



Media Release

May 11, 2010

TOOWOOMBA ORGANIC & BIOLOGICAL FARMING ROADSHOW TO CREATE A RIPPLE IN THE REGION ON MAY 22

Information on biological production and best farming practices is set to hit Toowoomba next week.

The Biological Farmers of Australia (BFA) will host the Roadshow on Saturday May 22, and will make available the latest news on biological farming and organic industry developments.

The event is being held at the Highfields Cultural Centre, Highfields Village Shopping Centre, being presented by the BFA in conjunction with Seasol.

BFA General Manager Holly Vyner says the organic industry is providing an alternative way forward for agriculture, addressing large and growing issues facing the rural sector and environment.

“With many organic producers now with some decades of experience behind them and with an increasing amount of R&D and experience to draw from in Australia and overseas, organic principles are being adopted by every kind of farmer interested in improving yields, quality, farm resilience and decreasing farm inputs through improving the biology of soil,” Ms Vyner said.

Former CSIRO scientist Dr Maarten Stapper of BioLogic AgFood, who was recently profiled on ABC TV Australian Story and Landline, is a key speaker at the event. With some 40 years experience, Dr Stapper will provide advice on achieving soil health for profitable farming.

Other speakers include the best A-Grade producers from the region providing their advice on how they have converted to biological and organic practices, covering everything from growing to production costs, yields and markets.

Last month, research group IBISWorld reported that organic food and fibres will top the growth charts across all Australian industries for employment and overall industry growth in the next five years.

“Biological production is becoming highly efficient and progressive and increasingly adopted by conventional and organic producers, both large and small,” Ms Vyner said.

“It is also encouraging to see in market research that the average age of organic farmers in Australia is significantly lower than the average farmer and that the average size of organic farms has increased. This latter result highlights long-term success in utilising organic systems and a trend towards professional farming at a larger scale,” she said.

The Towoomba Roadshow will follow the Cunnamulla Roadshow which is taking place the same week on Thursday May 20.



**BIOLOGICAL FARMERS
OF AUSTRALIA LTD**
ABN 75 699 664 781

HEAD OFFICE - BRISBANE

PO Box 530 766 Gympie Rd
CHERMESIDE QLD 4032
Ph: +61 (0)7 3350 5716
Fax: +61 (0)7 3350 5996
info@bfa.com.au

SOUTHERN DIVISION OFFICE

PO Box 503 23 Railway Tce
NURILOOTPA SA 5355
Ph: + 61 (0)8 8562 2769
Fax: + 61 (0)8 8562 3034
info@bfa.com.au



Toowoomba Organic Roadshow details:

When: 8.30am – 4.00pm, Saturday May 22, 2010

Where: Highfields Cultural Centre/ Highfields Village Shopping Centre (on the corner of Highfields Rd and O'Brien Rd)

Cost: \$45 Non-members pre paid, \$50 on the day (Payment covers full catering for the day. BFA members receive a further discount)

Ph: 1300 331 309 ext. 232

Fax: 07 3350 5996

Email: events@bfa.com.au / or go to www.bfa.com.au to download a booking form.

ENDS

All media are welcome! Media images and interviews will be available for both events. Post- event information will also be available.

For more information contact:

Jamie O'Brien, BFA Media Department Ph: (07) 3350 5716 ext.222

E: jamie.obrien@bfa.com.au.



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