

e-feedback

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September 2014

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Hentley Farm. Australian Winery of the year

To find out more about the award winning Hentley Farm wines, restaurant and cellar door - www.hentleyfarm.com.au



Owners Keith and Alison Hentschke have had a lot to celebrate recently with James Halliday announcing Hentley Farm in South Australia's Seppeltsfield, as Australian Winery of the Year in the 2015 Wine Companion. James Halliday is of course Australia's most famous and respected wine critic and his annual comprehensive wine companion is the number one bestselling guide to wineries and wine in Australia. In this edition, nineteen of the Hentley Farm wines received 94 points or higher including five at 97 points and two at 98.



With the iconic Penfolds as last year's winner, the highest possible Australian winery award is the first to be awarded to a Barossa Valley producer and an outstanding achievement considering Hentley Farm's first vintage was in only 2002.

This success has been achieved with a focus on sustainable and biological farming practices, a dedicated vineyard team and talented winemaker Andrew Quin. Andrew began winemaking in California and after managing large cooperative wineries in France returned to the Barossa to work first with Yalumba and in 2008 joined the Hentley Farm team. It seems that along with Keith and Alison and the viticultural team, Andrew has taken these distinctive wines to a new level.

When selecting the site for the vineyard in the 1990's, Keith and Alison sought advice from winemakers and soil scientists



and after selecting the site, planting of the vineyard began in 1999 and was completed in 2005. When the young vines were first planted Rapid Raiser was used for good root establishment and to add organic matter to the soil for increased moisture retention. Keith took a thorough

farming approach with the view that getting things right in the vineyard was the essential first step before even considering making the wine.



Since then Bounce Back, Rapid Raiser and Seamungus have all been used across the 150 acre property. Operating from a single vineyard model means there is no safety net. The viticulture team use a dry-land farming strategy with an emphasis on keeping the vine canopy in a natural state of balance with minimal interference. This involves a sustainable agricultural approach with timely application of fertilisers, water management and deep row cultivation to encourage deep root growth, which assists high grape quality in times of low rainfall. Since GOGO Juice was released in 2010, the vineyard management team have also used this probiotic on troublesome areas lacking vigour and more widely to increase protection from heat and frost stress.

We pass on our own congratulations to Keith and Alison Hentschke and the teams in both the vineyard and winery. After this recent accolade of Winery of the Year, Hentley Farm has certainly cemented itself as one of Australia's finest boutique wineries. James Halliday had this to say - "It hardly needs to be said, the emphasis is on quality". **N**



Walkers International. Berry Big Business!

Walkers International is one of the largest strawberry growing operations in Australia, supplying around eight million punnets of strawberries each year to major supermarket chains nationally. Based on the outskirts of picturesque Mylor in the Adelaide Hills, the business also grows their fruit in nearby Woodside and run operations on the Sunshine Coast for continued supply throughout the season.



Owners Hamilton and Lucy Walker have grown this remarkable business over 20 years with hard work and a passion for producing quality fresh produce. In South Australia they now employ around 100 workers at the farms and packing and distribution centre. Along with the major chain stores, they continue to supply strawberries to independent stores and local markets, and still have fruit available to locals and visitors at their shed door from October to May.

The Walkers along with the farm management team are consistently looking for ways to improve yields, quality and taste. From selecting the right growing regions and the best varieties for each site, to improving farm practices and packing methods, the constant evolution has led to the company's continued success and a plethora of happy clients and customers. Predictable outcomes and ongoing quality produce needs to be guaranteed, and with stringent quality controls at all levels of the distribution chain, it is at the forefront of every decision made.

Control blocks are a critical part of this process, and are used to trial berry varieties as well as fertilising and growing methods. Last season the team trialled Bounce Back and Gyganic, and were so pleased with the rate of growth and the positive results, that at pre-plant in February and March this year, they applied Gyganic to the entire 24ha growing area. Hamilton Walker says, "We have been looking to source the perfect fertiliser to result in the perfect produce." Needless to say, they are looking forward to improved organic matter levels and healthier soils across the site and a bumper crop this season. **N**

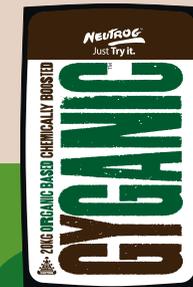
For more about Walkers International Strawberries - www.walkersinternational.com.au



SPOTLIGHT **Gyganic** is an organic based, biological, chemically boosted, complete fertiliser with the full range of nutrients in an organic form, coupled with chemically boosted levels of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), Iron (Fe) and Magnesium (Mg). **Microbes** have been added to Gyganic's unique organic base of manure, seaweed, kelp, fish, humates, lucerne and rock phosphate to breakdown these organic materials, ensuring the full range of organic nutrients are available when applied.

Happy, healthy soils and plants are more resistant to pests and diseases.

Gyganic is ideal for all fruit and vegetable crops (including chloride sensitive crops) and particularly those where a premium is paid for consistent and uniform fruit and vegetable size.



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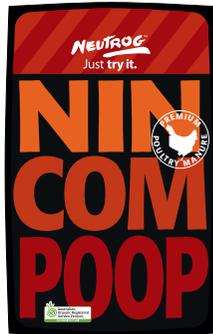


NEW! Bulk composts

As the largest consumer of poultry manure in the country, Neutrog is able to offer a range of poultry manure based products at very competitive prices – from bulk raw and composted poultry manure, to a range of composted products whose formulations have been specifically developed to meet the needs of commercial growers who rely upon optimum product performance to earn their living.

Nincompoop is a premium poultry manure compost – 100% organic, composted, screened and biologically inoculated.

SeaDoo has the added benefits seaweed.



Now available
in bulk!
Bags coming soon

Home of 'Living Legends'

Situated only 6 minutes from the Melbourne Airport, the 700 hectare Woodland Historic Park features the unique heritage listed Woodlands Homestead, magnificent gardens, parklands and wildlife, and is home to 'Living Legends'.

Living Legends has been established to bring retired champion horses back to the public and is home to Australia's finest retired racehorses. There is quite an impressive list of champions enjoying greener pastures under the watchful eye of Andrew Clarke, CEO & Veterinary Director. These include names such as Efficient, Apache Cat, Better Loosen Up, Brew, Doriemus, Rogan Josh, Might and Power, Fields of Omagh, Zipping, Good Ba Ba, Zapite, Paris Lane and the more than lucky Bullish Luck.

After using our products for many years around the homestead, in 2011 Andrew approached us to help them to improve the health of the pastures, in-turn improving the health of the horses. With the aim of providing the horses with the freshest grass for as long as possible Andrew worked with Neutrog to develop a suitable fertilising program that started from the soil up.



Ryan up close and personal with 'Rogan Josh'

Rapid Raiser was applied which encouraged deeper root growth, improved the organic matter in the soil and resulted in markedly greener pastures for longer periods. The restoration project has been a resounding success and with the addition of GOGO Juice over the past couple of years the pastures are looking lush and healthy. Applying GOGO Juice has added living microbiology to the soil increasing nutrient availability and stimulating growth, both above and below the ground.

More recently Neutrog's rep, Ryan Sheridan, visited Living Legends to see how the fertilising program was going (and to enjoy the legendary Devonshire teal). Andrew reported to Ryan that the combination of GOGO Juice and regular mowing has led to an increase in soil humus, improving the top layer of soil and in particular having a beneficial effect on the compaction issues in the smaller paddocks.

Compaction is a common occurrence in paddocks with high horse traffic – soil has difficulty supporting pasture growth and weeds compete with the grasses. Aeration is currently underway with the generous loan of Toro Australia's state of the art equipment and both Rapid Raiser and GOGO Juice will be applied this week.

Andrew concluded, "The pastures have improved in leaps and bounds and although an ongoing process, each season we see further improvement. With the addition of GOGO Juice we have seen grasses creeping up the paddock slopes where we have never seen pasture growth before! Even the Woodland Park Rangers have been impressed with what we have been able to achieve." **N**

To visit these retired champions yourself or to see more about Living Legends visit www.livinglegends.org.au

**BULK MANURE...
HERE NOW!**

*Currently this service is only available to our South Australian customers.

Neutrog now supplies bulk chicken manure... from raw to composted and screened or unscreened. We can also create custom blends to include any added requirements such as kelp, seaweed and carbon. So whatever you require, we have your bulk chicken manure needs covered.

Please call Neutrog on 1800 656 644 to speak to one of our reps for further information.

For more information on fertilising for your pastures contact Ryan at: ryan@neutrog.com.au or phone: 1800 656 644

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The science behind GOGO Juice

Dr Uwe Stroehler attended Neutrog's internal sales conference recently – at which Uwe provided a valuable insight as to how and why, from a scientific perspective, GOGO Juice is providing such great results in both home gardens and in commercial applications. Dr Stroehler's presentation covered the role beneficial bacteria and fungi play in soil health and plant nutrition, along with explaining how they optimise plant growth and root development.

Dr Stroehler has played a huge part in the development of GOGO Juice and has provided invaluable input and expertise along the way. Dr Stroehler is a Senior Research Fellow with over 20 years' experience in microbiology, working on a range of bacterial species.

GOGO Juice is the result of years of extensive research and development in conjunction with Dr Stroehler and other microbiologists here in South Australia and has come a long way from the very first trial batch brewed in a 20 litre home beer brewing kit! If you would like to read more about GOGO Juice [...click here.](#) 



Have you had a success story using GOGO Juice? We would love to hear it and photos are always welcome. Add a comment on our facebook page at www.facebook.com/Neutrog.Fertilisers or email info@neutrog.com.au



Join the Pooh Bah Club
Become a member of Neutrog's Pooh Bah Club to receive regular updates on Neutrog, its products and their applications. To join, register your email address at www.neutrog.com.au

Did you know?

Neutrog can create prescription mixed products to suit your specific requirements. So look no further when it comes to creating the right balance for your plants and soil and enquire about creating your own prescription mix today.



Follow us on **facebook** via the link on our website, click the 'like' button and join us for regular updates. All comments, questions, photos and feedback are welcome. 

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NEUTROG™
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SPOTLIGHT GOGO Juice is literally teeming with beneficial microbiology and is essentially a pro-biotic for soils and plants. The naturally selected microbes have been proliferated utilising complex carbohydrates and sugars through a unique aerobic brewing system in which kelp, seaweed, fish, humic acid and manure have been digested by the beneficial bacteria.

The resultant liquid product will supply your soil and plants with a huge boost of the living microbiology necessary for them to perform at their optimum level, increasing their ability to resist pest and disease and to withstand heat and frost stress.

