



# Organic Market News

## ORGANIC MARKET NEWS

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EDITION 30:: NOVEMBER 2010

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### CLASSIFIEDS

#### EMPLOYMENT

MARKET UPDATE – BEEF

MARKET UPDATE – LAMB

MARKET UPDATE – HORTICULTURE

STORY – MYRTLE RUST IN NATIVE PLANTS

STORY – SMALL HIVE BEETLE AFFECTS AUSTRALIAN ORGANIC HONEY INDUSTRY

EVENTS

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### AGISTMENT

##### **Agistment available:**

ACO Certified 4544A and EU organic and USDA accredited.

**Contact:** John Elmes on (07) 4654 5454

Location: Augathella area Qld

##### **Agistment for cattle available:**

ACO and USDA NOP certified property

Located at Baralaba, Central Queensland

Country is good quality growing/finishing country

**Contact:** Gavin Bailey on 07 4998 1281

Email: [usmile4@bigpond.com](mailto:usmile4@bigpond.com)

#### CATTLE AND BEEF

**Approx 20 Poll-Hereford heifers, 16 months old.**

NASAA Certified

Location: 50km South East of Loxton, SA

**Contact:** 08 8587 2267

#### **Cattle for Sale**

EU Organic & USDA Accredited, 30 PTIC Santa cross cows

Average age: 5 years old, Average kilograms: 496  
\$800 Organic certification 4544A  
Location: Augathella, Qld  
**Contact:** John 07 4654 5454

### **Hereford heifers and steers**

#### **Details:**

250-400kg, good doers, quiet  
Location: Central NSW  
Biodynamic certification 2232BD  
**Contact:** Ray Unger 02 6869 7635 02 6869 7635

### **120 EU NOP Organic Steers**

Santa Cross, 370kgs approx.  
Organic certification 4544A  
Location: Augathella area Qld  
**Phone** John Elmes on (07) 4654 5454

### **Wanted: Organic Cattle**

The Organic Meat Company is looking for more supply of certified organic cattle, including US NOP cattle and Australian certified cattle. We have markets for steers, heifers and cows at all weights and fat. All locations – Peter said don't make it specific  
**Contact:** Peter Gall on 0427 574 941

## **SHEEP**

### **Merino lambs**

Shawn in February, 40-50kg  
**Location:** Central NSW  
Biodynamic certification 2232BD  
**Contact:** Ph: Ray Unger 02 6869 7635

## **SILAGE, HAY AND GRAINS**

### **Paster Hay Certified for sale**

Location: Southwest slopes, NSW  
Large or small quantities available  
**Contact:** Dave 0263 432 663 Mob: 0427 432 664

### **Organic Pasture Silage (wraps)**

Certified organic, up to 20 tons  
Cutting within 3 to 4 weeks  
Location: High energy Echuca  
**Contact:** Craig 0427 099 588 0427 099 588

### **Medic Hay**

Round bales 5x4, Approx 200 tonne \$230 per T, price negotiable on quantity  
"A" Certified Organic

Location: Murray Bridge SA  
ACO certification: 10646A  
**Contact:** Jason, Cloverland Organic  
Ph (08) 85 382 850, Mob. 0407 853828

### **Hay For Sale**

#### **Cereal/forage barley:**

Large square bales, good quality.

ACO & NOP certified #4368A. \$300/tonne + GST

Lucerne Hay: Large square bales, good quality. ACO & NOP certified #4368A. From \$350/tonne + GST

**Contact:** Rick McDougall, Whetstone Organics, Inglewood Qld. Ph: 0429 665762 or 07 4652 1361

#### **Oat/medic hay 85/15 mix.**

Approx 70 tonne in 8x4x3 squares

"A" Certified Organic

Location: Nhill, Vic

ACO certification: 10414A

**Contact:** 03 5397 4242 / 0429 400626

#### **Lucerne hay**

1st cut Lucerne hay 8x4x3 bales or 5'6" rounds \$160/t + GST

2nd cut Lucerne hay 8x4x3 bales \$250/t + GST

Porto Cocksfoot seed cleaned & tested \$8/kg

Cocksfoot straw 8x4x3 bales \$100 + GST

Faba beans - \$400/t + GST

All certified biodynamic.

Location: South Australia

**Contact:** Nic Kentish 08 8739 8211/ 0429 673 070

#### **Approx. 130 round 6x4 bales of certified organic cereal and ryegrass hay.**

No rain damage.

Location: Lameroo Organics, SA

**Contact:** 0458 961 226 0458 961 226 or (08) 8576 5283 (08) 8576 5283

#### **Oaten and Rye Hay For Sale**

5 x 4 Rounds net wrapped

Big Squares 8x4x4

Price is negotiable.

ACO certification 3216A

**Contact:** Peter Morgan 0427 572 689 or 03 5828 9212 (Shepparton, Victoria)

#### **Organic Sorghum - Level A certified available**

Available now

Deferred delivery available

Location: QLD

**Contact:** 0419 657 245

#### **Schooner barley**

11.4% protein

Malting grade, clean, good weight and colour

Location: Central NSW

Biodynamic certification 2232BD

**Contact:** Ray Unger 02 6869 7635

### **Schooner barley**

16% protein

Clean, good weight and colour

Location: Central NSW

Biodynamic certification 2232BD

**Contact:** Ray Unger 02 6869 7635

### **Buffel Seed for sale**

Gayndah/American mixed, ACO and USDA NOP certified (cert no 10829A)

82% TZ, quality seed harvested Mungallala QLD

**Contact:** Tony Horvath on (07) 4623 6184

### **Jap Pumpkin Seeds for sale**

3-4 kilograms in total

20 grams for \$8 (plus postage & handling)

Bulk orders available

OGA certified organic: 360A

Via Kyogle

**Contact:** Scott Job on 02 6636 4307

## **BEANS, LEGUMES**

### **Soya Beans For sale**

Good quality A-Grade 791 variety (ACO Cert 2407A)

Approx 50 Tonne

\$930/ Tonne - on-farm price

Greenridge Organics

Region: Far-North Coast

**Contact:** 02 6663 1154

### **Soya Beans, contract wanted**

Contract wanted for certified organic soya beans

Approx 100 Tonne 2011 season

Greenridge Organics

Region: Far-North Coast

**Contact:** 02 6663 1154

## **REAL ESTATE**

### **For Sale**

#### **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.

**Contact:** Chris or Sue Howard 03 5668 6294 or our Elders Agent Zel Svenson 0438 636290

### **For Sale**

#### **89 Acres of certified organic/biodynamic land on the Comboyne Plateau**

Property Features:

- \* Permanent water with running creeks and high annual rainfall
- \* Rich red volcanic soil
- \* Fully fenced
- \* Dairy bales, additional shedding and infrastructure
- \* Established free range egg production
- \* Comfortable large weatherboard home
- \* 4 big bedrooms
- \* Close to Comboyne Village (shops and school)
- \* Easy drive to Wauchope and coastal beaches
- \* Superb rural lifestyle with the potential to diversify

**Location:** 161 Colling Road, Comboyne NSW

Price: \$795,000

#### **MT FROME VINEYARD Certified Organic & Biodynamic Certificate Number 10842BD Mudgee NSW**

This vineyard is one of the most picturesque in the district with commanding views over Mudgee. It is only 7Km from Mudgee with bitumen to the front gate.

Mt Frome Vineyard is 32.78Ha (81 acres) and the homestead is 400<sup>2</sup>M brick and hardiplank

There are also two large machinery sheds on the property. Mt Frome's water supply is a highlight of the property. There is a Bore with a licence for 117 million litres per annum, pumps at 6L/Sec + 25MI licensed irrigation dam. The vineyard is approximately 20Ha and all grapes are sold at \$1250/t with on-going sales agreement.

In addition to the vineyard, Mt Frome Estate has a small commercial Hazelnut nursery, producing 15,000 trees per year. There is approx 8Ha available for grazing or the development of further intensive agriculture

For more information go to:

<http://mtfromestate.weebly.com/organic-biodynamic-farm-for-sale.html>

**Contact:** Bruce: 0429 313 694 / 0429 313 694

#### **Fully certified biodynamic (Cert #ACO 8005A) property for sale; an organic operation, on 8.35 hectares (20 acres) in Lambells Lagoon, 50 kms SE of Darwin.**

Property is situated on a natural rise with well drained soil at the end of a quiet dirt road. There is an existing plantation of Red Lady papaya, approx' 1000 trees. All other cropping areas (including a block area of approx' 3 acres and approx' 5 kms of 100 mtr rows ) are presently cropped with a green manure of mung beans. These rows all have established pvc and poly irrigation mains-bore runs well at 3litre/sec.

Certified packing shed with dimensions of- 7.5m wide, 16m long and 3.6m high. Shed contains a 5 x 6 m coolroom ( internal area will fit 12 pallets) , mango grading equipment, and 2 aluminium packing benches, banana spinning wheel, 2 x jacks, harvesting lugs x70, picking poles, seed stock, certified organic nutritional inputs comprising of - 8 tonne cert org base nutrients. Three phase power to bore, coolroom, compost tea brewer, and hot dip equipment.

Nursery area includes 2 x igloos set up with internal overhead misters and shade-clothed outside area is approx' 6m x 10m and contains 4 x 6m long, 1m wide potting benches. 100's of dragonfruit cuttings - red flesh variety. Nursery adjacent to tractor shed.

Excellent relations in place with wholesale agents in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. This operation has supplied zucchini, eggplant, basil, cucumbers, chilli, pumpkin, watermelon, rockmelon, mangos and papaya to these markets.

Growing conditions during the dry season are perfect for supplying the southern winter market with these produce lines. (Our ACO certification also extends to cover a neighboring paddock of 5 acres for melon crop and a neighbouring plantation of 1000 KP mangos)

Very large, ground-level, besser block house with high-set ceiling includes 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, spacious open-plan living area, lrg kitchen and dining area, with ceiling fans throughout. Adjoining undercover carport and one outside shower hidden amongst jasmine and hibiscus.

(3 x caravans situated between nursery and house have been utilised for WWOOFer accommodation)

**BONUS: more farming equipment than you can poke a stick at!!!.....( a full list will be made available on request )**

**Selling price, \$900,000.00**

**For more information, please contact David and Tamara, Ph: 08 8984 9288 08 8984 9288 , E:**

**[hu\\_organics@yahoo.com.au](mailto:hu_organics@yahoo.com.au)**

### **For Lease**

#### **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.

10 ha of Certified Organic citrus orchard just coming into its prime with increasing production over the next 5 years. 24 ha of good quality, deep sandy loam to clay loam soils under irrigation mains with abundant water supplied from river allocation, water harvesting licence, a ring tank dam and high yielding fresh water bore. Vacant cropping land previously planted to citrus and many years ago grew magnificent crops of watermelons. 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. Total property size 50 ha - all Certified Organic. 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-\$200 per week.

Suit small crop grower or citrus grower looking to expand their operations into a Queensland market window. Experience in organic farming and proven finances essential. Assistance from owner available by consultancy at reasonable rates. Owners looking for a change of direction.

Lessee will be required to pay for the current investment in the 2011 citrus crop.

**Lease rate \$90 000 + GST per year or \$220/usable hectare/mth)**

5 year lease with an option to renew

**Contact:** Benita on 07 4161 2250 or 0427 612250

### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### **SITUATIONS WANTED**

#### **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. Passionate about organics and wanting to stay in the organic industry, please contact Michael on **0427 758 520**.

#### **INTERNSHIP**

Yi Han is a Chinese student looking for an opportunity for an internship in Australia in a business environment, preferably a small to medium sized company or organisation. She is currently studying in the Netherlands and is in her 3rd year of a Degree in Agri-business and Trade; her studies include trade, import & export, logistics, marketing and finance. Her native language is Mandarin and she has strong English and Dutch language skills and is also fluent in Cantonese. Yi Han is available for an internship for 20 weeks from January 2011.

For more information contact Yi Han on: [niki.han@wur.nl](mailto:niki.han@wur.nl)

#### **INTERNSHIP**

Paul-Antoine Trompette is a French student with a Higher National Diploma in plant technology and a Country Planning Degree. He is looking to improve his agricultural background and experience with an internship in Australia. Preference is for work on an organically farmed property, or an Institute of Research, with the opportunity to learn more about agricultural techniques and Australian agronomic features. He has strong English language skills and will be available for an internship from October 2010 to May 2011.

For more information contact Paul-Antoine on: [pa.trompette@gmail.com](mailto:pa.trompette@gmail.com)

#### **MARKET UPDATE – BEEF**

Matt O’Leary from Australian Organic Meat says that domestic demand for organic beef remains fairly good, but that the overseas markets have been affected by the strong Australian dollar. Australian Organic Meat exports organic beef to Japan and other parts of Asia and Mr O’Leary said demand continues to grow but the strong Australian dollar could become a problem.

“So long as we don’t get undercut too much by other parts of the world, and as long as the demand is there and the cost doesn’t become prohibitive, they’ll continue to buy,” Mr O’Leary said.

With the eastern states still prospering after good spring rain, Peter Gall from the Organic Meat Company said cattle are coming through quite well with plenty of condition.

“The high dollar is making it a little difficult for exporters but because the cattle are so good there is still a demand for them. With conditions excellent for cattle along the eastern side of Australia the animals are putting on weight and doing really,” Mr Gall said.

#### **MARKET UPDATE – LAMB**

According to Toby Scales from Cleavers Organic Meat Company the organic lamb market remains fairly steady at \$5.60/kilo dress weight.

“Supply is steady and demand is continuing to grow, with pressure to keep up a regular flow of lamb,” Mr Scales said.

While the lamb market usually drops off after Christmas Mr Scales said he thinks this may not happen this year as sales have been so solid all the way through.

## **MARKET UPDATE – HORTICULTURE**

David Como from Eco-Farms in Sydney said the recent weather across the country, with high winds in South Australia, heavy rains along the east coast, and continuing drought on the west side of the country, have caused severe supply issues of some produce.

“The last three months have really been tough. Potatoes have been the saving grace while broccoli, carrots, zucchini and a whole range of vegetables have been in short supply. The weather has delayed planting the next round of crops as well as damaging crops in the ground. The next few months are going to be a testing time for growers,” Mr Como said.

Mr Como went on to say that consumers are still willing to pay the price for organic vegetables despite the shortage causing an increase in costs and sales are still good. In the lead-up to Christmas sales are expected to remain strong, but after Christmas consumer demand is expected to drop off.

## **STORY – HORTICULTURE**

### **Myrtle Rust:**

For the last few months quarantine has been declared around the Gosford and Wylong local government areas, on the NSW central coast, due to the presence of Myrtle Rust. The quarantine restricts the movement of susceptible and/or infected plants and other related material in an effort to control the spread of the fungus.

In a recent media release by NSW Department of Primary Industries, Myrtle Rust is described as a serious pathogen, only recently recognised, *which affects plants belonging to the family Myrtaceae including many iconic Australian natives like willow myrtle (Agonis sp.) and bottle brush (Callistemon sp.)*.

The spores are hard to manage as they can be blown long distances by the wind; be transferred by clothing, vehicles and dirty equipment; can be carried by cut flowers, nursery stock and timber; or spread by bees. The spores are bright yellow in colour and the rust lesions are purple and eventually become a dark brown. New shoots, leaves and fruits are infected with spore filled lesions and older leaves of infected plants become twisted.

Bill Pinto from Beulah-Pinto Organics said that his property had been inspected by DPI, but that it was clear of any signs of Myrtle Rust and that the quarantine hadn't affected his business.

To help control Myrtle Rust practise good hygiene with nursery stock and keep equipment and machinery clean, report any signs of the fungus to the Exotic Pest Hotline (1800 084 881) and don't move any infested material.

For more information go to: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant/myrtle-rust#hygiene](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant/myrtle-rust#hygiene)

## **STORY – HONEY INDUSTRY**

### **The Small Hive Beetle:**

The Small Hive Beetle is a significant threat to honey producers and the Department of Primary Industries in Queensland is running a survey to track the beetle and get an overview of the impact it is having on bees and pollination.

The beetles lay their eggs on the honey combs and when the larvae hatch they tunnel through the combs consuming the honey and damaging the combs. The larvae repel the bees by producing slime, and once the larvae become adult beetles they can live for up to 18 months with a new generation of beetles produced every 5 to 12 weeks.

Ken Olley of Olleys Honey said the beetles are the most severe problem in the honey industry at this current time. The beetles come originally from South Africa and thrive in warm and moist places. "To manage the problem I keep my bees away from conventional bee keepers. There are traps that can be used that bees can't access but that kill the beetles, and also diatomaceous earth can be used to protect the hives. We also try to find a very hard site for the hives where the beetles can't come out of the ground and enter the hives," Mr Olley said.

The beetles are known to be wide-spread in South-East Queensland and have recently been detected in North Queensland. According to Mr Olley, they are also affecting hives in northern NSW.

To complete the survey or for more information go to: [www.dpi.qld.gov.au/4790\\_18157.htm](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/4790_18157.htm)

## **EVENTS**

### **BFA EVENTS**

This month the final two BFA roadshows of the year were held. The first was at Piper's Brook Vineyard in Tasmania's beautiful north-east. Several key speakers, including Steve Skopilianos, Director of Ladybird Organics, and Andrew Smith, Director of Raw Organics, talked about their organic businesses. The process and development of marketing strategies in the organics industries were also addressed and it was a great opportunity for local growers and producers to network.

The second roadshow was held at Cullen's Winery in Margaret River, WA. Again the location was stunning and lunch on the veranda, overlooking the vines, gave attendees an opportunity to soak up the atmosphere and relax. Speakers included Jamie McCall of Burnside Organic Farm and Brett Kirkpatrick of Minnip Natural both of whom led interesting discussions about organic and biodynamic farming practises.

Planning will be underway soon for next year's roadshows, so any suggestions for locations and/or speakers would be gratefully received, so do email them in.

For further event listings visit the BFA website events page at [www.bfa.com.au](http://www.bfa.com.au).

### **REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE WORKSHOPS**

During November and December a series of workshops continues across the eastern states of Australia run by Regenerative Agriculture.

In November and December, Joel Salatin, from Polyface (of many faces) Farm in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, US, will be the key speaker talking to 'Local Farms and Community' and he is noted for his humorous and engaging presentations. Mr Salatin's two day workshops in Australia will cover a wide range of topics including grass fed beef, relationship marketing, developing local food

networks, value added forestry, pastured poultry, whole farm planning and multi-generational family farms.

The two day workshops are FarmReady Approved. For bookings and further information go to [www.regenag.com](http://www.regenag.com).

<b>DATES</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
<b>25-26 November</b>	ACT	nsw@regenag.com	Kirsten (02) 6373 7763
<b>2-3 December</b>	VIC	vic@regenag.com	Ben 0488 031 484
<b>7-8 December</b>	QLD	qld@regenag.com	Kym or Georgie 07 4086 8019
<b>10-11 December</b>	NSW	nsw@regenag.com	Kirsten (02) 6373 7763