



OCTOBER 2022



Welcome

It seems fitting in these turbulent times to be reminded of two important paradigms by which we choose to live.

These most pressing paradigms for humanity, which bookend contemporary society, are on the one hand, the Newtonian, and on the other, the Goethean. According to the Newtonian scientific paradigm, reductionist science is characterised by doubt, scepticism and distrust bordering on fear. The expert

(usually the scientist) exists outside of us.

On the other hand, according to the Goethean paradigm, holistic science is based on courage, confidence and enthusiasm, and the expert is within us.

My own take on this dichotomy is greatly reinforced by Eckhart Tolle's insight on the difference between human "doing" and "being", which strongly underlines the difference between Newton and Goethe. Tolle's "Three Modalities of Awakened Doing", namely **acceptance, enthusiasm and enjoyment**, certainly put us into the Goethean camp, should we choose to embrace them. In addition, these modalities offer great hope for a fresh and enlightened approach to gardening and farming, especially while treading the biodynamic path.

We hope the task of accepting the worst that extreme weather and fickle capitalism can throw at us is not beyond our courage and ability to accept!

Have an uplifting and meaningful October,

John and Kaz



Heaven and Earth

Source: Australian Financial Review Staff Reporter, September 2022

Harvesting by the stars might be mumbo jumbo, but the fortunes of this winemaker are rising.

Like most winemakers, Sergio Carlei is fascinated by terroir – the way that the soil, rainfall and other physical characteristics of a vineyard site produce distinct qualities in the wine made from it.

For years, Carlei has produced two single-vineyard shirazes from Heathcote in central Victoria that are clear expressions of terroir. Nord, from the wines planted on the deep red soils in the warmer north of the region, is fuller and richer in style; Sud, from a cooler, granite soil site further south, is spicier and sinewy.

But Carlei is also increasingly fascinated by another aspect of terroir that is a little more esoteric. In the early 2000s, he started following the biodynamic system of organic farming in his vineyards.

[Read more....](#)



Useful moon spraying dates for October 2022

We recommend you spray out Soil Activator (500) or Liquid Soil Activator (LSA) later in the afternoon when the earth is breathing in

and spray Horn Silica (501) the next morning (or close to) when the earth is breathing out, well before the sun rises so as to not burn your foliage.

Moon descending - The recommended time to spray Soil Activator 500 or LSA is when the Moon's influence is working below the soil surface - the best dates are 4-15 October 2022.

Moon ascending - The recommended soil spraying time for Horn Silica (501) is when the Moon's influence is working above the soil surface - the best dates are 17-29 October 2022.

[Click here to read more about planting guidelines](#)



Thanks for your feedback

"Dear BtL Editor - Between the Leaves is a wonderful newsletter. I just wish we had something equivalent in Canada. Perhaps there are some articles that could be reprinted some time? I have read Podolinski's lectures with interest, but of course climate and conditions are much different here. During the last few years, our formerly monthly BD newsletter which I tried to run for the BD Society in Ontario (which also has a few members across Canada) has collapsed into "sporadic" mode due to lack of events to promote or report on, this of course made much worse by covid apprehensions and even a little divisiveness. Farmers also by nature are reluctant to be torn away from their operations, either to host, or to visit. Keep up the great work! " **Zeb Landon.**



Why do you practice biodynamics?

Last month Kaz asked Facebook readers why they practiced biodynamics? A big thank you to those who responded. We have pleasure sharing their answers below:

*"Because it's the ONLY way to grow nutritionally dense foods.
No ifs or buts."*

Dean Bryant

"Because it teaches me about soil health/beneficial bugs etc. Because it reduces the use of most/all herbicides (even organic ones). Because it helps me find alternatives in nature (do no harm). Because it helps me utilise what I've got (compost/weed tea/leaf mold/worm farm/etc). Because it allows me to see that I'm not in control, the natural world/nature is. Because it connects me to the natural world on a deeper spiritual level."

Wendy Watson

"2nd generation biodynamic farmer, it's in my blood for good."

Jacob Unger

"Because it's easy, it makes sense and I would never go back to chemical farming. It grows grass with the slightest bit of rain, the soil holds together with a flood. In the drought, the grass just mulched up so no weeds could grow. It's just brilliant."

Desleigh Poulsen

"To be in sync with the cosmos and harness those forces through

food and spirituality is why the Biodynamic method is superior to other forms of farming and gardening. Rudolf Steiner's directions for Soul-life nourishes us on all levels, spiritually, mentally, etherically and in the subtle."

Peachess Land

"It's healthy. It works."

Christina Wilson

Like the above biodynamic advocates, we are passionate about biodynamics. We make preparations for your convenience but more importantly we're on a mission to encourage and inspire anyone who wants to learn more about this progressive and healing practice. Many people around Australia and the world are experiencing the value and benefit of biodynamics, which is coming into its own in regenerative agriculture, making it a healthy and sustainable option.

Everyone has a story to tell and the more biodynamic stories we share, the more people will understand, and willing to give it a go. As they say.... "nothing ventured... nothing gained".

Why do you practice biodynamics? We would love to hear your story and share.

SHARE NOW



Bellingen NSW biodynamic property

A beautiful biodynamic property for sale in Bellingen NSW.

[Read more.....](#)



Harmonic healing

"Energy cannot be created or destroyed;
it can only be changed from one form to another.
Everything is energy and that is all there is to it.
Match the frequency of the reality you want,
and you cannot help but get that reality.

It can be no other way.

This is not philosophy.

This is physics."

Albert Einstein

Meet our biodynamic team





(all images from left to right)

Top image 1 > Luigi and Wilany are part of our keen and caring biodynamic preparation makers, who also include Huon and Mark.

Image 2 > Huon hard at work digging up horn manure

Image 3 > Mark, John and Luigi making preparations.

Bottom image > Sybil, Glenys, Kaz, Fiona and Wilany, all looking very colourful and cool in their unique Biodynamic t-shirts, designed by our creatively talented Wilany.

We have a great team of people at Biodynamic Agriculture Australia who devote their time and energy into biodynamics and sharing what they love and know. Like you, we want to make a positive difference, and it starts with healing our soil.



Bellingen Spring Plant Fair success

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Bellingen Spring Plant Fair on 10 September. John Hodgkinson gave a biodynamic talk and demonstration and it was fantastic to see many interested. John and Fiona had a good time sharing information and products and Glenys took the opportunity to share biodynamic information with a diverse array of plant growers and stalls attending. A good day was had by all and we look forward to the next Bellingen Autumn Plant Fair in the second week of March 2023.

We love soil, plants and community !

Above image > John giving his talk and demonstration.

Middle image > John and Fiona at the Biodynamic Agriculture Aust table.

Bottom image > Haley Burgess and friend from biodynamic farm Beautiful Abundance NSW.





Heavy-Duty DE Backrub



Our specifically designed DE Backrub offers safe, effective and affordable help for the comfort of the animal. This heavy-duty backrub filled with our specifically milled fine grade Diatomaceous Earth (DE) and cattle can rub against, play with or walk under the backrub hung in a paddock, yard, pen or between two gate posts.

The DE Backrub holds up to 20kg of Super Fine grade DE and can be refilled without having to move the bag from its hanging position.

Simply open the heavy-duty zipper and fill in the DE. No unhooking necessary - making it a convenient, clean, no fuss solution.

The backrub's innovative design keeps the DE dry and safe from the elements.

Engineered, tested, and manufactured right here in Australia, the DE Backrub is designed specifically to withstand our harsh and diverse Australian conditions.



The Heavy-Duty DE Backrub - \$175 (plus GST and freight)

Call or email to order.

Note: All care should be taken when applying DE Dust. The dust particles could irritate lungs and long term use if constantly inhaling could cause potential damage. Additionally, protect skin as DE is particularly drying and may affect sensitive skins. Use standard protection as you would when using any insecticide, although DE is nontoxic.

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info@holisticfarming.com.au | www.holisticfarming.com.au

Diatomaceous Earth

SAFETY WARNING: This product is a dust. When using, wear goggles and a disposable dust mask.

AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS:

- ▶ Diatomite has a growing use in agriculture. For a long time it has been used as an addition to ammonium nitrate fertilizers to prevent caking and ensure even spreading.
- ▶ Serves as an all-purpose physical insecticide.
- ▶ In combination with fungal and bacterial pathogens, acts as an insecticide.
- ▶ Enhances beneficial fungal activity when blended with soil.
- ▶ As a seed coating it enhances seed survival and provides silica to the seedling.
- ▶ As a lick block component, provides dietary silica.
- ▶ Supplies "plant available silica" to depleted soils.
- ▶ Holds water (as an absorbent) when added in soils.
- ▶ Applied at a dosage rate of around 2% by weight of the feed ration given over a period of 1 to 2 weeks at a time, can have beneficial effects on parasitic load and animal nutrition.

TYPICAL ANALYSIS:

SiO₂ 92.2% Al₂O₃ 3.1% (aluminium oxide)% Fe₂O₃ 2.6%
MgO 0.7% CaO 0.8% Na₂O 0.2% K₂O 0.1% SO₂ 0.1%

CONSTRAINTS ON PRODUCT USE:

The insecticide activity of the product lies in its drying properties, very high humidity can reduce the effectiveness of Diatomite Fines.



Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd
www.biodynamics.net.au



Biodynamic Compost Enhancer Kit

**For use in
compost heaps and
bins, liquid manures
and worm farms.**



Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd
www.biodynamics.net.au



Membership

Thanks for subscribing to receive our free ***Between the Leaves*** newsletter. We hope you enjoy and it inspires you further in biodynamics.

We want to live mindfully, lovingly, and intuitively with good intentions while nurturing family, friends, soil, plants, animals, and the environment. Most of us have busy lifestyles, and there is a need for motivation and support along with quality biodynamic preparations and products, and that's where we come in.

As a member you receive:

- Reduced costs on products and workshops
- Quarterly *News Leaf* journal packed with great information
- Biodynamic Handbook
- Sample of Biodynamic Soil Activator with instructions
- Encouragement, direction and support

Our next *News Leaf* comes out early Summer (December), so come on board and we will happily assist you on your biodynamic journey.

If your membership has lapsed, you can still renew. Simply log into your account on our webpage and go to "subscriptions" to update.

Your ongoing support and membership help us to create, share and promote biodynamics. It supports our not-for-profit organisation in making and sourcing products, so you can continue to create optimal soil health and grow highly nutritious and delicious food.

[read more...](#)



Thanks for reading our newsletter

We are always keen to hear from you so don't hesitate to contact the office on 02 6655 0566 Mondays and Tuesdays 9am-3pm, and Thursdays 9am-12.30pm or send an email to: bdnewsleaf@biodynamics.net.au

Help us spread the good word by sharing our newsletter with friends and family and [LIKE and FOLLOW our Facebook and Instagram page](#)

visit our webpage



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