

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Get the fungicide program in order!
2. Soil moisture monitoring.
3. Pests and disease in cereals.
4. Order haymaking requirements.
5. Manage pastures to maximise production.



It's hard to believe we are heading toward the home straight in the broadacre and pasture segment while the horti market is about to fire up! Good rainfall during August has certainly helped to refocus most

farm enterprises. We all hope this continues into spring to maximise yields in the next couple months. About 12 months ago I highlighted the major consolidation of service companies in the ag sector. It is well recognised that small businesses around the country are struggling to navigate the difficult trading conditions brought on by Covid-19. We are all encouraged to support local family enterprises, regional tourist destinations and buy Australian produce. How do you determine who or what sits in this category when there is so much corporate activity behind the shop facades? As an example, Woolworths own Dan Murphy's, BWS, Cellarmasters and Langton's distribution groups as well as the ALH hotels business which also operates 323 licensed venues and over 537 liquor outlets in Australia! These monopolies exist across other segments of the Australian retail and service markets – pharmacies,

funeral businesses and also in the agri services market. The North American company Nutrien have rebranded the Australian Landmark business under their global banner and through their purchase of Ruralco 12 months ago also own the CRT and CIAA brands which many would assume are still local independent businesses.

I expect that our clients would still prefer to deal with Australian companies that reinvest in the local economy, farmers and provide employment opportunities that benefit rural communities? Farmer Johns is a member of the national AgLink group. AgLink consists of 14 individual private businesses that account for approximately 23% of the Australian agchem and associated merchandise market.

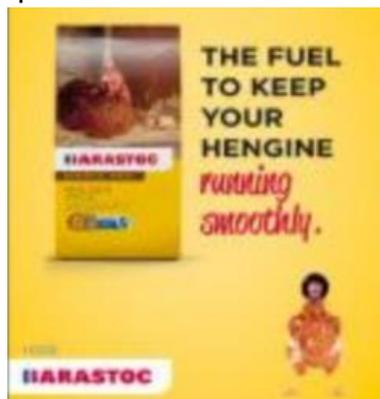
We are proud to remain very much independent and relevant to our independent thinking clients! Our people are focussed on the grass roots players in the Australian agricultural sector and do care about the relationships we have with all of our clients!

We are in this "growing" business together!

Greg Schubert



Pick up a free sample of Golden Yolk at Farmer Johns and register online to take part in the 30 day challenge and learn more about how probiotics benefit chickens!



Quote of the Month

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Viticulture/Horticulture

Some **fungicide programs** for the rapidly approaching spray season still need to be finalised and should be a priority over the next few weeks. Early control of fungal diseases and especially powdery mildew sets the vine up for the duration of the season. It is well established that powdery infections occur at the beginning of the season. These early infections only become more visible later in the year when physical leaf and bunch symptoms appear.

The positive BOM spring forecast should also be considered as a catalyst for action with higher disease pressures likely over the spring and early summer period highly likely.

In addition to higher pressure, we are also being advised of tight supply of fungicide product over the course of the season as a residue of Covid-19 production cutbacks in manufacture, logistics and shipping. We therefore urge all clients to be proactive in stocking key requirements on farm early in the season.

Please contact our agro's to sort these important jobs as soon as possible!

Combat fungal disease with confidence using Belanty

Grape growers across Australia have a new global DMI standard in fungal disease control and resistance management this season, thanks to novel formulation chemistry from BASF.

Belanty is a breakthrough DMI fungicide with a unique chemical structure giving excellent control against powdery mildew in wine and table grapes. Its rapid uptake by the plant results in excellent rain..cont.page 2

Seasonal reminders

- Order fence and trellis posts well in advance to ensure supply – extended lead times still in play.
- Spray around the house and sheds to provide residual protection from the insect invasion as spring sunshine arrives.
- Clean out spray tank residues with All Clear

- Vine planting? Order guards to keep the rabbits and hares at bay!
- Continue the supply of rodent baits around the farm yard and monitor mouse activity in paddocks.
- Please return all Chep pallets to either of our yards so that they can be de-hired to Chep.
- Full range of dog food in stock for house pets and working dogs.

- Rev up the garden in readiness for spring with generous applications of Neutrog products.
- Top up crop and pasture nutrition with liquids and granulated NPK blends to maximise hay cuts.
- Castrol oils in stock for the approaching hay season. Give us a call for all quotes and to arrange deliveries.

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from page 1... fastness and then the slow release of the active ingredient into the leaf tissue giving longer residual activity.

Importantly, Belanty has a later application window than other DMIs, and maximum residue limits (MRLs) have already been approved for export to the EU. The active ingredient in Belanty is Revysol (mefentrifluconazole), a new molecule first discovered by BASF, and subsequently registered in major markets world-wide, including North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia. Belanty is the only DMI fungicide of its type, and features innovative chemistry that enables it to bind tightly to fungal pathogens within the plant cells.

With DMI resistance developing world-wide, this is a critical characteristic that will help producers better manage their spray programs to reduce the risk of resistance, and assist in prolonging the efficacy of existing chemistry.

Call our viti agro's for further info and discuss how Belanty can help your vines!

Bud Mites have become a serious pest in many vineyards. The most effective control is achieved at woolly bud using high rates of Sulphur and spray oil. This specific timing window will rapidly close as we approach budburst in the weeks ahead. If bud mite were present in your vineyards last season, action should be taken as their activity will generally increase and impact vine health and yield if left untreated.

Contact our viti agro's should you require further information on timing and spray rates for recommended solutions.

Post-budburst nutrition.

Nutrition applied either via fertigation or foliar will get the vineyard away to a good start. There are a number of options available to take care of this job and all suppliers will tell you their product is better than all the others! It is important to remember that nutrition should be applied based on historical data obtained through tissue and soil tests as well as the removal of nutrient from crop yields. The basic fundamentals are then focussed on supplementing the existing nutrient profile. We have refined our range to a number of key products that we have achieved great results with and know will deliver satisfactory results.

One of these products is **Mega Kel P**. It is formulated to provide vine energy prior to flowering and consists of a complex formulation of high phosphorus and trace elements, in combination with included biological and hormonal stimulants.

A key function of phosphorus in plants is for plant energy, together with the kelp and trace element package, root flushing and the production of sugars is enhanced.

After the cold winter Mega Kel P is the perfect input to get your vines back on track. It will trigger root growth, act as an anti-oxidant and improve plant energy for flowering and fruit set.

Moisture Bank

After a relatively dry, scary July, August rainfall was very welcome and quite consistent across the Barossa Valley – the six weather stations (from Stockwell to Lyndoch) on the Farmer Johns/MEA weather station network (<https://barossa.greenbrain.net.au/>) recorded between 73 and 88mm for the month, with the central sites at Vine Vale and Bethany recording the most rainfall.

Good responses were observed on soil moisture probes, BUT there is a large variability across vineyards in how wet profiles are, largely due to soil types and under vine management. In a single vineyard we observed moisture reaching only 60cm in some sites and past 1m at others! This large difference certainly highlights the value of soil moisture monitoring and indicates that good management decisions can't be made on just one observation site in a large vineyard.

Recent dry seasons coupled with the value of water have prompted more growers to purchase moisture monitoring systems which Adam is currently installing in the Barossa.

Please contact Adam to discuss the best monitoring options for your vineyard or horticulture crop.

Aqua-Cal to Manage Salinity

As soil moisture levels increase, there is a good opportunity .. cont Page 3



CONFIDENCE GROWS HERE

Belanty

Fungicide

Introducing a new level of confidence in DMI's

New Belanty fungicide gives you a new level of confidence in the control of powdery mildew in grapes. Setting a new global standard for DMI's, Belanty provides up to 100 times stronger enzyme binding than other DMI's and is able to control resistant target disease populations. After years of research, Belanty is the breakthrough you've been waiting for.

Talk to your local reseller or visit crop-solutions.basf.com.au

BASF
We create chemistry

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS.
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MILDEW MANAGER for ultimate mildew protection

MILDEW MANAGER is a co-pack containing 1 x 5 L MIRAVIS® + 3 x 5 L REVUS®

The use of MIRAVIS and REVUS builds on the complementary strengths of these two powerful fungicides for the control of powdery and downy mildew in grapes.

The MILDEW MANAGER pack offers:

- ▶ A best-in-class, noticeably superior fungicide combination, for the management of powdery and downy mildew
- ▶ Rainfastness within 1 hour, providing peace of mind and flexibility in all conditions
- ▶ Long lasting disease protection, giving growers confidence to extend the application window
- ▶ Up to 21 days of residual protection, less spraying saves both time and money

| | |
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| <p>Miravis®</p> <p>POWDERY MILDEW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerful and dependable control • Long lasting protection up to 21 days • Maximises yield potential | <p>Revus®</p> <p>DOWNY MILDEW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong protectant chemistry • Reliability of complete rainfastness • Persistent protection in all conditions |
|---|--|

At a dilute application volume of 800 L of water per hectare, the MILDEW MANAGER pack will treat 21.25 hectares.

For more information contact your Syngenta representative or call 1800 022 035.

MildewManager **syngenta.**

from page 2.. to utilise Aqua-Cal under vine to assist in leaching accumulated salts through the soil profile, out of the root zone.

Aqua-Cal can be easily applied through the irrigation system if salinity has become an issue in your vineyard. We suggest that you speak with one of our agro's to determine if this might be a good option for your situation.

Bird Netting

Birds have been a destructive force in vineyards in and around the Barossa over the last couple years. Parrots have targeted Hills vineyards at a higher level than in previous years, possibly because of reduced sources of natural feed on the back of two dry spring seasons.

Research shows that netting delivers productivity benefits by protecting crops from extreme weather and predators, as well as increasing water use efficiency. As a result, fruit harvested is more likely to meet the high standards demanded by our markets, ensures continuity of supply and increases the climate resilience of our industry.

It is also the most expensive in terms of initial cost too and therefore also a deterrent for owners of vineyards!

This situation has been recognised and so the **SA Horticultural Netting Infrastructure Program** has been developed and supported through government grant funding. The purpose of the Horticultural Netting Infrastructure Program is to provide funding to primary producers of horticultural crops for the purchase and installation of new netting or the replacement of damaged netting over land used to grow horticulture crops.

This is a good opportunity for anyone that would like to invest in more permanent infrastructure but who might be struggling to come to terms with the cost after a run of poor seasons and low returns.

Further information including the application documents via the following link:

http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/major_programs/horticulture-netting-grants

Annual Viti Seminar

Obviously since the beginning of the Corona Virus outbreak earlier in the year assembling any group of people has been out of the question. We have had to make some difficult decisions for a range of meetings that we would have normally hosted to inform our customers about new products, industry and relevant market intel. To that end we have regretfully also postponed our annual pre-season viticulture meeting.

We hope to "catch up" in due course when we are able!



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- Premium kelp for intense root production
- Increased calcium uptake for quality & shelf life
- Provide energy with amino & trace elements
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A new option to control **BOTRYTIS** in grapes

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- Translaminar activity
- Good rainfastness

The AWRI has updated their recommendation for the use of Prolectus to no later than E-L 29, berries pepper-corn size (4 mm diameter) for a single application (previously no later than 80% capfall).

SUMITOMO CHEMICAL

MANAGE SALINITY WITH STOLLER'S AQUA-CAL

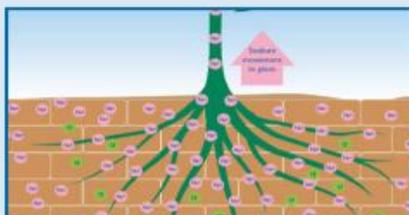


stoller.com.au



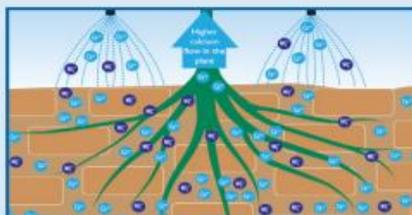
PROBLEM

High levels of sodium in the root system & soil is toxic to plants.



SOLUTION

Aqua-Cal manages salinity in the root zone using calcium.



For more information, contact Farmer Johns or Stoller. FREECALL 1 800 337 845 or info@stoller.com.au

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Broadacre Cropping

August has certainly provided most croppers with some season saving rainfall! We all hope that the BOM's recent positive three-monthly outlook comes to fruition at least to some level in order to complete the growing season on a high. After good, general falls in most districts we service, the warmer spring weather over the last couple weeks has seen a few pest predators increase in activity too. Army worm, Russian wheat aphids and cereal aphids are all at work in wheat and barley crops but at varying densities. Prior to any applications of insecticide thresholds need to be determined to ensure treatments are economically viable. Typically, we also see Native Budworm and heliothis activity in legume crops also begin as the weather warms into spring. Over the last couple weeks native Budworm activity is evident in legume crops. Monitoring should be maintained over the ensuing weeks to also determine the most appropriate control timing to negate potential losses. Please talk with our team about thresholds and the management strategies that can be used to control crop pests.

Fungal Diseases

Vigilance should be the order of the day when out and about checking crops. **Stripe rust** has been found in a couple of spots around the state. Given conducive environmental conditions we might also see some local infections too. If you need a second opinion on any suspicious signs in your crops please don't hesitate to give any of our agro's a call! We have found some **powdery mildew** starting in Scepter wheat. If you are growing Susceptible or Very Susceptible varieties such as Sheriff CL, Chief CL, Trojan, Vixen and Orion, the risk is higher in heavier canopies and whilst humidity is elevated.

In order to avoid serious damage and yield loss, early control of fungal disease is important. Therefore, regular and thorough crop monitoring is most important. Again, give our agro's a call should you need support to ensure your crop monitoring is effective.

Prior to any chemical applications a label check will reveal the **with-holding period** of the product being used. You will need to be aware of the with-holding periods (WHP) for all herbicides and insecticides that you use in your farm business. Products which are used late in the season, such as Amicide (with a 7-day WHP) and Paradigm (with a 2-week WHP) are a couple examples relevant to our district. Fungicides particularly can be a trap. Opus (Expoconazole) has a 6-week WHP. Tazer Xpert and Opera only have a 3-week WHP but have an export slaughter interval (ESI) of 3 days. This simply means that after observing the withholding period for grazing, or cutting for stock food, livestock that have been grazed on treated crops or fed treated crops should be placed on clean feed for 3 days prior to slaughter. In our region where many crops are grown and ultimately destined for the local and export hay markets it is most important to read labels and give consideration to the end use market for the fodder you produce.

Roundup Ready Canola

Most croppers will be aware that the debate on the use of Roundup Ready varieties has been in dispute in SA for a long time. Recent changes by our Government will finally allow the South Australian cropping community to grow RR options.

Science has advanced agriculture in South Australia since Roseworthy opened in 1883. Gene technology in crop development is just another tool to enable us to advance our efficiency and production. All farm businesses make decisions that suit their individual enterprise and production goals on a range of issues on a regular basis. The consideration of utilising new seed technologies should not be swayed by public emotion or biased media

Fungal disease control in every droplet.

Aviator Xpro

Control a wide range of diseases in barley and wheat with Aviator Xpro.

Group 3 Fungicide
Prothioconazole

Group 7 Fungicide
Bixafen

Leafshield™
Rainfast in under an hour in most conditions

Barley

- Net form net blotch
- Spot form net blotch
- Leaf rust • Leaf scald
- Powdery mildew

Wheat

- Eyespot • Yellow leaf spot
- Septoria nodorum
- Powdery mildew
- Septoria tritici • Stripe rust

- Two different mode of action groups to help tackle fungicide resistance
- Apply by ground equipment or aircraft
- Also registered for use in canola, chickpeas, faba beans, field peas and lentils

Talk to your advisor or visit aviatorxpro.com.au to learn more.

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representation but rather on the science and agronomic benefits that are now available for use in your individual enterprise.

2021 Seed Orders

As seed suppliers have limited annual production capacity, many options across both TT and RR segments are already under pressure.

Please speak with your FJ contact sooner rather than later if you wish to include any new crop options in your 2021 program.

Ag Chem Supply

Recent flooding in China has impacted the production of some agchem products sourced for the Australian market. Local media will report that glyphosate supply has been seriously affected. We don't believe that this situation will be long lasting and expect normal supply to be back to full capacity by the end of harvest this year, ready for the summer spray season. We have some stock on hand if you would like to have a bit on farm prior to harvest or for crop topping.

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Pasture

After investing in seed establishment, nutrition, weed, and insect control throughout the autumn and winter months, graziers should now really begin to see their **return in production with high quality spring pasture growth.**

Good grazing management will also see rewards in wool and meat production, the real target in quality pastures.

Stock can also be managed with temporary fencing using Gallagher Electric fencing systems to easily set up rotation blocks and prevent overgrazing on more lush areas of pasture.

We stock a full range of Gallagher products here at Farmer Johns. Spring also means that many pastures will see fodder conservation take place with **silage and hay cutting** just around the corner.

Some silage has already been made and stored in earlier crops and regions. We have good stocks of net wrap, silage film and twine on hand – please give us a call to sort your orders.

If barley grass is an issue in pastures, spray topping these annual nuisance grasses is going to be an option to help control and reduce seed set. Good alternative feed reserves make this option more viable on some grazing enterprises.

RLEM treatments in spring reduce the late season egg laying which in turn significantly reduces populations that hatch in the subsequent autumn. Check out the TimeRite program and spray timing via the AWI website: <https://www.wool.com/land/timerite/calculatedate/>

Chooks

Most farm yards have a flock of chooks running around to supply the families egg requirement. Frustration occurs when chooks don't lay eggs or despite the number of birds eating feed the egg supply doesn't live up to expectation!

It may not be the chooks fault but rather the attention (or lack of) that gets paid to them in comparison to all the other production targets and effort in other areas of the farms production system.

A little bit of knowledge on some of the basic nutritional requirements of a laying hen from chicken through to adult life might be helpful in sorting out the egg supply without too much expense!

During the first 6 weeks there is a lot going on within a chicken. By ensuring we aren't limiting growth or development of the innate chick starting her off on a high nutritional platform is key to set her up for life. Barastoc Chick Starter not only provides a high nutritional platform but ensures it's delivered in a safe, highly digestible way also containing a coccidiostat for prevention of coccidiosis.

The pullet phase is where the foundations are laid during the next 10-12 weeks of life, before the body reaches maturity. Birds should be fed Pullet Grower. Upon reaching 16-20 weeks of age a hen is deemed a

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Extinosod
POUR-ON FOR SHEEP

Zolvix

PURCHASE 1 X EXTINOSAD™ POUR-ON 20L OR 1 X ZOLVIX™ /ZOLVIX PLUS 5L AND RECEIVE 1 BAG OF DOG FOOD*

PURCHASE 1 X ZOLVIX /ZOLVIX PLUS 10L AND RECEIVE 2 BAGS OF DOG FOOD*

bird at point of lay, therefore has the potential to commence laying eggs. After this period, it is essential that you have transitioned their diet over to a specific laying ration. Not only are layer diets nutritionally balanced and suited for the high productive layer hen but contain the necessary balance of the right nutrient like calcium and phosphorus. If sufficient nutrients, in particular calcium, aren't continuously supplied into the diet she will draw all her reserves down off skeletal bone and become weak and fatigued, egg shells will get very thin and in extreme cases cause permanent damage and will cease egg production – the reason that all these frustrations stemmed from at the beginning of this article!

We keep a full range of Barastoc feed on hand for all poultry!

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Livestock

Over the counter discussions on **sheep lice** in the past few weeks, have determined that several customers have had to retreat sheep as a result of lice re-infestation subsequent to shearing and off shears applications.

There are a number of possible reasons for re-infestations occurring - poor or incorrect initial application, inaccurate dose rate, contamination from carriers accessing flocks from neighboring sheep or wrong choice of product.

We have several product options available for sheep if this has happened to you. It comes back to what product fits your situation & the time frame of future management events plans.

Due to the weather conditions we have had in the last month with regular wet weather coupled with some warmer days, perfect conditions have been present for **blow flies!**

Clients wishing to shore up protection within a limited time frame before sale of stock or shearing Clikzin is the obvious choice. Clikzin provides up to 11 weeks protection, with a withholding period no longer, than a month.

Clik Extra as an alternative, will provide up to 28 weeks protection. The longest withholding period on this product is wool harvesting, 3 months before next shearing event. It's a good tool heading into haymaking and harvest

Elanco is currently offering - **\$200 cash back when purchasing 2 x 20lt Clik Extra** – this is available until Sept 30, 2020. We will also give you 1 x Bag of Dog food with every purchase of Extinosad 20lt.

Nutrition

There have been recent reports of lamb scours in the district, where worms have been eliminated as the cause. It highlights that other causes, such as mineral deficiencies, bacterial scours, plant toxins and malnutrition also need to be considered when scours or poor growth rates are noticed.

This will often require the assistance of a skilled animal health specialist to achieve a diagnosis. Subsequent to the diagnosis a treatment plan and prevention strategy needs to be implemented in order that repeats of the same problem do not occur in the future.

Experience has indicated making MagPlus available ad-lib will assist sheep overcome visible scour concerns. Simultaneous faecal samples have also shown low EPG's on lab results also confirming a nutritional disorder rather than a parasite burden. MagPlus from Performance Feeds is a highly weatherproof mineral supplement with extra magnesium for both cattle & sheep grazing pasture, Magplus can assist with preventing & treating symptoms associated with grass tetany & calming nervous stock

Give either Simon or Randall a call to discuss any concerns and for further information on lice, fly and nutritional programs.

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| <p>DIESEL STORAGE</p> <p>400ltr NEW CUBE UTEPACK</p> <p>→ Bundled available</p>  | <p>WATER STORAGE</p> <p>200 - 50,000ltr RAINWATER TANKS</p>  | <p>TROUGHS</p> <p>250 - 600ltr SUPA TROUGHS</p>  | <p>Polymaster</p> <p>SEPTIC TANKS</p> <p>3100 or 4550ltr</p>  |
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