

# Newsletter

## Fine Lime... Sugar Lime... Fine Lime

**Now's the time to start thinking about putting your autumn fertiliser on. Do you need to have a soil test done to find out how many nutrients you have used up growing the grass to make the milk? How are your calcium levels?**

When studying to become a dentist, Dr Alexander "Sande" Beddoe learnt that healthy teeth have a self-cleansing process from the tooth's centre to the outside surface or enamel. In order to maintain the ideal health for teeth, you must have a healthy mineral rich body. What causes the natural self-cleansing process to breakdown, resulting in tooth decay? Simply the lack of sufficient minerals, especially calcium, in your diet.

Food grown today is lacking nutrients. Calcium is used more than any other mineral in life and is critical in every phase of cell functions in your body.

It is also one of the most difficult minerals to digest in an inorganic state. That is why it is important to let nature digest it for you from the soil up, through the plant.

The following information comes from Dr Beddoe and highlights the crucial role that calcium plays in both soil and plant health.

Calcium is required by weight and volume more than any other element. Calcium is to soil what grease is to a bearing.

- Available calcium determines available energy for the plant.
- Calcium feeds soil bacteria. Soil Bacteria release food for plants when they die.
- Calcium increases plants resistance to disease and insect attack by thickening and strengthening cell walls.
- Calcium is the key to good soil structure. Calcium + carbon + water opens up the soil structure to oxygen, improves drainage and increases yields.
- Calcium is vital to the proper manufacture of plant sugars. Without calcium there will be inadequate buffering of plant acids (with a resulting sour taste in fruit – an indication that more calcium is needed).

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**Feb/March  
SPECIAL**

**Nano Cal**

**\$60/tonne**

**or \$80/tonne if paid  
following month**

**(prices exclude GST and  
are only while stocks last).**



### ENVIRONMENTAL FERTILISERS

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## Fine Lime... Sugar Lime... Fine Lime contined...

Environmental Fertilisers have Nano Cal, a fine lime (90 microns and less compared to Ag Lime which is 2000 microns and less) that is also rich in trace minerals (iron, copper, manganese, zinc and boron) and contains sugar to feed your soil biology. At approximately \$155 plus GST a tonne landed, and put on at rates of 300kg/ha (equivalent to 2.5 tonnes/ha of Ag Lime), Nano Cal becomes very affordable.

For a 100ha farm consider the following comparison (cartage not included):

### AG LIME:

250 tonne x \$55/tonne (approx.)  
= \$13,750

250 tonne x \$25/tonne spreading  
(approx.) = \$6,250

Total cost Ag Lime plus spreading  
= \$20,000

### NANO CAL:

30 tonne x \$120/tonne (approx.)  
= \$3,600

30 tonne x \$30/tonne spreading  
(approx.) = \$900

Total cost Nano Cal plus spreading  
= \$4,500

Plus the fine particle size of Nano Cal makes it available to the plant quickly. We recommend applying Nano Cal every 2 years to meet the plants requirements for calcium.



26-28  
February

Visit us at site 145 corner of  
Farmlands Road and Beyond  
Organics Weigh

## BioGro

Current Certificate of Compliance  
for BioGro (No. 3533)

A number of our products are BioGro certified. Check out our BioGro certified products and current certificate of compliance on our website, or we can email or post a copy to you.



# Growing Biological Kiwifruit

**After a wet and cold spring in Katikati, and weekly applications of EF Photo-Synthetic-Advancement Brew (P.S.A. Brew for short), biological kiwifruit grower Keith Holdom feels the crop is "chugging along nicely through the summer".**

That's not to say he is sitting around with his feet up with the dry weather conditions, "to keep on top of Psa (Pseudomonas syringae pv. Actinidiae), growers need to keep at it even in the summer". For Keith Holdom, this means monthly applications of EF P.S.A. Brew with some added food for the bugs (such as kelp). But if the weather turns wet and humid, he will adapt his applications to suit.

Pseudomonas syringae pv. actinidiae (Psa) is a bacteria that can result in the death of kiwifruit vines. Growth of the bacteria outside/inside the vines can result in leaf spotting, cane/leader dieback and, in extreme cases, vine death accompanied by the production of exudates (from Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH) website).

EF Photo-Synthetic-Advancement Brew is a foliar fertiliser that contains Pseudomonas fluorescens, Combo 12 and microbe food. EF Combo 12 is a blend of 12 beneficial soil and leaf bacteria and fungi. Monthly applications during summer increase the beneficial microbial diversity on the vine foliage and in the soil. It is important to apply food for the microbes such as EF Liquid Kelp or EF Fish Plus at the same time. During summer, EF Vegetative (which contains a little kelp) can be applied as the microbe food because it will not stain the fruit.

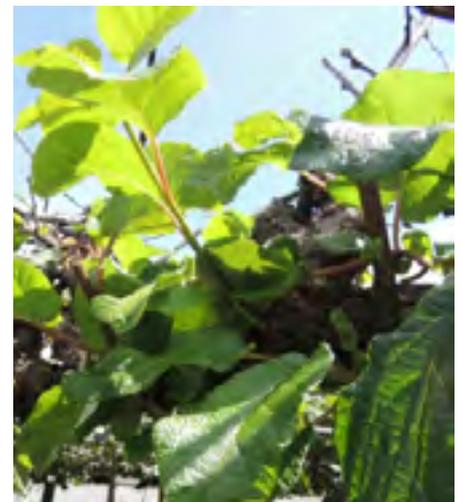
Keith Holdom has been working with Environmental Fertilisers for a number of years to improve the availability of essential plant nutrients in the soil through solid fertilisers and recently foliar fertiliser applications. Improving the fertility of the soil helps to keep the vines healthy and produces "better tasting fruit".

To monitor the plant availability of the soil nutrients (such as nitrogen, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus and potassium), monthly Reams Soil Testing have been carried out during the growing season. These tests are quick to carry out, affordable, and allow the grower to see if the vines need a foliar feed to keep them in peak condition.

Environmental Fertilisers Zespri Crop Protection approved foliar fertilisers include:

- EF Reproductive Foliar (to maximise flowering capacity of the plant)
- EF Vegetative Foliar (to improve brix levels, provide calcium and help fill the fruit)
- EF Cal Phos (BioGro certified liquid calcium phosphate foliar to improve brix, taste and dry matter)
- EF Cal Bor (BioGro certified micronised liquid boron to help improve flowering and pollination)
- Fruit Size (to increase fruit size and fill fruit)
- EF Photo-Synthetic-Advancement Brew (P.S.A. Brew). Increases beneficial microbial diversity on the vine foliage and in the soil
- EF Liquid Kelp (BioGro certified, kelp is a natural source of auxins, cytokins and gibberellins. Kelp also contains complex carbohydrates which are powerful microbial stimulents)
- EF FISH Plus (BioGro certified blend of fish protein, kelp and humate to help feed soil biology and the vines)

Keith Holdom feels that "biologically grown kiwifruit tastes a lot better. It does take a bit of work, but it is worth it in the long run".

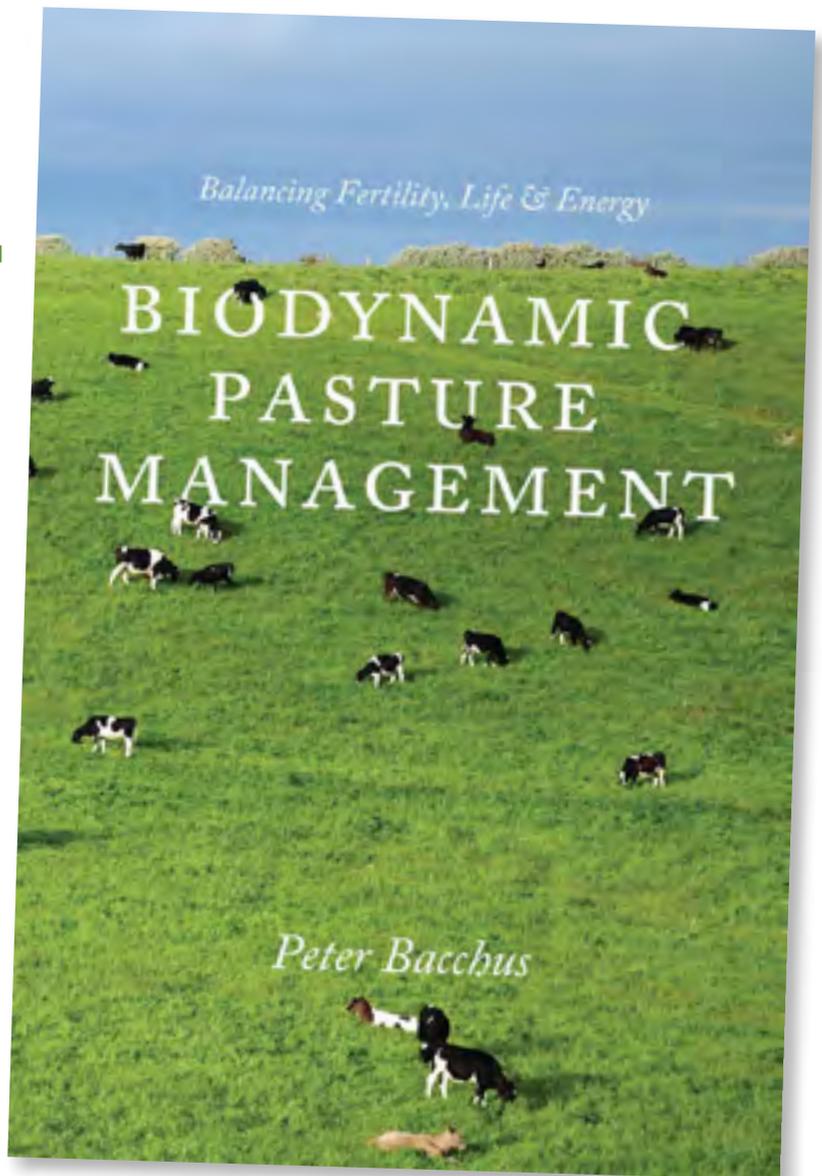


# ON THE ROAD with Peter Bacchus

I have recently started on the road for Environmental Fertilisers travelling from farm to farm to visit and inform farmers of range of supreme fertilisers that are available from the factory in Paeroa.

I do this because I enjoy meeting farmers and discussing issues of soil fertility, pasture quality, stock health and production. I know from past experience that when the mineral balance is optimum for the land and the purpose it is being used for that soil, pasture, animal health and production quality improve dramatically. Soil depth and water holding capacity improves quickly and dramatically. This leads the way for similar things to happen to the bank account.

*Peter has a book published by Acres USA, Biodynamic Pasture Management, where he shares his lifetime of experience on applying biodynamic's to pasture.*



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## Jerry Brunetti

Diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma in 1999 and given 6 months to 2 years to live, Jerry Brunetti followed a broad spectrum approach to prolong his life by 15 years including detoxification and improved nutrition. He was an internationally renowned speaker, author of numerous books and DVD's including *The Farm as Ecosystem*, *Food as Medicine and Cancer*, *Nutrition and Healing*.

In December 2014, Jerry Brunetti passed away. He will be sorely missed.



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### In Memoriam Jerry Brunetti

Supporter,  
Friend and Mentor

1950 – 2014

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# News in Brief (from Acres USA)

## **GYPSUM HELPS REDUCE PHOSPHORUS RUNOFF**

Gypsum, which has roots in the past as a farm soil treatment, also may have a bright future, and not just as a booster of crops but also a protector of water. Warren Dick, a scientist in Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, is two years into a three-year study of gypsum's benefits on farms to soil quality, crop yields and reducing phosphorus runoff. So far, he said, farm fields in his study treated with gypsum are seeing an average reduction of 55% in soluble phosphorus runoff, based on tests of water samples collected from the fields' drainage tiles. Experts say soluble phosphorus runoff from farms is a cause of the harmful algal blooms plaguing Lake Erie and other lakes in recent years.



## **BORON PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN CORN DEVELOPMENT**

Boron deficiency is one of the most widespread causes of reduced crop yield. A number of New Zealand soils are low or deficient in boron. Little is known about the ways which corn plants utilise the essential nutrient. Now, researchers at the University of Missouri have found that boron plays an integral role in development and reproduction in corn plants. The research found that a lack of boron causes a problem in the meristems, or the stem cells of the plant. Meristems comprise the growing points for each plant, and every organ in the plant is developed from these specialised stem cells. Insufficient boron causes these growing points to disintegrate, affecting corn tassels and kernels adversely.



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### **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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