

e-feedback

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February 2014

Television host and renowned chef Geoff Jansz has an exciting new project underway on the farm where he lives with his family in the Southern Highlands of NSW.



Geoff's Farm



With soil health and 'taste' Geoff's focus, what goes into the ground has been carefully selected in all areas of the farm. Geoff says "I love creating my black magic potions of composts, liquid manures, fish extracts and such, however, for maximum success nurturing soil and the plants within, practically everybody will need to seek the advice or research from a knowledgeable source regarding supplementing your self-supply. My guys are Neutrog."

The brief was to provide organic and organic based products that hold moisture, increase organic matter and build soil health. With that in mind **Rapid Raiser** has

now been applied with initial vegetable plantings and **Seamungus** used when forming the new raised beds. Seamungus has also been dug through problem areas that have been neglected and needing improvement before being productive. Under the watchful eye of expert orchardist, Geoff Brookes, **GOGO Juice** and **Gyganic** for Fruit and Citrus have been applied to the 30+ trees in the farm orchard. Geoff said of his beloved fruit trees, "They have plenty of fruit buds and with this delicious feed we've just given them, we're looking forward to a bumper crop of outstanding apples, pears, plums, cherries, quinces and more."



Not only is Geoff planting in larger areas around the farm, he has also added pots and an elevated garden to his patio area and created 12 or so beds next to the house to represent a mixed growing area. Small amounts of each variety are being grown in close succession to provide a continuous supply of produce rather than a sudden glut. These have also been created to inspire backyard gardeners, school children and cafes with access to a small amount of land, along with community gardeners who share their plot, the workload and the produce. Geoff will also be trialling different gardening methods and varieties of seeds, all the time pursuing what's best for the table and passing on his discoveries via social media.

We look forward to bringing you further instalments of the Geoff Jansz Farm journey as each season unfolds. **N**

To read more about Geoff's new project click here. <http://www.geoffjansz.com/category/farm/>



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Stephanie Alexander, founder of The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, has been awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in this year's Australia Day Honours.

The award citation commends Stephanie for her 'distinguished service to education through the design and establishment of schools-based learning programs promoting improved food and eating choices for children, and as an author.'

Stephanie strongly believes that the earlier children learn about food through example and pleasurable hands-on experience, the better their food choices will be throughout life. There are now 458 schools in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program with over 57,000 Australian primary school students involved in growing, harvesting and preparing fresh seasonal produce.

Congratulations Stephanie! **N**

Get with the Program

Neutrog are delighted to be a partner in the invaluable Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, continuing to provide free Rocket Fuel to schools around the country. We love to see kids getting into the garden and get really excited when we receive photos of healthy fruit and veggies grown with Rocket Fuel, along with letters from students and staff from schools all over Australia. We wish we had the space to share them all with you. Here are just a handful...



I would like to thank you most sincerely for your very generous donation of large quantities of Rocket Fuel. ...It is wonderful stuff, and has helped to produce some bumper crops over the years - great for soil fertility.

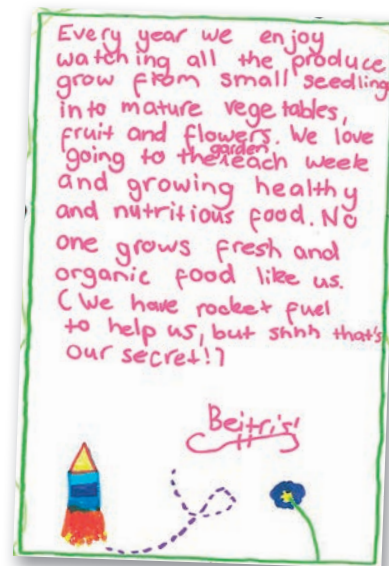
*Margaret Finger, Training Garden
Collingwood College, Melbourne*

We had a child last year who refused to eat anything. By the end of the year he wrote a book called The Diary of a Wimpy Eater. He now eats broad beans and beetroot and everything!

Kitchen Specialist, Altona Meadows PS, Vic

I like to play in the dirt! I like planting new things in our garden and watching them grow and develop. To grow our produce we use water, sunlight, Rocket Fuel and lots of love! My favourite things to cook are green salads and veggie pizzas. This food then gives me my rocket fuel!

Liam, Wendouree Primary School, Vic



I've worked for a number of years teaching adults as well as children about gardening and soil nutrition. I absolutely love everything about Neutrog products, from the quality of the products themselves to the bright and inviting packaging. It's fabulous when I talk about fertilisers during our school training days that I can show the label on the Rocket Fuel and explain to the

**Look what we've grown!
Happy Valley Primary School, SA**



new garden teachers how it is a complete organic fertiliser with great ratios and includes Humic Acid and trace elements so they can use it and not worry about adjustments. I particularly love the GOGO Juice, brilliant for the home and school gardener and so easy to use. My home garden has been fabulous over the summer and I used the GOGO Juice regularly on my zucchinis, pumpkins and tomatoes in particular to reduce fungal issues and we have had a great harvest. Your support of our schools is tremendous and I know the garden teachers appreciate everything done to ensure the success of the gardens.

*Robyn Cook, SAKGF Education Officer
Queensland*



You too can 'get with the program!' As part proceeds of all Rocket Fuel sales support the work of the Foundation, you can give your fruit and veggies the blast they need whilst at the same time giving more kids the opportunity of learning in the garden.

Read more about the Program here
<http://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/>



Spiking the interest of the next generation

In a unique step to foster and encourage younger generations, The Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. (OCSA) has established the 'Orchid in Schools' program, with three high schools currently participating.

The students are mentored by club members and encouraged in the art of orchid growing with classes, hands on sessions and establishment of student orchid clubs. There are opportunities to

demonstrate their new skills at school open days and exhibiting at OCSA monthly meetings and major shows including the Royal Adelaide Show. The program has been running at Woodville High School for a number of years with great success, and with the addition of Willunga High and Mount Barker High, numbers involved in the agriculture classes and school orchid clubs have increased to around 100 students in 2013.




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The orchid club see it as a real pleasure to be involved



in developing the skills of the next generation of orchid growers and the positive response from schools, parents and eager students has led to a plan to train further volunteers and expand the program into other interested schools. Neutrog are pleased to be sponsoring this invaluable program, providing Strike Back for Orchids Liquid Concentrate to the schools for use in classes and to a number of students for use with the orchids they have now been inspired to grow at home.

After numerous places won by students exhibiting their own orchids in recent years OCSA, in conjunction with the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society, plan to include the budding orchid growers in what they hope will be one of Australia's largest orchid shows at this year's Royal Adelaide Show. We wish them every success. 



After extremely successful trials over 2013, the Rhondda Rose Society in Wales has unanimously voted to endorse

Sudden Impact for Roses. Celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, members have judged at national rose shows in California, had invitations to judge roses in France, given lectures in China and New York and are a strong influence in the UK and the wider horticultural world.



Sudden Impact for Roses was trialled in members' rose gardens up against their usual fertiliser choices with many of the roses produced going on to win at the local show! We are now trying to pronounce the following –

Mae'r dewis o arbenigwyr
(‘The Experts’ Choice’ in Welsh!)

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Garden groundwork in Summer



Year round fertilising for year round health

Like humans and animals, plants require regular feeding throughout the year – at least once in each season. Happy, healthy, well nourished plants are more resistant to pests, diseases, heat stress and frost.



Keep an eye out for heat stress in ALL areas of your garden. Applying products rich in seaweed and organic matter, like **Seamungus** and **GOGO Juice**, around your plants can help to improve the soils water holding capacity AND the plants ability to tolerate hot weather.



Fruit Trees: Feed all stonefruit trees with **Gyganic for Fruit & Citrus** to encourage new growth. Apply around the dripline and water in well.

Make sure all fruit trees, including citrus have a regular supply of water over the summer months – this will reduce the risk of fruit splitting and improve fruit and flavour development.



Vegetables & Herbs: Pull out any weeds competing for water and give your herbs and vegies a blast with **Rocket Fuel**.



Natives: Give natives a light trim, to maintain shape and feed with **Seamungus**.



Flowering Plants: Dead head azaleas, rhododendrons and camellias – lightly prune to shape and then apply **Kahoonia** at a rate of 100g per plant.



Lawns: To encourage lush green growth over summer feed your lawns with a nitrogen boosted fertiliser such as **Upsurge** or **Sudden Impact for Lawns**.



Dead head roses regularly to encourage new growth and flowers. Apply 100g per plant of **Sudden Impact for Roses** every 6-8 weeks throughout summer and autumn for a beautiful rose display.



If however, your lawn is a bit patchy and showing signs of heat stress and overuse we recommend applying **Seamungus Crumble** and **GOGO Juice** – this combination is a little bit of “TLC” for your lawn and will help it to recover gently.



Once orchids have finished flowering, they can be repotted and divided if needed. Mix **Seamungus Crumble** through the orchid bark when repotting and dose with an application of **GOGO Juice** to settle the plants in. The repotted orchids can be fed with **Strike Back for Orchids** pellets or liquid concentrate again in Spring.



Summer flowering annuals, like petunia, zinnia and marigolds can also be fed with **Sudden Impact for Roses** (if they are in the ground) or **Strike Back for Orchids** (if they are in a pot).



Town Pride

The City of Victor Harbor, like many councils, encourage volunteering in varying forms in their local council area. The Victor Harbor Town Pride Gardening Group volunteer countless hours to nurture the main street precinct gardens and reserves.

The group are extremely proud of their efforts to beautify and improve their town and were pleased to see in 2013 Victor Harbor crowned as “Australia’s Tidiest Town”. Local councillor and volunteer member, Pat Chigwidden reported to Neutrog recently that there had been a number of noticeable improvements in areas where GOGO Juice had been used by both group members and the council horticulture team.

In particular, struggling Ficus plantings made a strong recovery after a pruning and GOGO Juice application, and the many beds of roses handled the recent heatwave incredibly well – better than they had fared previously. Rapid Raiser has also been used in many areas and for new plantings.

The Town Pride group’s 17 dedicated members have recently replanted more than 60 Petunias into large pots in the town’s main street after the original plants were stolen over the Christmas period. This has given the group even more to do as they helped the town prepare to be under the international spotlight - hosting the stage four finish of the Santos Tour Down Under. **N**

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Mailbox

We'd love to hear of your gardening successes. Send your comments for us to share with other gardeners.

Photos welcome!

info@neutrog.com.au

My troublesome tall fescue lawn is much more under control this summer with the use of your GOGO Juice as a spray application periodically, and in particular when it starts to dry off in patches. Returns to normal within about 1 week or 2 at the worst. It has been a real problem over the years.

Regards,

John, SA



Last week I was in Sydney and visited my god-daughter in Vacluse. Her newish garden has a row of gardenias and they were flowering and splendid. I complimented her and she said, "It's all Kahoona".

Susan, ACT



In development

We are excited to announce that we have commenced development of a new fertiliser for natives (drum roll please!)... **Bush Tucker!**

Watch this space...

Around the grounds...

Summer fertilising with Sudden Impact for Roses has commenced at The Flemington Racecourse Rose Garden in readiness for the stunning autumn display. The same is underway at Urrbrae House in SA and The Morwell Centenary Rose Garden and Mornington Botanical Rose Garden in Victoria.

Steven Wells has applied GOGO Juice at the therapeutic sensory and healing garden at Austin Health's Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre to give the water-wise plantings protection from heat stress.



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Neutrog Australia Pty Ltd
288 Mine Road, Kanmantoo
South Australia 5252
T (08) 8538 3500
F (08) 8538 3522
E info@neutrog.com.au
W www.neutrog.com.au

New from our online store

Palm & Fern Lovers' pack



A Palm & Fern Lovers' pack has been added to our [Online Store](http://www.neutrog.com.au/onlinestore/) featuring all the products you need to care for your non-flowering plants. Packs include Sudden Impact for Lawns - perfect for your palms and ferns (not just your lawn!) as it is high in nitrogen. Click [here](#) to try our new Palm & Fern Lovers' pack.

<http://www.neutrog.com.au/onlinestore/>

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