and night. The moon has diminished and the world is in total darkness.

