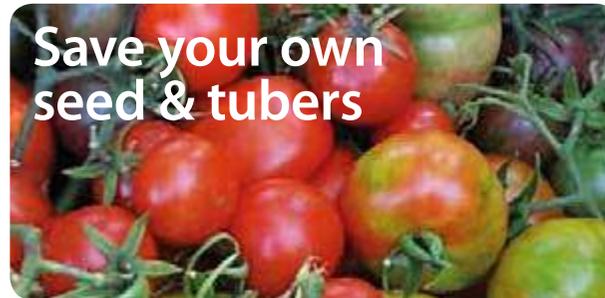
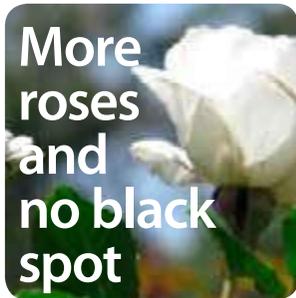


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Summer 2014





The Morning Star Estate



Morning Star Estate is a century old property sitting upon rolling hills amidst 30 acres of vines and 22 acres of exquisite gardens. Looking out over Port Philip Bay and as far north as the

city of Melbourne - the view is simply breathtaking.

The extensive gardens surrounding the main mansion, previously a country training centre for delinquent boys, are now home to more than 75,000 rose bushes and include 700 rose varieties. The elaborate fountain and sunken garden with extensive planting of David Austin varieties and Iceberg Roses, make Morning Star Estate's garden an experience in itself. The 75,000+ rose bushes on the estate have all been hand-planted by owner

Judy Barrett and the garden beds are formatted in an English-style and lined with hundreds and thousands of Buxus-box hedges.

With a background in broad acre cropping, Judy has drawn on her farming skills and knack for diversity to save the dilapidated Morning Star Estate. Over the past 20 years the buildings have been painstakingly renovated and additions have included an enormous veggie garden, orchard, vineyard and olive grove, plus a small herd of Angus beef cattle and chickens. Fresh produce grown and prepared by Judy includes jam, chutney and preserved olives. With the goal of self-sufficiency these are all used in the restaurant and hotel and made available at the recently re-opened cellar door.



Sudden Impact for Roses in early spring and again in autumn, and Seamungus during winter to ensure they are all flowering and fruiting at their best. Known to be a perfectionist and with a view to introducing her own wines to the estate in the future, Judy likes to be in charge of how the grapes are being grown and cared for and in particular has been concentrating on improving the health of

Judy loves to get amongst the roses and orchard and even at 70, still does a lot of the work herself. Judy applies

the original 80-year-old one-hectare vineyard planted by the Franciscans in the 1930's.

This is a perfect time to visit Morning Star Estate as Judy's Rose Garden is currently in full bloom. For more information and photos of the mansion and grounds visit www.morningstarestate.com.au/ or www.facebook.com/morning.star.estate



@ 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



In response to our article on composting in a previous newsletter we received this idea from Barry for gardeners with a bit of space. *"I went to pick up an old rusted corrugated rain water tank to store firewood in, but it was too rusted out on the bottom. I cut the bottom and top off with an angle grinder, then cut it vertically in half and re-joined it with brackets and tek screws. It now sits on the ground for the earthworms, and I cover it with old carpet in summer to keep it from drying out. It's not the usual compost tank but its great as it takes a lot of organic materials and should last years before I have to relocate it."*

We love hearing your DIY ideas and feedback. Missed the composting article? [Read it here.](#)

Now is the time to feed your fruiting and flowering plants. The signature range is now available in a **NEW** 4kg pail size.



Hello Neutrog,

We have noticed an unprecedented number of roses in our garden since using the combination of Neutrog's GOGO Juice, Sudden Impact for Roses and Strike Back for Orchids over the last twelve months. We have lived here for nearly seven years and never seen our garden looking like this. Better still, so far, no black spot! Definitely a good news story you can share. *Alison, Macquarie ACT*



From The Ground Up TIP: Save your own seed & tubers



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Vegetables and herbs do not need to be purchased every season. Perpetuate your crops by either collecting the seed or replanting tubers. Once you're into a rhythm, saving your own seed is actually easier than buying new packets. You will need to arm yourself with paper bags, small envelopes and a good pen – organisation is the key to thrifty gardening!

Tomatoes and cucumber: Scoop out seeds, put in jar and fill with water, shake and leave overnight, strain, dry on baking paper, store in paper bag or seed packet until next spring.

Carrots and parsnip: Allow one plant to go to seed. As it matures and browns, turn upside down and cover with a paper bag.

Herbs: Allow plants to go to seed in the garden. Bend the stems, turn upside down and place a paper bag over the head to collect seeds as they fall. Or allow seeds to fall naturally.

Pumpkins, squash and melons: Cut open the pumpkin and dry the seeds out on baking paper. Store in a labelled envelope for next season.

Beans: Save bean seeds for next year by saving 10 mature healthy beans as they are drying on the vine, and allow them to dry out completely. Remove the seed, and store in well labelled paper bags

Garlic: Save, store and replant garlic bulbs in April.

Potatoes: Save, store and replant the potatoes you didn't eat at the end of winter.

Jerusalem Artichokes: Replant smaller tubers at the end of winter.

Globe Artichokes: Remove 'offsets' or plantlets from around the mother plant in spring and replant into a new position.

Galangal, ginger and turmeric: Save tubers and smaller rooted sections for replanting at the end of winter.

From The Ground Up for Christmas



From The Ground Up – a complete and comprehensive garden guide, full of plant pictures specific to each state. Each book is a collaborative effort utilising the recommendations of many state specific plant experts, combined with the authors' vast plant knowledge and experience.

Packed full of magnificent photographs, From the Ground Up will allow you to visually identify everything from the

best plants for your garden, to the pests and diseases causing your plants grief.

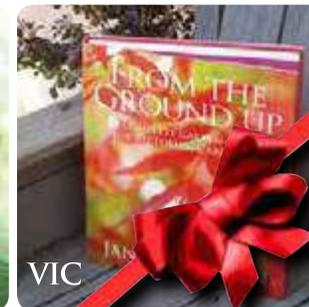
These books are the ideal reference books for all gardeners – novice or expert, and a perfect Christmas gift.

Available from our Online Store
<http://neutrog.com.au/onlinestore/>

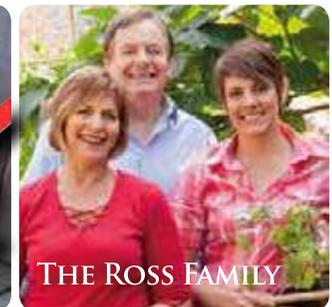
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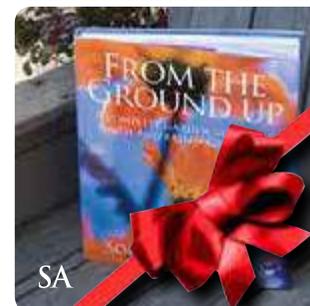
SOPHIE THOMSON



VIC



THE ROSS FAMILY



SA



JANE EDMANSON



NSW

THE CITY CROP

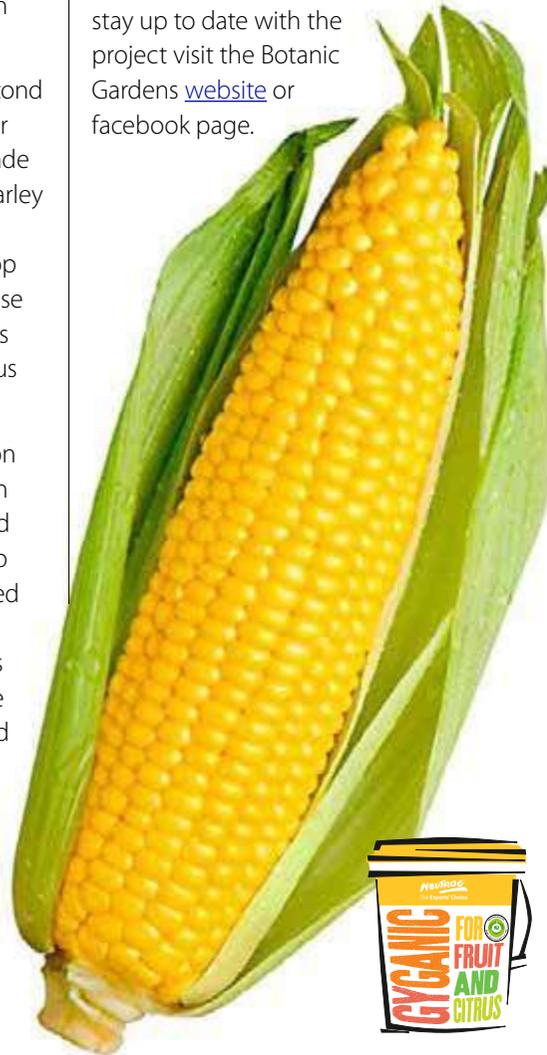
The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide is known for its interactive projects that introduce a little bit of country to the city. Known as 'The City Crop' the projects highlight the importance of plants and agriculture in everyday life.

In 2013 barley was grown as it is the second largest crop grown in Australia and after harvesting a handcrafted beer was made as the final stage of the project. The barley to beer process demonstrated the technology involved in cultivating a crop and processing it for food – or in this case beer. The aptly named "Botanic Ale" is now available from the Lobethal Bierhaus and the Botanic Gardens Restaurant.

This year the city crop project focuses on Corn. The crop area was prepared with Gyganic and after marking out rows and installing irrigation and netting to help protect the crop 1,200 seeds were planted at the October planting event. Around 250 children attended to sow the seeds and make scarecrows to watch over the crops as they flourish. The seeds provided by the Diggers Club are the heirloom sweet corn variety, True Gold. The plants have had GOGO Juice applied and are already around 20cms high. Visitors to the Botanic Gardens Adelaide can check on the crops progress over the coming months as the plants grow to their expected height of 1.5 – 2 metres.

There is a harvesting event planned for February 2015 and the sweet corn will be available fresh from the garden. **N**

For more information and to stay up to date with the project visit the Botanic Gardens [website](#) or [facebook page](#).



Did you know?

There are around 800 kernels on one cob of corn, each corn cob has around 16 rows of kernels, and there is one silk for every kernel in an ear of corn.

If you count the rows of kernels on an ear of corn, there will always be an even number!

In development Bush Tucker



Bush Tucker native fertiliser formula is currently being developed by renowned native expert and media personality Angus Stewart and Simon

Leake, Managing Director and Principal Soil Scientist at SESL Australia.

Nincompoop Coming soon!



Nincompoop is the first of the new range of manure products to be released by **The Pooh Bah!**

Nincompoop is a premium composted poultry manure product – composted, screened and biologically activated, 100% organic and safe to use on all areas in the garden.

Around the grounds

After the stunning display for the Melbourne Cup, **Flemington Racecourse** Grounds and Gardens Team are now busy dead-heading the 16,000 roses and applying their summer feed of Sudden Impact for Roses for repeat blooming timed for February and March events. Meanwhile the Track Team are applying Blade Runner to the turf areas and racetrack to help the mix of Kikuyu and rye grass recover and applying GOGO Juice to build root growth before the heat really hits.

Bormann Turf supply instant turf to industrial and residential industries across Australia. Their turf, grown on Seamungus was chosen for the **Adelaide Oval** \$500m redevelopment last year and they also supply **Etihad Stadium** and a number of other major sporting facilities. The kelp content in Seamungus helps produce fine root growth resulting in an improvement in the establishment time required for the turf when installed in its new environment. **N**



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◀
prev

▶
next

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.



Beating the Heat: Water in the cool of the day – early morning is best. Water deeply and less frequently. As the weather heats up be on the lookout for plants that need a pick me up. Any stressed plants would love some help to beat the heat – just like us!! Applying products rich in seaweed and organic matter, like Seamungus and GOGO Juice can help to improve the soil's water holding capacity AND the plants' ability to tolerate the heat.



Vegetables & Herbs: Pull out any weeds competing for water and give your herbs and vegies a blast with Rocket Fuel. Apply fortnightly applications of Seamungus Liquid - this will assist plants to cope with the heat. Now is the time to consider what you'll be planting for autumn and winter, such as brussels sprout, cabbage, onion and turnip.



Fruit Trees: Feed all stonefruit trees with Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus to encourage new growth. 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 flower development.



Flowering Plants: Dead-head and lightly prune to shape azaleas, rhododendrons and camellias, then apply 100g of Kahoona per plant. Take care that plants such as Camellias that are setting flower buds don't dry out. Once orchids have finished flowering they can be divided and re-potted if needed (usually about every 3 years). Mix Seamungus crumble through the orchid bark. 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. Watch for any growth below root stock and remove.



Natives & Hedges: In mid-summer give natives a light trim to maintain shape and feed with Seamungus. Prune hedges lightly - they will then be looking fantastic for Autumn.



Lawns: To encourage lush green growth over summer feed your lawns with a nitrogen boosted fertiliser such as Upsurge or Sudden Impact for Lawns. Mow your lawns on high setting, lawns do not like to be scalped, so this will assist in retaining moisture and help keep your lawn lush and healthy.



General Garden: Water deeply, feed your garden with Rapid Raiser and then mulch, mulch, mulch! Apply GOGO Juice every fortnight and remember to measure the thickness of mulch. Water may not penetrate if too thick.



Pot Plants: Ensure they do not dry out. Consider drippers and/or mulching. Apply liquid Seamungus or Strike Back for Orchids every fortnight to keep them in tip top shape.



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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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