



Organic Market News

ORGANIC MARKET NEWS

EDITION 39 :: August 2011

CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

MARKET UPDATE – BEEF

MARKET UPDATE – LAMB

MARKET UPDATE – HORTICULTURE

BFA WEB FORUM

FREE MAGAZINE PROMOTIONAL OFFER

STORY - CARCINOGENS FOUND IN COAL SEAM GAS PROJECT

STORY - CSIRO AUSTRALIA TECHNOLOGIES ZERO IN ON LIVESTOCK METHANE EMISSIONS

STORY - FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PESTICIDE FACES AUSTRALIAN BAN

STORY - NORTHERN RIVERS LOCAL GROWERS FORUM

SPONSORSHIP/PARTNERSHIP EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

EVENTS

CLASSIFIEDS:

AGISTMENT:

Agistment for cattle available

ACO certification 10797A and USDA NOP certified property

Location: Baralaba, Central Queensland

Country is good quality growing/finishing country

Contact: Gavin Bailey 07 4998 1281

email usmile4@bigpond.com

CATTLE AND BEEF :

Whole hereford heifers and steers.

Quiet, good doers.

BD cert no: 2232BD

Location: Central NSW

Contact: Ray Unger 02 6869 7635

122 Mixed-Sex Weaners

EU, NOP, ACO (4544A USDA) certified
Santa Angus Cross, Santa, Santa Short Horns
Full weight 288kg.
\$2.25/kg
Location: Augathella
Contact: John Elmes 07 4654 5454

SHEEP:**240 Merino ewes.**

Scanned in lamb to white Suffolk rams, to lamb in August.
BD cert no: 2232BD
Location: Central NSW
Contact: Ray Unger 02 6869 7635

PIGS**WANTED: Pig producers**

Opportunity exists to supply certified organic pork for overseas markets. If producers are interested in adding pig production to a currently certified operation or converting existing pig operations to organic, please contact Simone Tully, mob. 0408 451 078.

FEED & GRAINS:**Clover & Native Millet Hay**

Large Squares or Rounds
USDA ACO Certification 10511A
Location: Darling River Floodplain
Contact: Justin & Julie McClure 02 68 3373 964
e-mail jj@kallarastation.com.au

Hay 5x4 rolls and small squares

clover/pasture/oaten
NCO certified 5360
Location: Milang SA
Contact: Tim Brown 0427 737 579

Lupins

NCO certified 5360
Location: Milang SA
Contact: Tim Brown 0427 737 579

Sorghum - Cert A - ACO & USDA

ACO certification 4121A
Location: Central Queensland
Contact: Kevin - 0419 657 245

Feed For Sale

- a) Silage: Rye, Pasture & Clover (10/11 Season 1st Cut) - Approx 300 rolls
 - b) Hay: Rye & Pasture (10/11 Season 1st Cut) - Approx 130 Rolls
 - c) Pasture & Clover (Standing) – Approx 80 rolls
- In Conversion 10941C

Location: Echuca Area
Contact: Craig 0427 099 588

Biodynamic Barley, Malt & High Protein

Clean with no weather damage
BD Cert no: 2232BD
Location: Peak Hill, NSW
Contact Ray Unger 02 6869 7635

Hay

Cereal/forage barley hay – large square bales – all grades
Lucerne hay – large square bales – all grades
ACO and NOP certification 4368A
Location: Whetstone Organics, Inglewood Qld
Contact: Rick McDougal 0429 665762 or 07 4652 1361

Oaten and Rye Hay For Sale

5 x 4 Rounds net wrapped
Big Squares 8x4x4
Price is negotiable.
ACO certification 3216A
Location: Shepparton, Victoria
Contact: Peter Morgan 0427 572 689 or 03 5828 9212

BEANS, LEGUMES:

Biodynamic Soya Beans

BD Cert no: 2407BD
Approx 50 tonne 791
Approx 15 tonne Asgrow
Location: Far-North Coast
Contact: Greenridge Organics (02) 6663 1154

Soya Beans For sale

Good quality A-Grade 791 variety
ACO Certification 2407A
Approx 50 Tonne
\$930/ Tonne - on-farm price
Location: Far-North Coast
Contact: Greenridge Organics (02) 6663 1154

GRAPES:

Delalae Wines for sale

\$100 a dozen
No intervention
OGA certification 10367A
Location: Jamestown, SA
Contact: David Box 08 8664 1359 / 0429 641 359
email olivedowns@gmail.com

Certified grapes or sell as wine ACO certified from Adelaide Plains South Australia [Premium area]

Selection of grapes ranges from 100-300 tons per variety
1. Pinot gri/Grigio

2. Pinot Nior
3. Sav Blanc
4. Cabernet
5. Shiraz
6. Merlot

ACO certification 11073A IC; 11072W USDA

Contact: Ken Carypidis, Yarra Vale Estates 0412 800 875

email yarravale@bigpond.com

REAL ESTATE:

For Lease: Certified Organic Citrus Orchard and irrigated small crops land, WIWO, Gayndah, Qld

Fantastic and unique opportunity to expand in the organic market without the cost of property ownership.

6.5 ha of Certified Organic citrus orchard just coming into its prime with increasing production over the next 5 years. 3 ha of good quality, sandy loam to clay loam soils under irrigation mains available for additional cropping. Abundant water supplied from river allocation, water harvesting licence, a ring tank dam and high yielding fresh water bore. All equipment for citrus production of a high standard including computerised packing plant, cool room, sheds, staff amenities and a comprehensive list of farm machinery. Established markets for citrus with solid net returns. Picturesque property bounded by the Burnett River and Reids Creek with abundant bird life (over 130 bird species sited).

Located just outside of Gayndah, 380 km NW of Brisbane, 180 km inland from Bundaberg and 2 hours from the nearest beach. Bitumen road access to property. Gayndah is a vibrant and friendly country town of approximately 3200 people. Primary and secondary schools, good sporting facilities, 2 caravan parks, airport and many great recreational activities including fishing, skiing, swimming. Three bedroom houses rent in Gayndah for \$150-\$250 per week.

Suit small crop grower or citrus grower looking to expand their operations into a Queensland market window. Experience in organic farming, proven finances and a connection with the earth preferred. Assistance from owner available at reasonable rates. Owners looking for a change of direction. For a lease commencing outside of the June/July period, an adjustment in payment will be required to allow for the current cost of growing the 2011/2012 citrus crop.

Lease rate \$50 000 + GST per year.

5 year lease with an option to renew.

Contact: Les on 0741612250 or 0427612250

IDYLLIC LIFESYTL WITH LOCATION AND INCOME

Profitable, certified organic blueberry business, 750 fully netted, irrigated plants. Large coolroom. Well maintained grazing property, stockyards, large hayshed - 65 steers. Ample water supply with spring-feed dam; Equestrian facilities, including full dressage arena and stables, 3-bay shed for machinery storage, including powered workshop area. Custom-built brick home, new commercial kitchen, 3 B/R, 2 bathrooms and office. North-easterly aspect to capture valley views and morning sun. Low-maintenance garden, entertaining areas, orchard - 7 mins to Leongatha, Vic. Contact: Chris or Sue Howard 0356686294 or Elders Agent Zel Svenson 0438 636 290

EMPLOYMENT:

POSITION AVAILABLE

Technical Operator – Baileys of Glenrowan

Want to work for the only organic vineyard within Treasury Wine Estates?

Assist in addressing viticulture and HSE needs of our Baileys of Glenrowan Vineyard. Situated at the foot of the beautiful Warby Range, Baileys of Glenrowan can also boast to being the only certified organic vineyard within Treasury Wine Estates.

Reporting to the vineyard manager, this dual role will see you not only assist in the planning and execution of site technical programs but also getting hands on with general vineyard operations as required. Providing technical viticulture support to the vineyard, you will ensure programs are conducted and maintained and feedback is provided to vineyard management. Utilise your practical vineyard experience as you participate in site business planning, and assist with the implementation of site strategies and objectives.

You have demonstrated practical experience in implementing a viticultural technical program and tertiary qualifications in Viticulture/Horticulture/Agriculture would be highly advantageous. Strong communication skills are essential as you interact, and develop strong relationships, with vineyard staff, winemakers and industry groups and organisations. Your proficiency in the use of the Microsoft suite will see you effectively manage data sets.

Treasury Wine Estates comprises five precious elements; unique winemaking that comes from the world's oldest soils, a viticulture that carefully guards its heritage, an unmatched selection of wines, a family of internationally renowned winemakers and a team of vintrepreneurs who take pride in having one foot planted in the vineyard and the other in the boardroom as they offer products to millions of wine lovers around the world.

With over 12,000 hectares of vineyards, 20 wineries, 50 wine brands and 4,000 global employees, Treasury Wine Estates brings together some of the most popular and collected wines from Australia, California, France, Italy and New Zealand. Our treasured brands include Beringer, Penfolds, Lindemans, Wolf Blass, Rosemount, Matua Valley, Wynns Coonawarra Estate and Castello di Gabbiano. It's no wonder our people enjoy exciting and diverse career opportunities!

Be our Technical Specialist! Apply today!

Apply online at <http://careers.tweglobal.com> position reference 741910

Applications close Friday 16th of September.

POSITION WANTED

An experienced organic farm manager is seeking a position on an organic livestock production system. With a total of 6 years experience in farm management including 2 years in organic beef and lamb production, Michael has 10 years experience in running and designing cell grazing systems and has a keen interest in soil health, pasture monitoring and biological farming. He is also passionate about organics and wanting to stay in the organic industry, please contact Michael on 0427 758 520.

POSITION WANTED

Eliza Reilly from Melbourne Australia completed a permaculture certificate with Rick Coleman in April 2011. Eliza is about to embark on an overseas trip to South America, her journey flies her to Peru where she will be working in a village to help build sustainable huts and vegetable patches and gardens. On her return she is seeking work on a biodynamic farm within Australia from the 7th December 2011 onwards. Please contact her if a position needs filling: respondtoeliza@hotmail.com

.....

MARKET UPDATE – BEEF

Peter Gall from the Organic Meat Company says while the Australian dollar remains strong, beef exports to the US market remain successful.

“After a brief respite in the dollar over the past few weeks where we saw the Australian dollar weaken down to parity, it has now found a base and is heading back towards its recent highs. It is currently at US\$1.0674,” Peter said.

“Due to the fact that we are sold on longer positions and have our business covered, it is hard for us to take full advantage of these short terms dips, but it was a welcome respite.

“The US continues to be an important market. However, while we have the strong dollar, which affects the prices we need to ask of our customers, it leaves us open to competitors who supply organic meat both in the USA and South America to take some of our market share.

“This has not been a big issue to date but is something we continue to monitor.

“The domestic demand has been holding up quite well and as we move out of winter we should start to see an increase in demand as more people fire up their BBQ’s.

“Cattle supply has been typically tight due to the winter period, but we also expect this to start to free up with better numbers as we move into the warmer months. Saying that, due to the excellent start to the year in regard to rain, we have had the best winter supply of cattle we have had in many years.”

MARKET UPDATE – LAMB

Toby Scales from Cleavers Organic Meats says though the Australian dollar is having a negative impact on export prices in the organic beef industry, this shouldn’t be a major concern for organic lamb as supply is going into the domestic retail market where competition from the major retailers is keeping prices strong.

“Prices remain high and the demand is solid from retailers, although there may be some resistance to current lamb prices leading to a greater focus on the cheaper cuts. But, I think you can see that across the board with meat cuts,” Toby said.

“Thankfully the season has held for most, with recent rain giving several supply areas a welcome lift going into spring. There will be some concern in south west QLD and parts of western NSW as areas dry off and fire danger becomes an issue due the shear bulk of feed at the moment.

“Lambs have been in excellent order with the majority finishing early and not the usual rush to get to weight before teeth cut. Perhaps a few fat problems are creeping in as growers try to get maximum weight on their stock prior to slaughter.

“It is becoming evident that the Dorper influence, while having tremendous yields, is developing fat issues once live weight gets above 55kg. I have no doubt the breed has the answer within its gene pool and will be addressed through careful ram selection in the future.

“We can expect more of the same quality in spring, but supply might be a little constrained as growers look to rebuild their breeding numbers.

“Let’s hope those areas that are getting dry again can see a better spring after what has been, for many, a fairly disappointing winter.”

MARKET UPDATE – HORTICULTURE

Margaret Gibbons of Eco-Farms says bananas are starting to come back into the market. Though prices might have dropped, they still remain expensive.

“The wholesalers are paying still around 60-80 dollars a box depending on what the quality is like but not a lot are coming through,” Margaret said.

“The majority are good quality but we are still getting some that are not as good, and there is still not enough coming through to satisfy the market in New South Wales. If there was enough to satisfy the market, then prices would be down.

“There is still a high demand for them and you have got to remember that bananas are the biggest selling product.”

In other news, prices for zucchini have risen along with cauliflower.

“Broccoli at the moment is plentiful. In fact so plentiful that quite a few growers are ploughing them in because it is not economical for them to harvest them.

“The spring season is looking very good for fruit and vegetables but carrots are very scarce at the moment. Give it another week or so and they will be alright.”

.....

WHAT'S THE LATEST ON THE BFA WEB FORUM?:

QUESTION: Where do the organic industry and organic standards stand on dairy cow management?

DR ANDREW MONK: I'm happy to say that things such as calf induction are not permitted in organic herds as this includes the use of hormones that are prohibited, while dehorning is only permitted with anaesthetic.

Mastitis needs to, and is managed by, organic farmers preventatively through general health and wellbeing practices. If antibiotics are used (as a last resort to ensure health and welfare of the animal) there is a prohibition on the use of milk from such cows for 6 months minimum - and this can't be done on a regular basis. Arguably the non systemic use of antibiotics builds resistance and health in organic dairy cows - a regular claim of organic dairy farmers.

Bobby calves so treated could not be sold as organic meat products. It is a sad component of the dairy industry generally that this does occur as a byproduct of that industry still.

Tail docking is prohibited as are live exports - the transport distances are not permitted.

In terms of general differences, organic livestock have to be fed a wholesome diet of certified organic feeds (we are regularly saying that organic livestock in Australia have better diets than most Australians!) and a restricted list only of other supplements (oriented towards health and wellbeing - eg vitamins and minerals where there are deficiencies).

The source of livestock is also important as is the requirement for the farm land itself to be managed organically for 3 years minimum to obtain "certified organic" status. This is relevant as such things as bloat in cattle (often then treated using synthetic inputs) can arise from high soluble nitrogen in pastures that are consumed (often a result of over fertilising with synthetic fertilisers such as urea). Organic practices do not permit this but require a lot of focus on healthy balanced biologically active soils which grow balanced healthy pastures for cows - it is about the soil and about preventative health approaches in the first instance for organic operators (a very hard thing to market at the consumer end of the market).

Organic products are arguably slowly being better understood by consumers however as a whole "package" - not just one gimmick such as "GMO free" or "grown without chemicals". Organic is arguably greater than the sum of its parts in this regard.

The Australian Certified Organic Standard and Bud certification logo program outline quite stringent livestock management requirements - (free download at www.bfa.com.au). Consumers who buy

product with the Bud logo and words Australian Certified Organic know they are getting organic products that are independently audited and certified to meet those standards.

Editor's comment: The **BFA forum** is featured on the BFA website – for more Q&As, or to ask an expert a question, go to www.bfa.com.au and click on the **forums icon** on the home page.

FREE MAGAZINE PROMOTIONAL OFFER

The Australian Organic Producer magazine is the only agricultural magazine designed specifically for producers working in the biological, organic or biodynamic industries and those looking to incorporate sustainable, biological land management practises.

Currently the magazine is only available by subscription, or through BFA membership. If you'd like to receive an introductory **FREE copy** of the magazine complete our short and simple survey.

Click on the yellow button on the home page of the BFA website at www.bfa.com.au to go directly to the survey – on completion, fill in your postal address and a **FREE copy** of the magazine will be posted to you.

STORY: CARCINOGENS FOUND IN COAL SEAM GAS PROJECT

Traces of carcinogenic chemicals have been found in monitoring bores at a coal seam gas operation on Queensland's Darling Downs.

Arrow Energy says it has advised regulators that small traces of so-called "B-Tex" chemicals have been detected in shallow bores near the southern inland town of Dalby.

The company says the Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management will determine whether the chemicals are naturally occurring or introduced through grease used in the drilling process.

Arrow says there is no connection between this process and the production of coal seam gas.

Concerns have been raised about the impact of the industry on water sources and its inability to find a permanent solution for waste disposal.

There is also a community outcry over the inability of landholders to say no to gas companies wanting to search for gas on their properties.

The find comes after comments Queensland mining magnate Clive Palmer made criticising the industry.

Speaking to the National Party's Federal Council in Canberra, Mr Palmer said a leading Chinese firm had raised issues with him about the Australian industry, saying extraction techniques they abandoned 20 years ago are still being used here.

The Queensland mining billionaire told the crowd that his Chinese counterparts had delivered a stern warning.

"Coal seam gas technology currently used in Australia is lethal and will kill Australians, poison our water table and destroy the land," he said.

Speaking to the ABC after making his address, Mr Palmer said international firms are worried that companies undertaking exploration in Australia do not have sufficient expertise.

"The discussions I've had with overseas companies that do extract coal seam gas and are in operations and are using different technologies ... they're concerned that maybe the people who are doing it in Australia are not as skilled, not as well trained and do not have the same technological background that they do," he said.

The Australian Party says its coal seam gas policy would not allow gas wells to tap the Great Artesian Basin.

The party's Queensland leader, Aidan McLindon, says their CSG policies also include placing a 12-month moratorium on the industry and giving affected landowners a right to say "no".

"It was only a matter of time until people started like Clive Palmer started exposing the fact that we've got to start asking the hard question now rather than let this ad hoc industry keep steam rolling Queensland communities," he said.

A Senate inquiry is examining the economic, social and environmental impacts of coal seam gas

Source: www.efarming.com.au

Further information and campaigns:

[3 Mar 11: Coal Seam Gas and organic production: Can they coexist?](http://www.bfa.com.au/Portals/0/Coal%20Seam%20Gas%20press%20release%20-%20final.pdf)

<http://www.bfa.com.au/Portals/0/Coal%20Seam%20Gas%20press%20release%20-%20final.pdf>

www.getup.org.au/csg with information regarding a petition

STORY – CSIRO AUSTRALIA TECHNOLOGIES ZERO IN ON LIVESTOCK METHANE EMISSIONS

New technologies and techniques are enabling Australia's leading agricultural scientists from CSIRO to track a reduction in the levels of livestock methane emissions and develop solutions for a more productive, profitable and greenhouse gas friendly beef industry.

The CSIRO research leader Dr Ed Charmley, has just announced that research conducted in the high-tech respiration chambers shows Australia's northern beef herd is actually more 'methane-friendly' than previously thought.

"What we have found, through a large number of experiments is that Brahman cattle fed on a wide range of tropical grasses and legumes emit up to 30 per cent less methane than previously determined," Dr Charmley said.

"The laboratory chambers combined with field technologies such as the lasers are allowing us to zero in on the real level of emissions.

"These findings, while not changing the actual emissions, could have significant implications for calculating the emission footprint of the northern cattle industry.

Some of the techniques being developed in northern Australia will be important for calculating the amount of methane being released by livestock across Australia.

The work is part of CSIRO's broader research programs on livestock production and emissions reduction in agriculture, helping to provide the scientific basis for decision making and highlight possible opportunities for farmers and landholders under an emerging carbon market.

"It will be a difficult challenge in the short term to reduce the amount of methane coming out of the rumen or to develop methane-friendly cattle breeds, but there are some strong opportunities over the next few years to reduce methane emissions by improving productivity," Dr Charmley said.

According to Dr Charmley, initiatives that improve productivity also tend to lower the quantity of methane released per kilogram of beef produced.

SOURCE: www.ausfoodnews.com.au

STORY – FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PESTICIDE FACES AUSTRALIAN BAN

Australia's chemical regulator, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), is considering banning dimethoate. The APVMA is concerned that the insecticide, widely used to control fruit fly in fruit and vegetables, may pose a health risk to consumers.

After completing a Residues and Dietary Risk Assessment, the APVMA said that the use of dimethoate on many crops exceeds the health standard established in January this year.

The APVMA proposes to suspend dimethoate products as an interim regulatory action while it completes further assessments on the chemical. This would prohibit the use of dimethoate on many fruits and vegetables including apples, avacados, broccoli, carrots, cucumber, potatoes, mandarins, melons, tomatoes, grapefruit, grapes, lemons, oranges, pears, and many more.

The APVMA report said, "The assessment concluded that some of the estimated exposures for consumers are above the health standard, reducing, but not breaching the margins of safety that are normally in place to protect consumers from short-term dietary risks."

The APVMA has taken the first step toward a possible suspension by asking dimethoate product registrants and permit approval holders to 'show cause' as to why the proposed action should not be taken. Industry and grower groups have also been invited to submit information or data that may change the outcome of the dietary risk assessment by 13 September 2011.

The APVMA says it will consider the information received and determine the appropriate regulatory action. If regulatory action, such as suspension is to be taken, it will take effect by the end of September 2011, prior to the commencement of the main post-harvest dipping season.

SOURCE: www.ausfoodnews.com.au

STORY – NORTHERN RIVERS LOCAL GROWERS FORUM

Monday August the 8th established SANTOS' commitment to the local growers of the Northern Rivers by instigating the Northern Rivers Local Growers Forum (NRLGF). More than 40 farmers and other interested parties were present on the day which aimed to stimulate communication between SANTOS and the local growers of the Northern Rivers, and demonstrate a clear drive for initiative into creating a stronger, mutually beneficial, more profitable, sustainable and supportive local grower's community.

A number of core motivations for this community discussion were addressed including developing the local food production system, achieving a higher state of local food security, complimentary practises, crop planning and supply management, Fair Trade for farmers and how aligning paradigms will ensure benefits for retailers, growers and the community.

SANTOS welcomed all local growers and fresh producers to this forum to create dialog and stimulate new possibilities and opportunities for local growers in association with SANTOS, and also open channels for criticism and feedback.

Katherine Crisp, SANTOS purchasing and sales manager, said that SANTOS is proud they do not have any imported fresh produce, and aim to increase their local produce quota from its current 50% to 80% as soon as possible. She said SANTOS is willing to work within minimal margins and to offer to buy surplus from famers when market days are not possible. Katherine offered a number of SANTOS initiatives aimed at providing greater opportunities for sale outlets for famers including SANTOS specials and bulk purchases as well as an opportunity to develop a SANTOS market day.

SANTOS will also be conducting a range of in store 'Meet the Farmer' days and building public awareness through 'Farmer Profiles' displayed along with produce. "This will give customers reassurance of where their food is coming from and establish loyalty". SANTOS will help support farmers to become certified organic by offering administration advice and assistance to those interested in completing the certification process.

Aside from communicating somewhat higher ideals and aims the forum was also an opportunity for farmers to meet with the SANTOS Fruit and Veg Managers Andrew Woods and Michael Young. They outlined the need to challenge public perception that organic food is expensive and how they attempt to match Brisbane market prices but are happy to negotiate with farmers. They aim to introduce box lines for customers who buy in bulk and to promote the higher nutritional content and quality of organic food. They addressed the ideas of pre-planning lines to increase local diversity, to ensure supply and demand is met and to increase the efficiency from seed to shelf.

You can also review the proceedings from the Northern Rivers Local Growers Forum on SANTOS Ethics Youtube Channel : <http://www.youtube.com/user/santosethics>

For a copy of the Northern Rivers Local Growers Forum Leaflet and or minutes from the day please contact Joel Orchard – ethics@santostrading.com.au 02 6684 3404.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR BFA ROADSHOW SPONSORSHIP:

October is the key month for this year's much anticipated BFA roadshows across Australia. Sponsorship is being sought from industry members. Sponsorship opportunities vary from as little as distribution of your flyer through to major sponsorship which includes the opportunity to have a short presentation time. The roadshows provide an excellent opportunity to promote organic products and services to a highly targeted audience for a relatively small outlay.

- **4 – 14 October: BFA Biological Roadshows (with Gary Zimmer (USA) as key speaker)**

Don't miss out – sponsorship opportunities are limited. For more information contact Joel Williams, Sales and Sponsorship Manager: 07 3350 5716 ext: 232

EVENTS

World renowned biological consultants Gary Zimmer and Graeme Sait tour Australia with BFA

Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn from two of the world's most renowned speakers on biological farming presenting in six regional locations in six different Australian states with the BFA Roadshow in October this year.

Gary Zimmer president of Midwestern Bio-Ag, manager of the Bio-Ag Center (Wisconsin USA), and prominent author, was recently interviewed by reporter Tim Lee in a two-part ABC Landline story, and described as 'a world leading exponent and educator on biological farming.'

Talking on Landline about the impact of biological farming methods, Zimmer said, '...we've seen 50 per cent increases in yields on a lot of our crops in the United States and we... get it with a lot less input...'

Discussing what 'biological farming' actually means Zimmer said, '...to me it's focusing on the fact that the soil is alive, it's full of biology and it's a living system.'

Graeme Sait is co-founder of Australian company Nutri-Tech Solutions, a prolific writer, author and inspirational international speaker. Graeme is perhaps best known for his widely acclaimed book 'Nutrition Rules!' in addition to multiple DVDs productions and as a popular regular columnist for publications in Australia and overseas.

With the current boom in biological farming, the roadshows are a great and inexpensive opportunity for all those working in the agricultural industries to learn more about biological production methods and hear world renowned experts share their knowledge.

LOCATIONS AND DATES FOR ROADSHOWS:

Tues 4 Oct: Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall, Mullumbimby, NSW

Wed 5 Oct: Summit Public Hall, Stanthorpe, Qld

Sat 8 Oct: Labertouche Public Hall, Labertouche, Vic

Mon 10 Oct: New Norfolk War Memorial Hall, Hobart, Tas

Wed 12 Oct: Temple Bruer Winery, Strathalbyn, SA

Fri 14 Oct: Baskerville Memorial Hall, Perth, WA

Early Bird Tickets (14 days prior to each event):

\$40 BFA Members

\$60 non-BFA Members

OR tickets booked within 14 days of each event:

\$50 BFA Members

\$70 non-BFA Members

Bookings: W: www.bfa.com.au; T: 1300 331 309; E: events@bfa.com.au

OVERSEAS EVENT:

AGRIPRO ASIA EXPO (APA) HONG KONG

Date: 30 November – 2 December 2011 (Wed – Fri)

Open hours: 12:00 – 19:00

Location: Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre (HKCEC)

Concurrent Event: Agricultural Conference Asia (ACA)

AgriPro Asia (APA) is a specialized B2B trade show for international agricultural trade in Asia.

APA serves as a springboard for international products to Greater China and Asia Pacific Region. Green and organic product is one of the major scopes of the exhibit. Concurrently, there will be the Agri-Conference Asia with professionals from institutes, leading production units, renowned distribution channels, government officials and trade bodies from different countries giving presentations on agri-technology, marketing, trade regulations/ policies and latest industry trend. Topics related to the organic trend are highlighted in the conference.

For more information, please visit www.AgriProAsia.com or contact Ms Wing-Yin Ho on +852 3904 3830 or E: AgriProAsia@verticalexpo.com / or contact AUS Rep Ms Linda Gurney +61 448 800968 or E: linda@wineinternationaltd.com

OTHER EVENTS:

QUEENSLAND LANDCARE CONFERENCE 2011

The 22nd annual Queensland Landcare Conference takes place 20-23 September in Ayr. The event is expected to attract around 250 people and includes keynote presentations from Dr Linda Selvey, CEO Greenpeace Australia Pacific and Dr John Williams, member Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists and Commissioner for Natural Resources in NSW. Speakers will cover topics as broad as stewarding the rangelands for the future, how bats act as guardians of our forests, engaging young people in landcare, biodiversity planning, using science from space to save soils and much, much more. Four field trips will also allow delegates to get a feel for land management issues and solutions in the Burdekin and a hearty range of social functions will allow delegates to unwind and network landcare-style. Community registration is only \$420 before 1 September. Further information is available by contacting Event Manager, Wombat Creative on 07 5538 5109 or landcare2011@wombatcreative.com.au

CALENDAR DATES:

Enviroveg Workshop - Boonah

Mon 12 Sept

www.ausveg.com.au

Second National 'Managing the Carbon Cycle' Forum - Queanbeyan

Wed 21 Sept to Thurs 22 Sept

www.amazingcarbon.com/

BioFach America 2011 - Baltimore

Thurs 22 Sept to Sat 24 Sept

www.biofach-america.com

17th Organic World Congress 2011 - South Korea

Wed 28 Sept to Sat 1 Oct

www.kowc2011.org/eng/ (Stand enquiries: BFA ph 07 3350 5716)

Organic Week - Australia -wide

Sat 1 Oct to Sun 9 Oct

www.organicweek.net.au

BFA Biological Roadshow (6 states) - see story above

Tues 4 Oct to Fri 14 Oct

www.bfa.com.au

IFOAM General Assembly 2011 - South Korea

Mon 3 Oct to Wed 5 Oct

www.kowc2011.org/eng/

Organic Expo and Green Show - Melbourne

Sat 15 Oct to Sun 16 Oct

www.organicexpo.com.au

BFA Biological Roadshow (6 states) - see story above

Tues 4 Oct to Fri 14 Oct

www.bfa.com.au

7th National Grasslands Conference –Holbrook, NSW

Wed 9 to Thur 10 November

www.stipa.com.au

Disclaimer: While BFA Group takes every care in publishing correct information BFA Group takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the content of this newsletter.