

Newsletter

Continuing Product Development

With doom and gloom forecasted for the dairy industry and, Fonterra chairman, John Wilson saying "current prices are unsustainably low and we are seeing them beginning to impact production levels globally.

We have confidence that prices will recover over the course of the season. However, it will be a tough season for our farmers." Environmental Fertilisers have been focusing on developing products that can be applied using conventional spreading equipment. This puts the farmer in control of when the fertiliser goes on, and reduces the additional cost of paying someone else to spread the fertiliser for you.

We have been developing products like Black Urea (pictured), Humated Sulphate of Ammonia, Humated Soluble Nitro Cal and refining our old favourite, Bio-Rocket.

These products help to maintain soil nitrogen levels with the least impact on the environment. The carbon, as humic, ulmic and fulvic acid, provides food for beneficial fungi and bacteria. Atmospheric loss (volatilisation) and loss to ground water (leaching) is reduced with these products. Benefiting both the environment and the farmer (less nitrogen is lost from the system). These products also help to prevent soil carbon depletion and maintain the carbon to nitrogen ratio (which will help keep soils in a better condition to hold onto water during summer dry periods).



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SPRING SPECIAL

Nano Cal

\$70/tonne + GST

(While stocks last. Payment up-front. Additional charges apply if mixed with other fertilisers)



ENVIRONMENTAL FERTILISERS

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New Product

Ball-Milled Bio-Rocket



To introduce our new product we have a special price of \$500 for 1000 litres plus the cost of the pod (\$250) plus GST. Normal retail price will be \$750 for 1000L plus the pod, plus GST.

Ball-Milled Bio-Rocket is a foliar feed designed to maximise energy input directly to plants. Getting key minerals: nitrogen (both nitrate and ammonium N), phosphorus, calcium, sulphur and carbon to the plant root system via foliar feeding. It is beneficial for all crops, fruits, vegetables, flowers and ornamentals.

Application rates vary depending on what you want to achieve, but as a guideline, apply 50-200L/ha with 100-200L of water at 6 week intervals or after grazing to increase growth. Horticulture as irrigation or foliar, apply 50-300L/ha every two months. Do not apply to foliage after fruit set – apply only to the ground (as fruit staining can occur).

Benefits include:

- **Increased energy levels (ERGS)**
- **Improved root structure**
- **Better fruit size and flavour**



Riparian Planting



To give your trees the best start in life it is preferable not to spray the grass with herbicide before planting – however you will need to get rid of any problematic weeds such as blackberry or honey suckle.

Instead of using herbicide, I simply put the sod back 'up-side-down' after you have planted the tree (this kills or stunts the grass through lack of sunlight). Soak your tree in water prior to planting and/or water after planting.

The following biological fertiliser filled with beneficial soil microbes and a good balance of nutrients will get your trees off to the best start. In a bucket or wheelbarrow, mix 2 parts Nano Cal with 1 part Natures Garden Fertiliser.

Prepare your hole for the tree, then place half a cup of the above mix in the bottom of the hole – stir it in a little, then plant your tree.

The mix can also be used when potting up trees for growing on in a nursery until they are big enough to plant out. I mix approx. two litres of the fertiliser mix with 1 wheelbarrow full of half compost and half sand.





Koanga institute

The Koanga Institute have been collecting heritage fruit trees, vegetables and flowers for over 30 years. This nationally important collection is in turn built on the foundation of hundreds of generations of gardeners and farmers who have nurtured these seeds or trees. Check out their website (www.koanga.org.nz) for the new improved seed catalogue, for e-books and old fashioned paper ones, and information about permaculture design courses and workshops.



Acres USA

FARMS WITH MORE FLOWERS BOOST BEE POPULATION

Flower strips sown into farmers' fields not only attract bees but increase their numbers, new University of Sussex research shows. A two-year study of farms in West Sussex and Hampshire in the UK found that England's most common bumblebee species saw a significant population growth where targeted, bee-friendly planting schemes were in place. Plants were chosen for their popularity with foraging bees.



LIGHT POLLUTION AFFECTS PLANT GROWTH & INSECTS

Artificial night-time light from sources such as street lamps affects the growth and flowering of plants and even the number of insects that depend on those plants for food, according to a study from the University of Exeter. The research shows that light pollution can impact the natural environment in complex ways that may be hard to predict. Due to the global extent of artificial light at night, there are concerns that these ecological impacts may be widespread.

GLYPHOSATE UNDER THE GUN

The Lancet Oncology, the world's premier scientific journal for cancer studies, recently published a paper by the World Health Organisation's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) that has classified glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup) as a "probable carcinogenic", outlining several scientific studies shown that it causes a range of cancers including non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, renal cancers, skin cancers and pancreatic cancer. There are other scientific studies linking glyphosate to breast cancer, thyroid cancer and liver cancers. There are numerous studies linking glyphosate to multiple diseases, such as Crohn's disease, celiac disease, gluten intolerance and damage to key organs including the kidneys and liver as well as birth defects. Testing for glyphosate is a recent occurrence, and it is still not included in many food pesticide residue studies. Because glyphosate is in the air, water and food, humans are likely to be accumulating it in low doses over time. For more information, read the May 2015 edition of Acres USA.

Ring for this seasons
new products & specials!

Call today
0800 867 6737

Our Goal

To maintain and grow your soil health & productivity, pasture & crop yields & profitability by supplying fertilizers producing mineral-dense feed/food.

Our Motto

Healthy soil, healthy pasture/crops, healthy animals, healthy consumers.



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