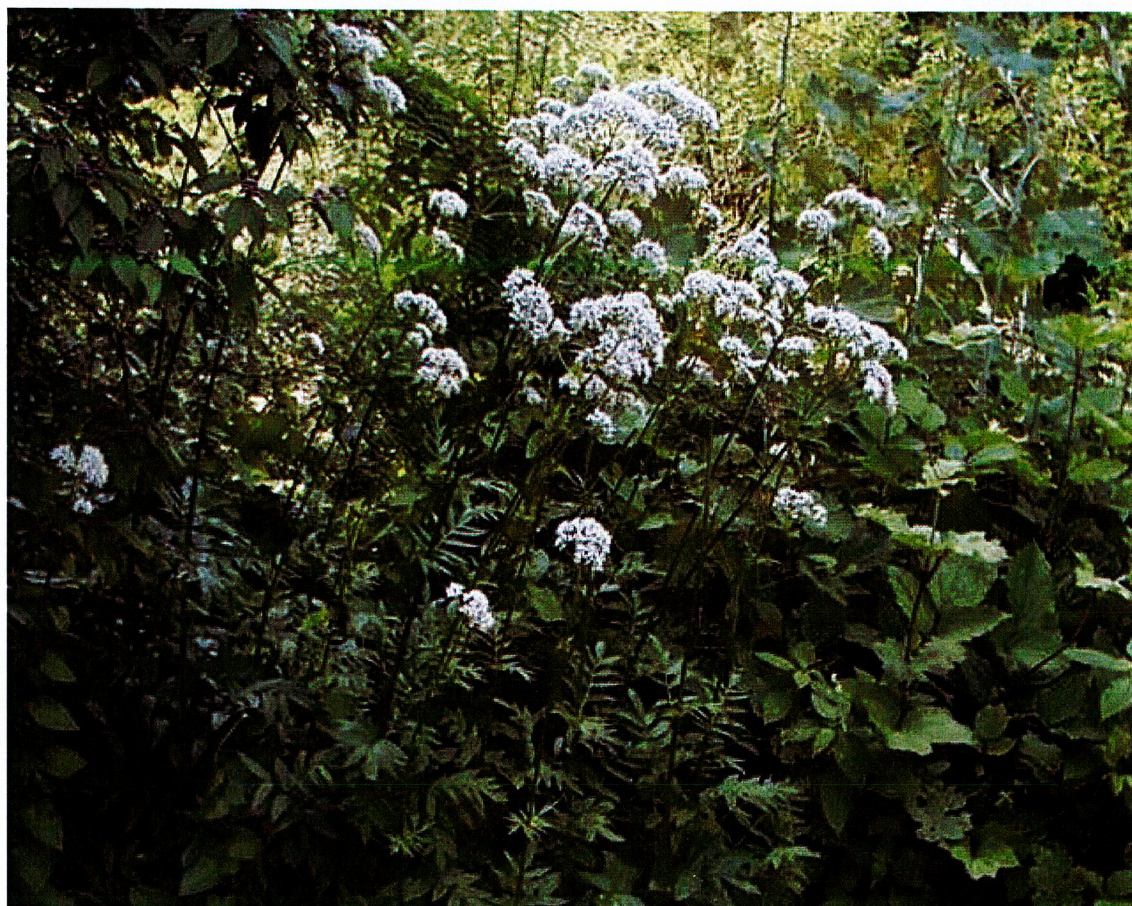


Between the Leaves, the monthly
newsletter from Biodynamic Agriculture
Australia

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JULY 2024



Hello everyone,

Welcome to July 2024 Between the Leaves. We trust you are keeping warm and busy with your garden or farm.

Noteworthy in this edition is Ueli Hurter's account of his recent Agriculture Lectures Centenary tour of selected New Zealand and Australian biodynamic sites and groups. It's a fascinating perspective through the eyes of one of the most influential European activists in the fields of anthroposophy and biodynamics.

Also not to be missed is John's piece on Valerian flower essence, which he wrote for our local Bellingh Shire Newspaper.

We wish you all a hefty and enjoyable winter down-time full of introspection and inspiration.

Warm wishes,

Kaz and John



Celebrating 100 years of biodynamics in New Zealand and Australia

Ueli Hurter has been the co-head of the Agriculture Section at the Goetheanum (with Jean-Michel Florin) since 2010 and currently sits on the executive board International Biodynamic Association. A native of Switzerland, he completed agricultural apprenticeships in Switzerland, Germany, and France. He has been involved with the Agriculture Section since 1994 and has formerly served as President of the Swiss Demeter association and as Swiss spokesman to Demeter International.

Ueli Hurter was invited as a guest speaker to various anniversary events in Australia and New Zealand from 1 to 16 May 2024.

New Zealand

After initial meetings and visits, the official start of the festivities was at 6am on 3 May 2024: around 50 people gathered at a Maori ritual site before sunrise in frosty temperatures of around 0°C. As the southern starry sky, explained to us by a Maori navigator, dimmed and the sun rose in dramatic colours through the morning mist of the estuary and the nearby sea, we experienced an hour-long welcome ceremony with stories, singing, gifts and the ritual greeting in which the forehead and tip of the nose touch. It is a deeply moving experience, as in the spiritual space opened up in this way there is a mutual recognition of the indigenous connection with earth and sky, made possible by the ancestral lineage, and biodynamics that takes up these elements again, but now in a form created from the future, supported by the freely responsible human being.

[Click here to read an account of Ueli's visit to biodynamic groups in Australia.](#)

Please note: This is an unedited article from exterior source.



Supercharge your garden with Valerian flower extract

John Hodgkinson

Valerian flower extract, in biodynamics known as Preparation 507, wakes things up in garden, horticulture and farm settings.

Spraying the stirred preparation over a garden, market garden, nursery, orchard or vineyard, acts like a "match" that lights up the fire of life in the soil and plants. This is what we call its "phosphorus gesture".

[Click here to read more...](#)



Snails and Slugs

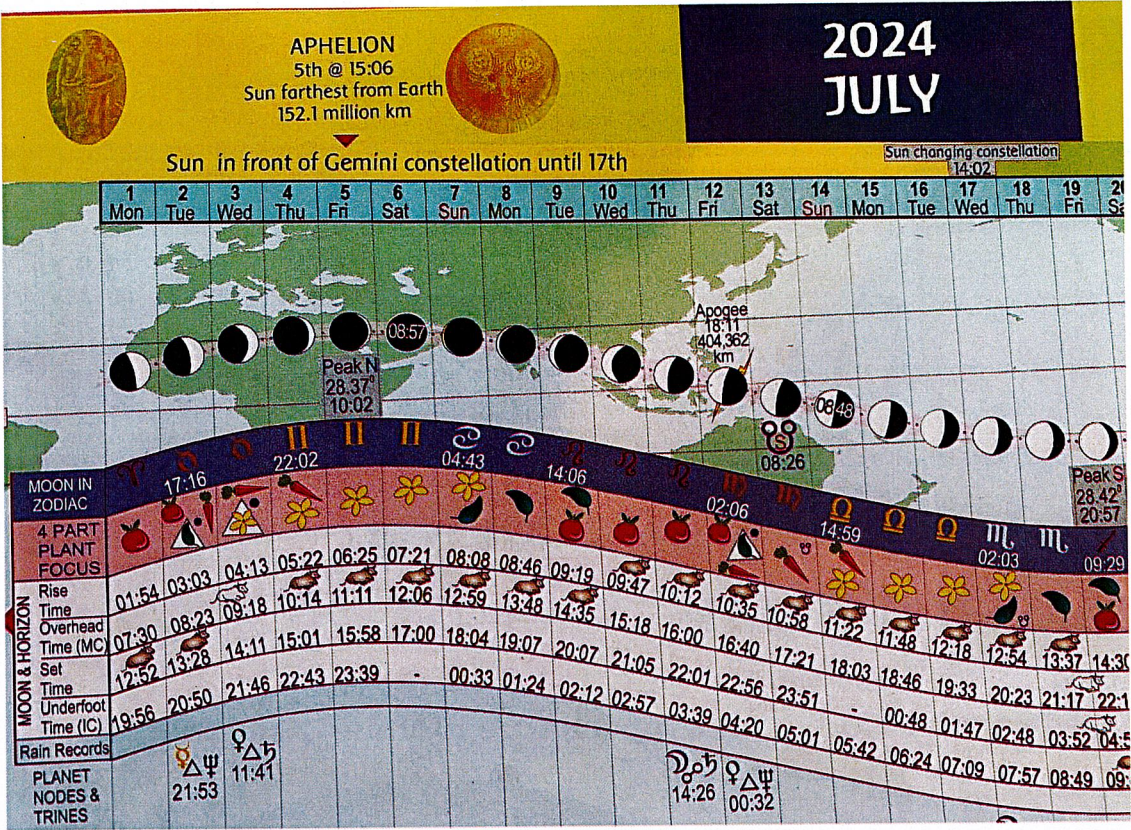
Marian Brandis, Biodynamic Agriculture membe, Armidale, NSW

I don't actually have snails but slugs and slaters have been a problem especially during the wet of 2021, after beer was hopeless I tried fruit juice - past use by date - set out each evening in shallow containers with very good results.

The following morning all containers were full of slugs, these I emptied into a bucket of water with sulphur in it to make sure they were no longer able to feast in the veg garden. I set out juice containers daily for three weeks until slugs were no longer evident.

For slaters half a juiced orange face down on the beds proved attractive as they crawled inside to feast, carefully lifting the half orange skin full of slaters then shaking them into the slug bucket helped reduce numbers.

Please note, the above article is a reader response from our *Snails and Slugs* article in our June *Between the Leaves*.



The 2024 Antipodean Astro Calendar is a resource worth having and now selling for half price at \$27. Includes postage and handling.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Image above is an example of the monthly presentation in the Astro Calendar.

ADVERTORIAL



Toxic chemicals in urban water

Rob Gourlay, PHI'ON, Elements of Life

This week's national news about the presence of a very toxic chemical in urban drinking water across Australia has sent alarm bells ringing among people and at all levels of government. The community conversation is about the impact of chemicals in the environment on people's health. Albeit many chemicals are in processed foods and particularly ultra-processed foods. Air and soil pollution with chemicals is also a major issue for human and animal health.

[Read more...](#)



**JOSEPHINE
PORTER
INSTITUTE**
For Applied Biodynamics

Josephine Porter Institute (JPI)

Founded in 1985, JPI is a not-for-profit biodynamic organisation producing preparations, hosting workshops, educational programs, and performing community outreach.

We regularly share insightful biodynamic articles from JPI in our *Between the Leaves* and *News Leaf* journal.

[Click here to read more about JPI...](#)

FOR SALE



7 Bowl flowform

- 7 Bowl Flowform on frame and wheels
- 6.5 HP Honda motor and Onga Pump, including drain
- Also 3300 litre tank set up for recirculation to suit plus some fittings
- Made in Byron Bay
- Price \$3.5 -4 K

Contact: Cam McKellar @ McKellar Farms, "Levondale", Willow Tree NSW, 0428-659931

Comfrey Liquid Manure and Nettle Liquid Manure

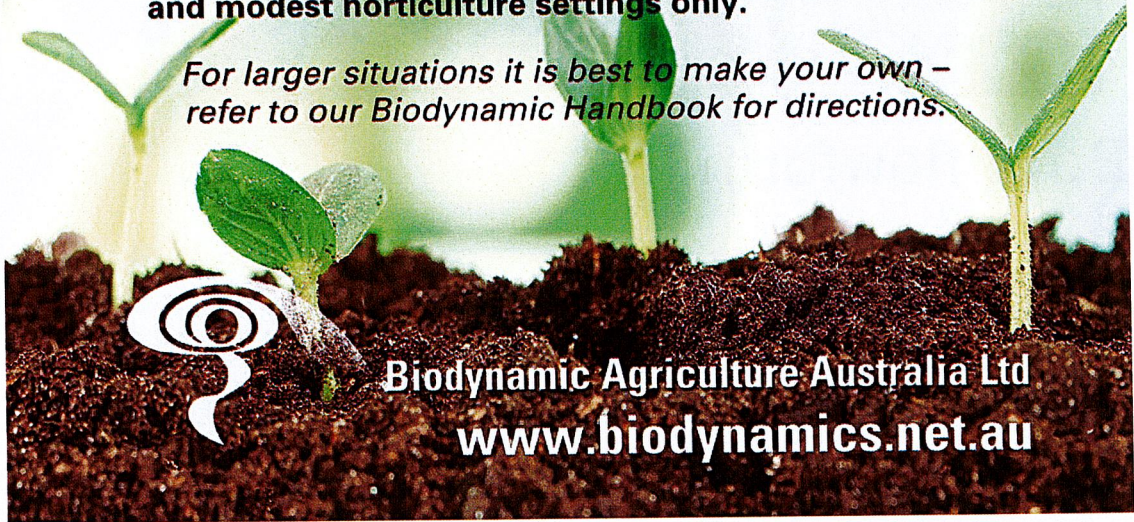


Two extremely important plant tonics and preventives for the garden, orchard, vineyard, market garden and farm.

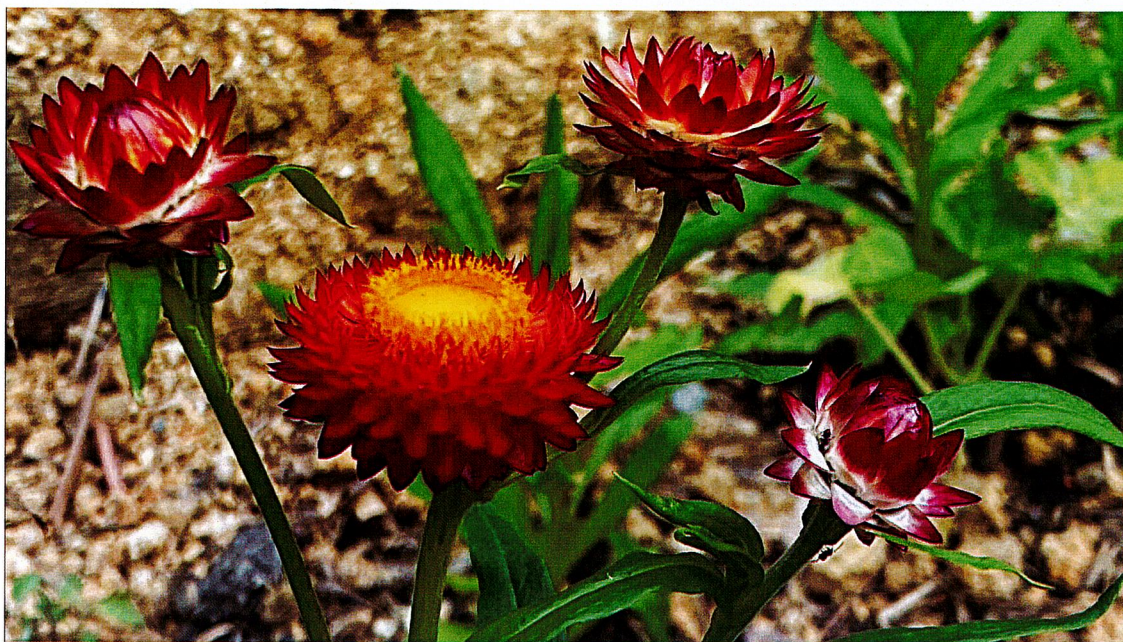
Their potency is bolstered by addition of the biodynamic compost preparations 502-507 and the use of "structured water".

These products come in two sizes for small gardens and modest horticulture settings only.

For larger situations it is best to make your own – refer to our Biodynamic Handbook for directions.



Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd
www.biodynamics.net.au



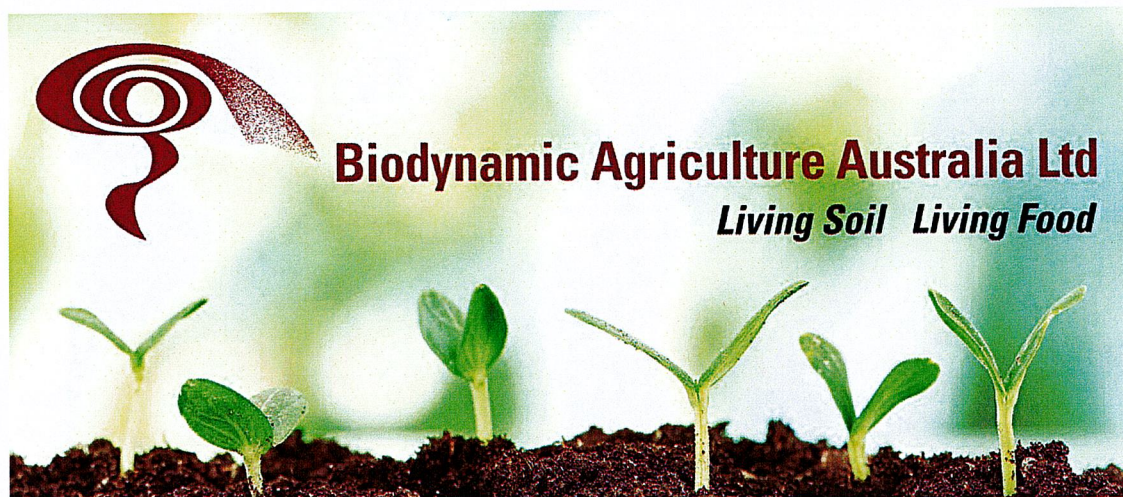
Got a biodynamic story to tell?

We're all ears for your biodynamic tales! Whether you're exploring the idea or just starting, we're excited to learn about your hurdles and triumphs.

At Biodynamic Agriculture, our team is your support system, enthusiastically backing gardeners and farmers seeking more from their lands. Share your story with us, and in return, we'll send you a free sample of our Soil Activator.

We're eagerly waiting to hear from you!

Please email: bdnewsleaf@biodynamics.net.au



Thanks for reading our newsletter

We're on a mission to encourage and inspire you further in biodynamics. Our online newsletter gives you a small window of many wonderful biodynamic articles and information we share in our *News Leaf* journal sent to members every season.

Become a member and receive:

- Benefits on products and workshops
- Quarterly *News Leaf* journal full of biodynamic stories and information
- Biodynamic Handbook - everything you need to know
- Sample of Biodynamic Soil Activator with instructions
- Encouragement, motivation, guidance and support

Your membership assists us to create, share and promote everything biodynamic. It supports our not-for-profit organisation in making preparations and products, giving education, sharing information and spreading the good word. We are on this biodynamic journey together and shared experiences are invaluable.

[Click here to view our products range](#)

If you need any help our team are here for you Monday and

Tuesday 9am-3pm and Thursday 9am-12.30pm.

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