



SEPTEMBER 2024

Hello everyone,

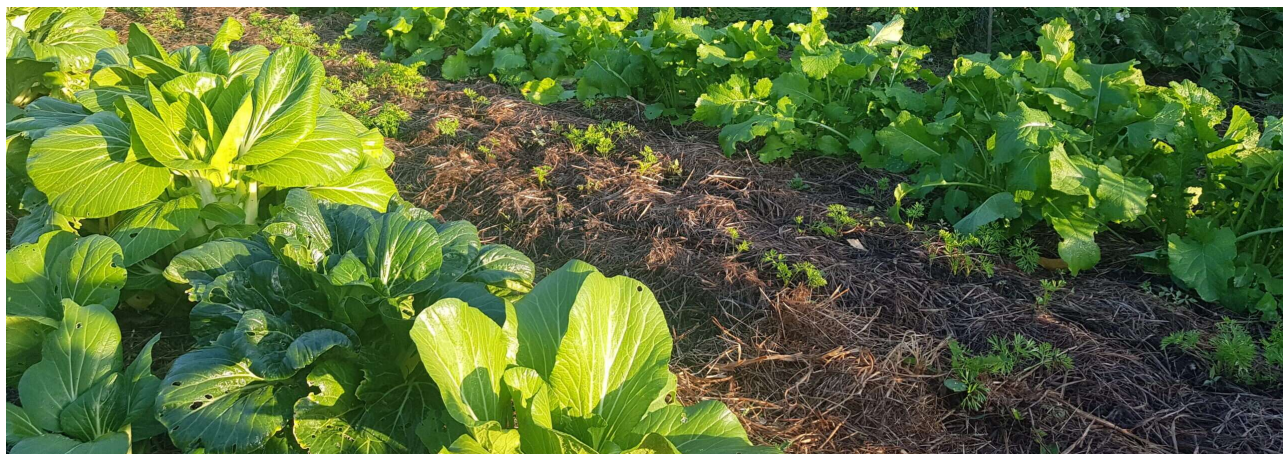
Spring has spectacularly sprung on the north coast of NSW! There's hardly been a frost to speak of this winter. The queens in John's hives at the office have been busily laying swaths of eggs for the past month (to hatch within a fortnight), anticipating the bonanza of pollen and nectar from the town gardens and parks. White clover is just beginning to flower on verges and roadsides, and the grey ironbark over in nearby forest has just begun flowering. In this region, bee behavior as observed within the hive, is a trusty barometer of conditions ahead.

This month is a good time of year to put out spring soil and atmospheric sprays. See list of dates and sprays further in our newsletter.

Be careful not to spray out the atmospheric spray horn silica (501) too early in the spring, as it can result in dropping of young fruit shortly after blossoming. On the other hand, it can be used to thin fruit as its objective, and used again later to enhance ripening, nutrient density, colour, and keeping quality.

Good growing,

Kaz and John



Seed saving in the vegetable garden - October 19 Brisbane - Saturday afternoon workshop from 1-4 pm at the biodynamic garden of Peter Kearney in Draper Brisbane. Learn the key steps of seed saving with hands on activities and educational content. All participants receive comprehensive training material, a delicious afternoon tea and a selection of biodynamically raised seeds from Peter's garden localised to Brisbane climate. ***Register here.***

Biodynamic gardening workshop - November 9 -10 Brisbane. Introduction to biodynamic gardening by Peter Kearney Held at the farm where Peter lives, located in Draper Brisbane. Local homestay accommodation available. Through content, conversation, hands-on activities and biodynamic food, learn how effective biodynamic methods can be at creating high plant vitality, whilst giving you the opportunity to appreciate the deeper spirit of nature. ***Register here.***

Vegetable garden soil improvement with green manure cropping - December 7 Brisbane - Saturday afternoon workshop from 1-4 pm at the biodynamic garden of Peter Kearney in Draper Brisbane. Learn the fundamentals of soil management and the critical role of the green manure process in your yearly rhythm of vegetable garden soil management. Hands on activities and educational content with comprehensive training material and delicious afternoon tea provided. ***Register here.***

For more information contact: peter@myfoodgarden.com.au or 04011 56532

COSMOS – EARTH - HUMAN

Sydney, NSW - Biodynamic Centenary Workshops 2024



Deepen your knowledge and hands-on skills – for gardeners and consumers Book early for this popular course.

12 Oct Gladesville 10-4

Preparation making 2

Transforming degraded dirt into premium fertility on a farm, park, verge, backyard – as little as 1-2 sqm.

19 Oct Warrah Farm, Dural 10.30-3.30

Preparation making 3

Deep ecology

Earth/planetary rhythms and breathing

The daily walk around the farm.

Re-imagining the Earth

23 Nov Sydney 10.30-4

Nutrition, food and wine

Milk from de-horned cows

Allergies

Soil testing by hand

Scientific tests

Harvesting and seed-saving

30 Nov Gladesville 10.30-4

Eclipses, rainbows, tropical storms

Finding a way through all the new energies

Organic/permaculture/biodynamic?

Cost: \$395 payable by 1st October

\$350 Biodynamics Sydney members (\$50p.a., \$20 p.a. under 40's)

Preparations samples to take home

Workshop presenters training provided – please enquire

Registrations and info: Diane PH: 9550 1682

biodynamicssydney@gmail.com

Orange, NSW - Bee Natural Beekeepers (BnB) Varroa Warriors



WANT TO MANAGE YOUR BEES IN A SUSTAINABLE, HOLISTIC AND ECOLOGICAL WAY?

Orange Beekeepers Incorporated are having a new conversation – ‘Bee Natural Beekeepers (BnB) – Varroa Warriors (Australia)’ which will discuss natural beekeeping practices to support and manage our hives.

We hope to keep our bees safe from:

- ♦ harmful chemicals and
- ♦ invasive beekeeping methods

And may consider certifying our bee management practices in the future

Our Key Focus will be:

- Managing our bees naturally, organically, or biodynamically.
- Considering the ‘bee’, and its products, whilst dealing with Varroa & other honeybee pests or diseases.
- Creating a local community of like-minded bee stewards.
- Supporting, Educating & Learning from each other as well as Natural, Organic & Biodynamic Bee Experts, Bee Academics, Bee organisations and Government departments.
- We may complete some studies and become ‘Citizen Scientists’
- Being informed – we will discuss scientific papers and learn about chemical and non-chemical treatment methods.
- We will have face to face meetings and online conversations.
- Working together to make a healthier environment for our bees, their bee products and ourselves.

Want more information OR want to join?

Contact: Shelby Ashelford : 0401 473 010

Contact: Julia Hutabarat : 0434 900 226

Email: BnBVarroaWarriors@gmail.com

Facebook Group: to be launched 19/5/24

BeeNaturalBeekeepersVarroaWarriors

This inclusive group creates a safe space for beekeepers to discuss, learn and support each other. They are based in Australia.

One of their aims is to gather knowledge by liaising with a range of experts, academics, scientists and groups to cover different topics and issues that are concerning beekeepers and making that information accessible to all beekeepers.

Their focus is on Natural, Organic and Biodynamic beekeeping and are educating members in these methodologies. They will also be learning more about Bee Pests and diseases.

BnB are currently organising webinars on a range of different topics.

You **DO NOT** need to be a member of our group to register for these events, and we will welcome all attendees.

Here are the latest events and you can register by clicking on the Humanitix links below:

5th September 7pm - 8:30pm - Treatment Free - A Different Perspective with Adrian Iodice. Registration link below

<https://events.humanitix.com/treatment-free-a-different-perspective-with-adrian-iodice>

If you would like to be part of BnB Varroa Warriors, then please follow the link below. It is a private facebook group so you will need to complete the mandatory questions and agree to the group rules.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/beenaturalbeekeepersvarroawarriors/>

Our flyer is attached to this email. Please feel free to share either the flyer or the Humanitix links above with your members or networks.

FOR SALE



Flowform and battery-operated sprayer for sale. \$400 pickup in Lara, Vic. Please contact Martin @ martin.rennhackkamp@pbtgroup.com.au



Key biodynamic spray dates – August 2024

Soil sprays = Horn Manure (500), Soil Activator, Manure Concentrate

Atmospheric spray = Horn Silica (501)

Moon descending: Use soil sprays - September 13th – 24th

Moon ascending: Use atmospheric spray - September 25th – October 9th

The Astro calendar has relevant dates with more information. Plan and purchase ahead of time should you wish to use our calendar timings.

Click here to read more about soil and atmospheric spray dates



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.

Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd
Order online: www.biodynamics.net.au

Biodynamic Soil Activator

- a wonderful way to boost your garden, market garden, vineyard, orchard or farm
- particularly effective at remediating severely degraded or out-of-balance soil
- can be sprayed out monthly, but at least twice a year at active growing times, especially during drought

Also available as ***Liquid Soil Activator***, which is pre-potentised requiring no stirring, only dilution.



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www.biodynamics.net.au





Thanks for reading our newsletter. 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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Biodynamic Agriculture Australia

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