



Waiata – E Tū Kahikatea

E tū kahikatea
Hei whakapae ururoa
Awhi mai, awhi atu
Tātou, tātou ē

E tū kahikatea
Karekau e hinga
Awhi mai, awhi atu
Tātou, tātou ē

E tū pūriri
Toha rā o peka
Awhi mai, awhi atu
Tātou, tātou ē

Kahikatea, white pine. The koroī or aril from the Kahikatea tree was an important food resource, and served at feasts. The wood was also used for making bird spears and the soot obtained from burning the heartwood was used for tā moko (traditional tattooing).

Pūriri found mainly in the upper north island are considered tapu (sacred trees to Māori) used by Māori during tangi (funeral) ceremonies.

Stand like the kahikatea
Spreading across the horizon
Embrace one another
We are as one

Stand like the kahikatea
That will not fall
Embrace one another
We are as one

Stand like the Pūriri
Spread your branches
Embrace one another
We are as one

