



JUNE 2022



Welcome

Hello everyone,

One of the guiding principles behind biodynamics is relinquishing human control and handing it over, within sensible limits, to Mother Nature. Putting control into the hands of technology and corporate entities plus their products seems a surefire way to garden and farm entropically, whereas syntropic systems wedded to biodynamics are

much more likely to achieve soil and farm ecosystem regeneration in the short term, and sustainability in the longer term.

We recently held our biodynamic workshop at Ravensbourne Queensland at the lovely property of James and Barbara McGeogh. They warmly welcomed us into their beautiful home and were delighted (as much as we were) in sharing their tree wonderland. A diverse and large range of very healthy and happy trees are nurtured to varying degrees of maturity, where they are then dug up and onsold to organisations around Australia and the world. The workshop was held in their garden and was well attended. It was excellent to meet so many good people who want to make a positive difference on their plots. See our workshop article below.

We also attended the *Biodynamics and Beyond* workshop run by Shane Joyce and his partner Juli Wall at Kilkivan, Queensland. This was an opportunity for us to witness the integration of biodynamics with syntropic agroforestry, and it was intriguing to see how well they fit together. The early syntropic plantings on Kumbartcho are only eight years old, yet show clear promise of various ways in which “production systems”, such as small animal, pig, fruit and vegetable can arise. As we have come to expect, Shane’s often idiosyncratic ideas, now supported by Juli’s, are well worth close examination and imitation. To get a picture of what's happening at Kumbartcho, read our article and workshop report below.

Have a good month.

Kaz and John

Above image: The view from Shane Joyce's syntropic property



Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd

Living Soil Living Food

**One Day Winter Workshop
Biodynamics in the Orchard
Bellingen NSW**



Saturday, 25 June, 2022

Program:

- site and tree selection
- soil preparation and planting
- using and applying the preparations
- tree pruning, netting, feeding and harvesting
- seasonal management,
- pest and disease control

**Where: Theory: Brierfield Hall,
900 Bowraville Road, Bellingen
NSW 2454**

**Practical: 75 Hains Lane,
Brierfield, Bellingen, NSW 2454**

Presenters:

John Hodgkinson and Mark Pye

Time: Theory: 9:30—12 Noon

Practical: 1-3:30 pm

Bring: BYO lunch

(morning tea provided)

Cost: \$149.00 or

\$99.00 for members

**Use what you have,
make what you can, buy
what you need. Manage
your environment, alter
your health and the land
under your guardianship.**

Book:

www.biodynamics.net.au

Ph: (02) 6655 0566

bdoffice@biodynamics.net.au

Beneficial workshop for gardeners and farmers

The above workshop is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about biodynamics; the preparations, practices and philosophies.

Learn how to bring more energy and vitality to soil, plants, animals and humans.

[click here to book](#)



Brisbane biodynamic course

Here's another wonderful biodynamic course designed for organic market and backyard gardeners, urban and hobby farmers, held in Brisbane Queensland.

[read more...](#)



Why food prices are expected to skyrocket and how biodynamic farming is the solution

An article by Dr. Joseph Mercola on rising food prices around the world suggests that "biodynamics is the solution for the future of agriculture".

[read more...](#)



Biodynamic workshop at Ravensbourne

John Hodgkinson

On the 4th of May 2022, Mark, Kaz and I ventured into the upper Brisbane River Valley, Queensland to conduct a one-day *Introduction to Biodynamics* workshop on "Emaho Trees", Ravensbourne.

[read more...](#)



Josephine Porter Institute (JPI) for Applied Biodynamics

New Peppering Workshop Recording

Great news! JPI have hosted their first on-farm workshop on peppering, combined with an online webinar. The recording of

the pest pepper workshop is now available for purchase (on a sliding scale). Proceeds go towards further biodynamic education and workshops.

[read more...](#)



Biodynamic Liquid Soil Activator (LSA)

A potent living biodynamic soil spray that brings a healthy balance to the soil.
Contains biodynamic preparations: (500–508)
No stirring required – just dilute and apply.

USES

Broadacre

- pastures and crops, as both a soil and foliar spray
- via stock – pour into water troughs at recommended dilution so that stock can spread over large and/or inaccessible areas

Gardens and Market Gardens

- as a soil spray prior to planting seedlings
- for vegetable gardens, flower beds and pot plants
- for green manure crops to aid breakdown when turned-in
- as a seed bath or root dip before transplanting
- add to liquid fertilisers such as biodynamic fish or seaweed concentrate
- add to water used in compost making
- add to septic tanks and composting toilets to cancel odours and improve microbial breakdown
- add to watering can and sprinkled over worm farm or home composting container

DILUTION [dilution ratio: 1:100]

1 litre LSA in 100 litres water *is sufficient for 3ha*
330ml LSA in 33 litres water *is sufficient for 1ha*
100ml LSA in 10 litres water *is sufficient for 3000m²*
30ml LSA in 3 litres water *is sufficient for 1000m²* (quarter acre)

METHOD

Shake LSA container, then add appropriate volume for the correct dilution, into sprayer/ spray tank water. Fish/seaweed products can be added at the same time and sprayed out together with LSA. Spray out in droplets for soil spray; mist for foliar spray. It is best to spray after about 3pm or after the heat of the day has subsided.

FREQUENCY

Spray out monthly but at least twice a year at active growing times, especially after rain or during drought.

STORAGE

Store in a cool dry dark place as far away as possible from electrical fields and appliances.

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Order online: www.biodynamics.net.au



Releasing the sacred biodynamic cow into syntropic agroforestry

**Kumbartcho Enterprises *Biodynamics & Beyond* workshop,
7 - 8 May 2022, Kilkivan, Queensland**

John Hodgkinson

Mark Pye (Preparations Manager), Kaz Selbie (News Leaf Editor) and myself (News Leaf Associate Editor) recently travelled to Shane Joyce's Kilkivan Qld property *Kumbartcho* for his and his business manager, Juli May's workshop *Biodynamics & Beyond*.

[read more...](#)



*It may be that when we no longer know what to do,
we have come to our real work,
and when we no longer know which way to go,
we have begun our real journey.
The mind that is not baffled is not employed.
The impeded stream is the one that sings.*

Wendell Berry

Make tax time
simple with our
occupation guides

ato.gov.au/occupations

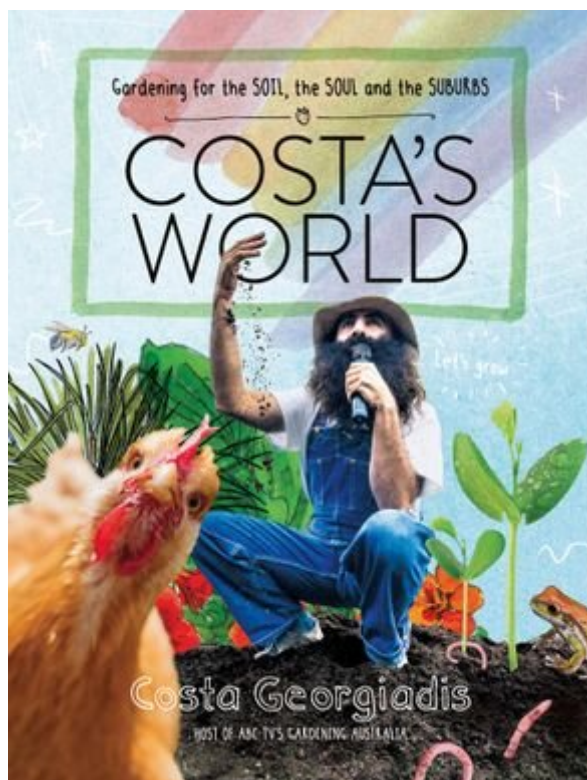


Australian tax resources for agricultural workers

The ATO has developed a range of resources to help agriculture workers get their tax right in preparation for 1 July 2022.

Check out the useful guide on deductions for your industry and a social media tile should you want to share any messages on your channels.

[read more...](#)



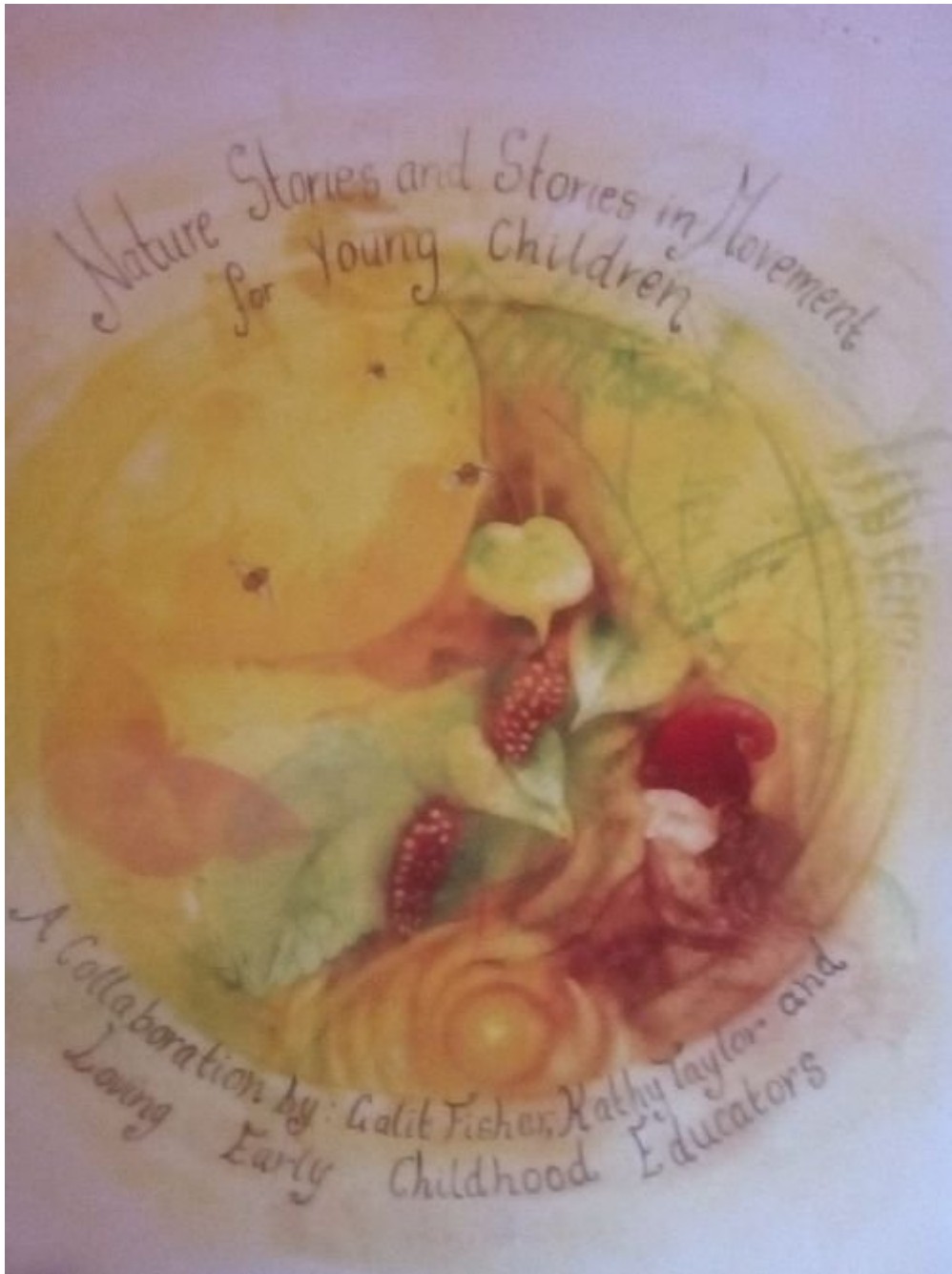
Costa's World by Costa Georgiadis

Book Review by John Hodgkinson

This excellent compendium of all things gardening has one major shortcoming from the point of view of biodynamics: it lacks a chapter specifically on biodynamic practices and their importance in the garden. There is a terse reference to biodynamics on page 55, within a table of "methodologies", noting the existence of the Australian Demeter Bio-Dynamic method, plus a note on Rudolf Steiner.

The photographs and artwork of this book are outstanding, as is the clear and concise text, and overall I am sure it will grab and hold the attention of young readers and budding gardeners, as well as offering some fresh perspectives and ideas for the experienced.

Costa's fame is based on his hosting the ABC's Gardening Australia, and our little town is about to see more of him, as he is one of over 40 writers attending the Bellingen Readers and Writers Festival, 10th – 12th June. We are hoping to get a word in his ear during this weekend, and have already arranged for him to receive a "BAA Welcome Kit", complete with our Biodynamic Handbook, a Home Garden Kit, a sample of Soil Activator complete with instructions for use, and the latest News Leaf!



A new Steiner early childhood education resource

Nature Stories and Stories in Movement for Young Children (4-7 year olds) is a resource for parents and teachers who would like to share stories about **composting, tree pasting, bees, ants and farm animals**. It incorporates themes of co-operation, friendship, care and kindness towards the Earth and each other.

Cost: \$30 for one copy (or \$27.50 for multiple copies) Shipping: \$10 (for one copy)

To purchase email: galitfisher@hotmail.com or ring 0407 219 159

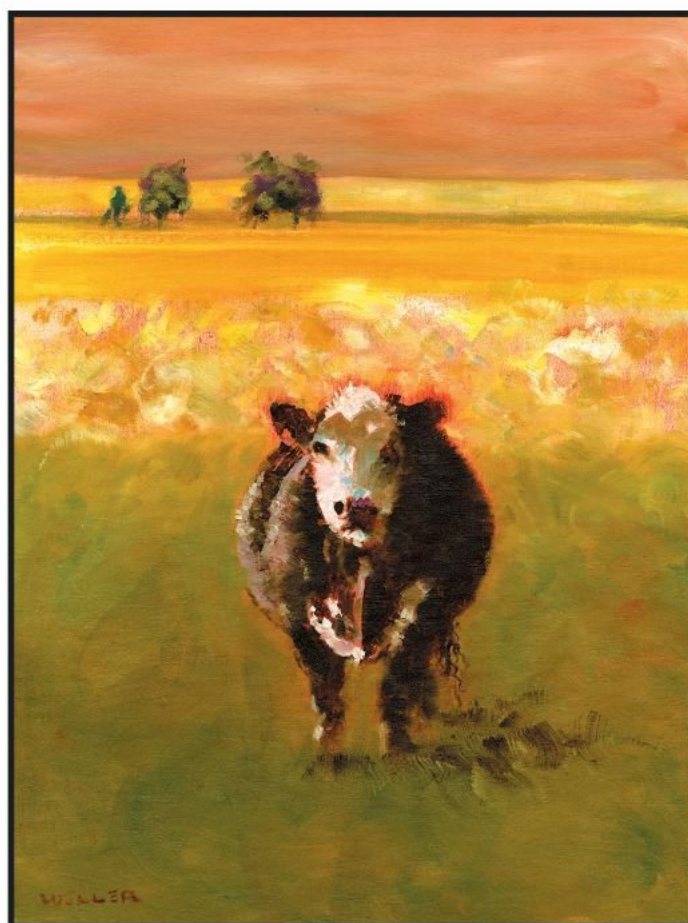


Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd

NEWS LEAF

Winter 2022 Issue #131

www.biodynamics.net.au



Ten keys for small farm success • Biodynamic Agriculture: bringing spirit into matter
From biodynamics to syntropy • Grazing to create abundance • Plant Families
Happy meat, happy ecosystems, happy people • Seeds of Resistance



We're excited our Winter *News Leaf* journal is coming out soon. It's loaded with interesting stories, beneficial facts, and inspiration. We're

always keen to hear member stories, so don't be shy, write and say hi, and let us know what you're doing on your patch.

Become a member or subscriber today and receive your copy, plus so much more. See below.



Why not become a member?

Thanks for subscribing to receive our free ***Between the Leaves*** newsletter.

We want to inspire and motivate as many people as possible to practice biodynamics, to live mindfully and lovingly, with good intentions and intuitively, as we vitalise and nurture our soil, plants, animals, humans and environment. Due to people's busy lifestyles, there is a need for high-quality preparations and products, so we cater to this demand.

Members receive:

- Significantly reduced costs on products and workshops
- Quarterly *News Leaf* coloured journal with valuable information and articles

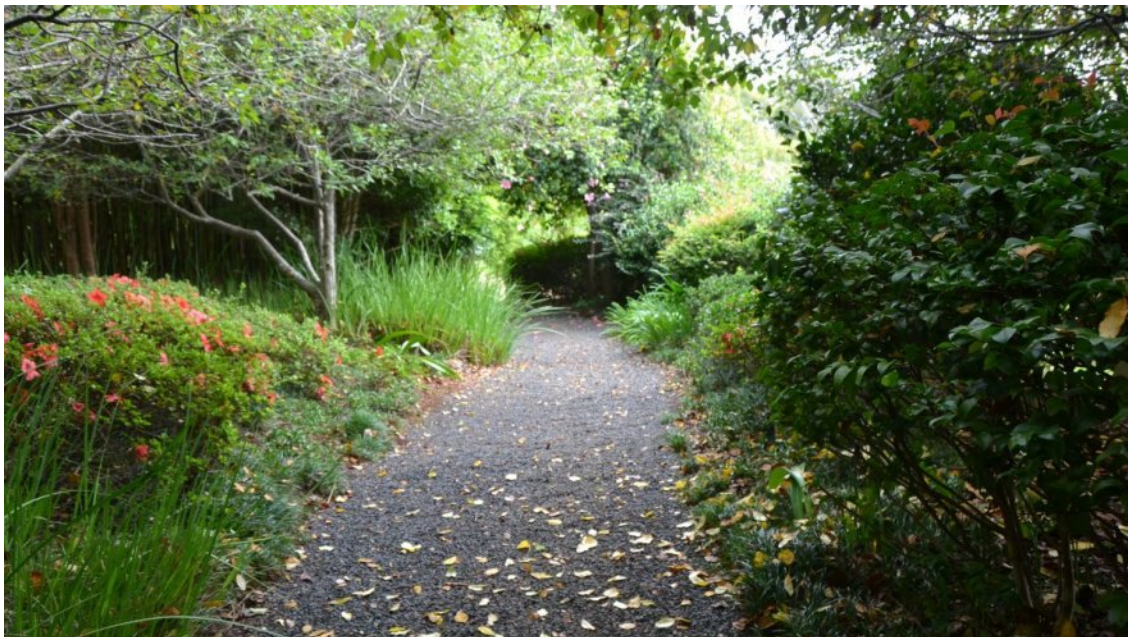
- Biodynamic Handbook explaining all
- Sample of Biodynamic Soil Activator with instructions to get you started
- Encouragement, direction and support

Our next *News Leaf* comes out soon, so consider coming onboard and taking the next positive step in your biodynamic direction.

If your membership has lapsed, we would love you to join us again. Your ongoing support helps us to continue creating, sharing and promoting biodynamics. It's easy to renew. Simply log into your account on our webpage and update.

Your membership helps support our not-for-profit organisation in making and sourcing products, practicing, promoting and sharing everything biodynamic, while we support you towards creating optimal soil health and growing highly nutritious and delicious food.

[read more...](#)



Thanks for reading our newsletter

Don't hesitate to contact the office, open Mondays and Tuesdays 9am-3pm, and Thursdays 9am-12.30pm.

E: bdnewsleaf@biodynamics.net.au

T: 6655 0566

Please help us spread the good word by [LIKING and FOLLOWING our Facebook and Instagram page](#), where we share updates and good information.

Image: Magical pathway, Barbara and James McGeogh's property, Emaho Trees, Ravensbourne, QLD

visit our webpage



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