

## Job Information Pack

### Position Summary

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**Property Name:**

Smedley Station

**Property Summary:**

Josiah Howard died in 1919. He left Smedley Station to the Crown as an endowment to be carried on as a farm undertaking and to train young people in practical farming. Smedley exists as a school of excellence to develop the very best of future farmers.

The Public Trust National Farm Centre is responsible for the administration of Smedley Station and the Cadet Training. The Howard Estate Advisory Board, established in 1927, advises Public Trust on the operation of the Station and the Cadet Training Program.

The property is 5050Ha (3186ha effective), wintering 28,000su. It is located in Central Hawkes Bay, 40kms west of Waipukurau near the Wakarara and Ruahine Ranges.

Smedley is farmed commercially. An annual profit of approximately \$290,000 needs to be earned to cover the cost of the Smedley Cadet Training Farm. Smedley's income does not attract income tax but the cadet training is a major contribution to agricultural education.

More information on Smedley Station can be found here:

<https://smedley.ac.nz/>

**Job Title:**

Block Manager - Ridgeland

**Position Overview:**

Ridgeland Block is 7km from Smedley Station (at the beginning of the road) and is 5 minutes' drive from Tikokino.

This block is predominately trade stock; finishing the lambs from the main station, supplying bulls to the dairy industry and fattening approximately 400 Friesian bulls. There are also 600 velvet stags (deer experience is not necessary but would be beneficial).

Strong skills in the area of pasture management and working out stock rotations will be required. The block has Lucerne and Plantain along with a winter cropping programme within this feed platform.

Along with the stock work you will also be capable of completing general tasks including managing R & M fencing, handpiece work and all other activities related to farming.

You will have two cadets with you each week and be responsible for planning and supporting them during this time. During busy times of the farming calendar you will be required to help on the main station, i.e. shearing, docking, weaning.

You will need to be self-motivated, well organised and happy either working on your own or with others. You will have a strong work ethic and have a sense of humour. A team of 4-5 working dogs will be a requirement.

You will possess a strong understanding of Health & Safety and the ability to follow through with the station's farm policies and procedures.

You will be encouraged to complete further training allowing you the option to progress through to a Farm Manager role within the next 3-4 years.

**Specialist Skills Required:**

- A passion and desire to mentor and train young people.
- Excellent Stockmanship/dog handling skills
- Strong Repair & Maintenance skills
- Strong understanding of Health & Safety
- Good practical skills
- Feed budgeting & pasture management
- Strong communication skills
- Computer literate

**Duration of Position:**

Full-time Permanent

**Proposed Start Date:**

March 2018 or 4 weeks from job offer

**Accommodation:**

A nice, tidy 3 bedroom house 30 minutes from Waipukurau and 5 minutes' drive to Tikokino.

**Staff Structure:**

- Station /Business Manager
- 2 Block Managers
- Stock Manager on main station
- 1 Workshop Manager
- Fencing & Maintenance Manager
- Curriculum Manager
- 2 Cooks
- Cadets (22) – 11 year 1 and 11 Year 2

**Career Opportunities/Benefits:**

To be supported through to a Management position by a strong team.

**Partner Work Opportunities:**

There are work opportunities available 30 minutes away in Waipawa or Waipukurau. Hastings is 40 minutes away.

## Lifestyle Information

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| <b>Farm Location &amp; Community Information:</b> | The property is situated in Central Hawke's Bay, 32kms west of Waipukurau near the Wakarara and Ruahine Ranges offering numerous recreational opportunities.               |
| <b>Schooling:</b>                                 | Ridgeland Block is 6km to Tikokino Primary School<br>There is a bus 5km down the road to CHB College<br>Hawke's Bay has a range of excellent High School Boarding options. |

## Farm Information

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| <b>Farm Area (total):</b>       | Smedley Station - 5054ha   |
| <b>Farm Area (effective):</b>   | Smedley Station - 3186ha<br><br>Ridgeland Block – 540ha  |
| <b>Contour:</b>                 | Flat/rolling/steep   |
| <b>Soil Type:</b>               | Silts, Loams, Ash to Greywacke on steep country  |
| <b>Rainfall:</b>                | 900 – 1500ml   |
| <b>Fencing:</b>                 | Well subdivided with both conventional and electric fencing. All to an exceptional standard.                                     |
| <b>Woolshed &amp; Yards:</b>    | 4 x Woolsheds<br>Numerous Satellite yards<br><br>Ridgelands – 4 stand closed board – with capacity of approx. 450-500 night-pen. |
| <b>Other Buildings on Farm:</b> | At the main station there is a full complement of well-maintained station buildings including accommodation for 22 cadets.       |
| <b>Weeds:</b>                   | Normal weeds that are associated with a hill country station under control.  |
| <b>Water:</b>                   | Ridgeland Block is 80% reticulated, with plans to increase this water system.  |
| <b>Tracks:</b>                  | Well maintained all weather tracks   |
| <b>Machinery:</b>               | Full complement of station machinery   |

## Farm Policy & Systems

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### Stock - Breeds/Number:

The stock classes are varied to fulfil the Stations range of training requirements.

#### Sheep

- 10,200 ewes to ram
- 3,000 to Terminal ram, rest to Romney
- All progeny finished
- 3,000 ewe hoggets to ram

#### Cattle

- 400 Angus breeding cows
- All progeny finished
- Friesian 2 year bulls bought and finished
- Dairy grazing

#### Deer

- 350 red hinds mated to red stags
- 600 velvet stags farmed

#### Ridgelands Block:

Lambs 3000-4000 finished per season

Home bred bulls to supply Dairy Market

Friesian Bulls – dependent on season 400 animals are brought in between 250kg-450kg and looking at average out at 300kg cc's

Velvet Stags - 470 MA Stags and 130 spikers

### Stock Policy:

Breeding  Finishing

Smedley has developed a high performing breeding and finishing livestock enterprise.

### Production System

Semi Intensive  Conventional

### Animal Health Practices:

Best practice at all times.

There is a comprehensive and modern animal health programme.

### Cropping Policy:

#### Ridgeland Block

Annual pasture renewal and fodder cropping programme

35ha Lucerne

35ha Plantain

Additional Forage crops are being looked at.

Map

