

Achieved

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Kumara production in Kaipara".

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About Kumara

- **What is Kumara?**

Kumara is a root vegetable that grows underground that belongs to the bindweed or morning glory family, its grown in new zealand as a major crop for northland in september they get planted and around January to April they are harvested, kumara is also known as sweet potato and it is a starchy and sweet tasting.

- **Who eats it? (Culturally importance) How is it culturally important to some people's diets.**

Kumara is a staple for maoris as a main food source and was brought over to new zealand by the maoris in the waka. It is used as a base food in hangis and other polyneisain cultural foods, Kumara can be stored witch means back in the day when it wasn't kumara season they could store it for later use to provide them throughout the year and also were able to be stored as they travelled on the waka witch made it an easy food source, it is also a starchy carb food which meant it was a good energy food and healthy

<https://www.lovekumara.co.nz/we-love-kumara/>

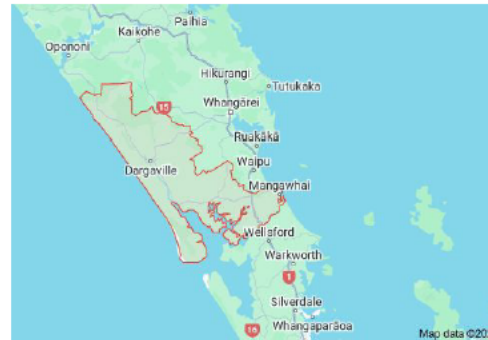
<https://teara.govt.nz/en/kumara/print>

Where is kumara produced?

All of our kumara is grown here in the north of New Zealand. The sunny, tropical Northland climate and its rich soil are what kumara love. With all our produce entirely New Zealand grown, you can trace each of our kumara back to the paddock it was grown in.

Dargaville is the Kumara Capital of New Zealand as 95% of kumara you'll find in the supermarket comes from the Kumara Capital.

<https://fieldco.co.nz/where-is-our-kumara-grown/>



Purpose of growing kumara

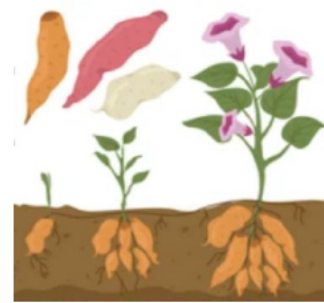
- Cultural connections/ historical reasons/ origins of whenua –

The purpose of growing Kumara is for many reasons such as exporting and selling in markets all over nz where the Kumara can be used for many different food purposes, witch then provides a continuous income year round because of the amounts of kumara being exported to keep the supermarkets supplies full. Another purpose is for the people needing a job and a source of income for workers, Kumara is also a maori traditional food and has been for many years, back when Māori were voyaging they used the Kumara as a main food source in there wakas for while they were travelling, they bought the Kumaras also known as sweet potatoes from south america and they have continued to be a popular food for everyone in nz and is very well known and provided because of the really good suited land space and tendency we have in the kaipara to keep them growing and maintained.

- Making a profit – The kumara produced from the kaipara goes around in the region being sold in markets and supermarkets and good for local towns like ruawai the kumara capital, dargaville, whangarei and other places in the kaipara, making good profit means more money for business and for farms who grow and produce these plants.

Why is Kumara produced here?

It's because of the shallow clay bed that makes up a lot of the land on the river plains near the Wairoa River. Kumara grow well in the alluvial plains of the northern Kaipara Region. Rich topsoil of the river plains is furrowed to a depth which ensure a good-looking well-shaped kumara crop. This shallow clay bed means the kumara, which is a root crop, grows to a good depth, before hitting the clay layer.



- Black organic soil (topsoil) – has little strength and must be stripped
- Pumice – water moves through it quickly. It is an erosion risk and can block culverts
- Weakness area between pumice and hard white clay – water moves through pumice and then forms a slip zone on the clay
- Clay – unworkable when wet. Low strength when re-worked and acts like Plasticine. It may also swell. Beware!

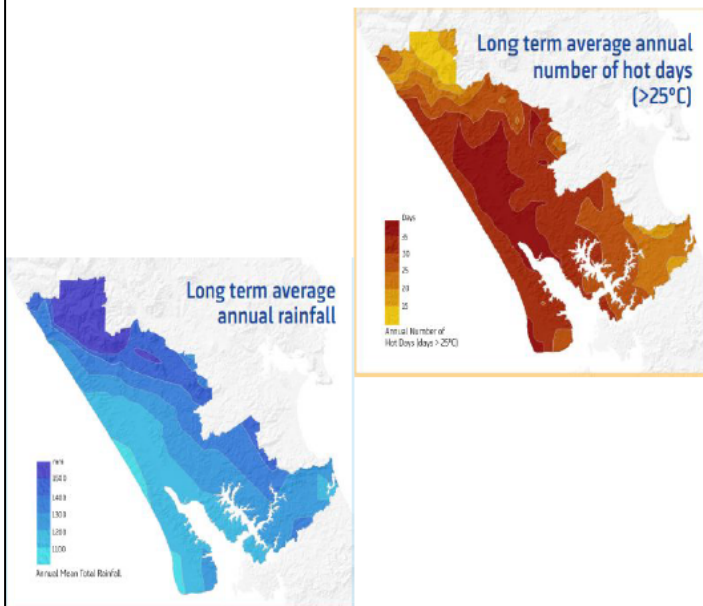
Another reason is because the Kaipara region also has a very tropical climate, with warm summers and very mild winters. Kumara are a subtropical plant, grow best in tropical areas. The average temperature in the Kaipara is relatively high with our warm nights and high sunshine hours. We typically have more sunshine than other parts of Northland even.

• What kind of climate do we have in the Kaipara?

In our Kaipara region the climate can be described as mild, humid and windy because of its northern location, in summer its warm and humid while in winters its mild. Rainfall is typically common year round with occasionally having very heavy falls, although dry spells and drought can occur especially during the summer and autumn months.

https://www.kaipara.govt.nz/uploads/kickstart/Infographic_Kaipara_Climate.pdf

Temperatures in Kaipara



- Talk about the temperature averages the Kaipara receives, include maps.

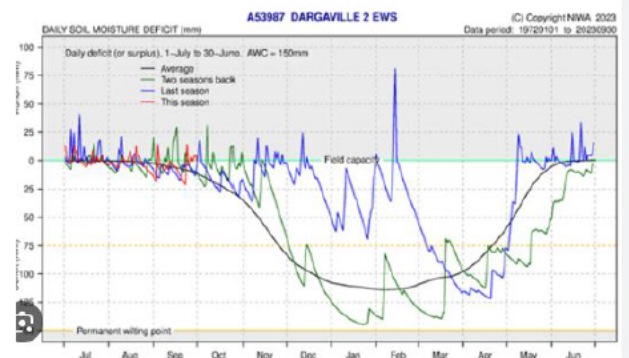
During the summer most of the district observes an average of 25-40 hot days (days with temperature >25°C) per year.

During the winter months the annual average rainfall for most is between 1,100mm and 1,400mm. Summer total rainfall ranges from 225-300mm, tropical cyclones, or storms of tropical origin, affect Kaipara from time to time. These weather systems usually bring heavy rain and strong winds to the area.

https://www.kaipara.govt.nz/uploads/kickstart/Infographic_Kaipara_Climate.pdf

Rainfall in Kaipara

The rainfall in the Kaipara helps the kumara grow but if too much rainfall occurs like a cyclone or storm the kumara can get flooded and drown. Well watered, well nourished kumara will have a better chance of keeping insect pests and diseases away.



Evaluation of growing Kumara in Kaipara

Here you will include all the factors which have led to kumara being grown in Kaipara and evaluate their relative importance to the **purpose** and **location**. (Go back to your slides for understanding of Purpose and Location, you must make the links to the factors).

This is your summary.

This is my evaluation of how and why Kumara are grown in the Kaipara. Kumara have been grown in the Kaipara for generations. As I have already stated, one purpose of Kumara being grown in the Kaipara is the cultural history and importance, like how it was easily stored during long journeys and also the trade value. The location in the Kaipara is perfect for growing Kumara because of its mild and sunny climate year round with not a lot of rainfall to drown the Kumara crops. The land space used to grow the crop is also suited for Kumara because it's all flat straight land which makes it easy for machinery and growers to work.