# SAFE FERTILISERS

## SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

News and updates from SAFE Fertilisers

## Message from Les and Patti

SAFE founders

We extend our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year to all and thank you for your support of SAFE Fertiliser products. Those of us who are involved in sustainable agriculture are aware that we have reached a significant milestone in the history of farming. Carbon has become a huge phantom on the horizon of sustainable production. Sustainable growers should be financially rewarded for their effort in re-distributing carbon from the atmosphere into the soil, where it becomes hugely beneficial for the growth of plants, trees, pastures, etc. We congratulate those farmers whose higher interest is in the guardianship of the land, soil and the health of the nation, and we can only hope that future governments will recognise the importance of our future generations.

## Soil And Water Testing

SAFE Analytical Laboratories (SAL) is ready to test your soil, water or stock hair, and the prices are very competitive. All testing is conducted in a NATA and TGA accredited laboratory, which is assurance of re-produceability, correct equipment calibration and validated test methods. Our soil scientist is Dr D Rathod (known as DD) and his area of speciality is sustainable farming. He will be happy to validate an interpretation of your results to ensure the best recommendations for your farming needs. SAL conducts nutrient and chemical testing. Water testing for run-off and carbon testing are very relevant tests in the current climate and our expert chemists will ensure speedy results for you. Visit SAL's website at www.safelabs.com.au.

## Benefits of Choosing SAFE Fertilisers

- Fertcare trained staff able to give accurate information to suit all your fertiliser requirements.
- Access to the Safe Analytical Laboratory for all soil tests, human and animal hair analysis and water testing. Recommendations can then be provided and crop programs and fertiliser custom blends can be formulated to suit individual needs.
- High quality products and blends with reliable and correct analysis.
- Quick processing of all orders, resulting in an expedient despatch from the manufacturing plant. Our products are then distributed via our extensive network of rural stores and agents throughout Australia.

## Greed is not Green: The Carbon Truth

from Les Dyne

Q. When is going green not so green?

A. When we reduce carbon dioxide in our air.

Our air consists of approximately 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, 0.93% argon and 0.039% carbon dioxide ($CO_2$). A minor fraction of this carbon dioxide figure is man-made and only a small portion of the man-made carbon dioxide is produced in Australia.

It is a little known fact that the growth of healthy plants comes from the air, by way of photosynthesis utilising the sun's energy. The soil is utilised to hold the plant in position, control moisture and, with the aid of a fertile mineral balance to make the plant healthy, by producing chlorophyll for the photosynthesis process. Through photosynthesis, oxygen is produced from $CO_2$ and supplied to the air to sustain human life and health, as well as that of all other living species.

Following World War II, the push towards using products of warfare in the manufacture of artificial fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides has led to unhealthy plants with low sugar and protein levels, prone to attack from insects and weed infestation. Artificial fertilisers are water soluble and force-feed the plants with a steroid type of boost. Every time the plant requires moisture it is force-fed with soluble fertiliser.

During the past 60 years, $CO_2$ levels have risen slightly from 0.031% to 0.039% mainly due to the destruction and burning of rain forests and the depletion of soil carbon from chemical farming methods.

Ironically, looking into the future, we need more $CO_2$ not less. The world population is expected to double this century from 6 billion people in 2000 to 12 billion. We need a vast increase in food and fodder crops. We need to regenerate rainforests for oxygen production and we need to replace the soil carbon for healthy plant growth and to filter the water entering our rivers and oceans.

Controlled trials have proven that an increase in $CO_2$ produces more vigorous and healthy plant growth enabling increased food production with substantial nutrition.

$CO_2$ has been blamed for global warming; however, every planet in our solar system is warming because of a cyclic increase in our sun's activity. Hasn't Earth always experienced global warming and ice ages? There is a need to conserve fossil fuels for the future generations, but don't blame $CO_2$. Don't we need this $CO_2$ to grow plants for bio-fuel and food?

It is not a coincidence that our attention is drawn to global warming at a time of global financial crisis. Australia is becoming the guinea pig. We are the first nation to introduce a carbon tax on this scale and the first foreign country to offer billions of dollars to the International Monetary Fund to bail out greedy governments in Europe.

The end result will be that governments will receive more taxes, and it is predicted that carbon prices will increase from $23 per tonne to as much as $100 per tonne when the price is floated in a couple of years time. Greedy multinational companies will harvest huge incomes from a carbon trading (stock) exchange. A decline in available $CO_2$ will greatly affect food production, particularly organic foods which have a higher carbon level. The multinationals will sell more artificial fertilisers and chemicals, and less oxygen will be produced from photosynthesis of $CO_2$. Less oxygen causes more health problems requiring the multinationals to supply more drugs for a multitude of viruses, illnesses and diseases.

Greed is not green.

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# Introducing Scott Bedelph

SAFE Fertiliser Representative

"I joined the team at SAFE Fertilisers in October, having been involved in the horticulture/agriculture industry for the past eight years. My most recent experience has been mainly in the South Queensland area from Brisbane to the Lockyer Valley, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, dealing predominately with vegetable crops. However, previously, my wider experiences have been with the fertiliser industry in the Darling Downs region.

"I have been working hard, to complement the effort of our production team, in providing excellent service to our existing customers and, also, to introduce new customers to our full range of input products. These products are being used by farmers and growers across the entire country, which has been great to see."

**Scott can be contacted on his mobile 0427 421 200.**

# Sustainable Agriculture DVD

The reasons why we need minerals and carbon are explained fully and, without any scientific jargon, this wonderful DVD can be clearly understood by every farmer and layman. Contact Scott or the team at SAFE Fertilisers, and you will be sent this 'must have' DVD absolutely FREE!

# THE 4 Ms
# Minerals Mulch Moisture Microbes

So essential are the 4 Ms that good soil cannot be created without them. Based on the premise that good soil is rarely inherited but has to be built, it is easy to comprehend that the processes of nature need to be respected. The farmers, of pre-1940s vintage, instinctively knew how to build and retain fertile and friable soils on their farms. In their own right, these farmers were clever scientists who gauged the correct time to fallow, rotate crops, provide the appropriate manure for the soils' needs and, also, to read the texture and smell of their soil to determine its health status. To them soil was a living entity and his/her future and that of their descendants depended upon it.

Today farming has largely moved away from these ideals, and the only yardstick of relevance is quantity and turnover of crops.

However, the chemical errors and the need for 'instant rewards' of our generation is beginning to tell in the most unfavourable way. Soil has become a 'dead' medium in which to stand up the plant. It is capable of sustaining nothing much at all and all food and moisture has increasingly to be applied as an artificial boost for plants to survive. It is not too late – it is never too late to take matters back into our own hands and begin re-creating fertile soil. Why bother? One consideration is the farm's bank balance. Putting money into runoffs and into the waterways in the form of water-soluble fertilisers is one way to go broke. Adding mineral fertilisers, microbes and mulch into your soil will, with the addition of minimal moisture, create friable and sustainable soil that will not wash away or blow away, and which will grow healthy disease-free and pest resistant plants with excellent yields, good protein and Brix levels, in combination with a healthy bank balance in years to come.

# On the Road with Scott Bedelph

I have already seen and heard of improved results from various farms after using a number of our blends. The stockfeed agency in Grafton has had farmers commenting on the excellent results from the ALROC Corn Blend. This high nitrogen blend applied at 250-450kgs/ha has resulted in improved yields, cob colour and Brix levels. On the Darling Downs, ALROC Pasture Blend and Vital Activator* liquid have worked brilliantly together to rejuvenate flood affected paddocks, remineralising soils depleted by the overuse of synthetic fertilisers, and bringing to life soil microbes lying dormant under the surface.

Our production team have just released 4 new blends, including a Carbon Nitrogen blend, Carbon N Phos (9% N, 10% P, 4% C), Horti Heavy (NPK 12:5:14) and Horti Light NPK 9.5:8:8). All of these blends include carbon and ALROC minerals to balance and activate the soil for optimum results. We look forward to assisting you with further information about these products, so please don't hesitate to contact us about these or any other products.

Wishing you well for the remainder of 2011 and beyond.

**The humic acid in Vital Activator assists in nutrient utilisation and improves water holding capacity, which, in turn, provides benefits to the farmer who knows their crop is using all the water and fertiliser applied with little being wasted.*

# Fertiliser Specials

Early Bird Specials – order before the end of February 2012 to take advantage of these great prices!

As the planting of summer crops commences, it is a great time to organise your fertiliser requirements. These specials will help keep your costs down!

**Liquid Input:**

**Vital Activator** – 12% Humic Acid. Perfect for stimulating soil microbes and improving nutrient and water holding capacity
Special price until end February 2012
$3.80/L in 200L drums
$3.50/L in 1000L shuttles

**Vital Kelp** – 45% Carbon/Organic matter.
Apply at planting to boost early growth
Special price until end February 2012
$6.00/L in 200L drums
$5.45/L in 1000L shuttles

**Fertiliser Input:**

**Carbon N Phos** (N 9% and P 10%) – applied 150–350kg/ha at planting. This is a new product ideal for wheat and other cereals
Special price until end February 2012
$750 per tonne bulk