

# The Pooh Bah Times



## NEUTROG'S JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

Hello to all of our Pooh Bah Club members and welcome to the June 'Pooh Bah Times'.

Winter is upon us. We're enjoying cooler mornings and evenings, shorter days, slow cooked meals and lovely warm fires. Don't be lured by all of the cosiness and stay inside all of the time though...winter is a great time to prepare for spring in your garden.



This year, many areas have received lovely autumn rains which has really set the soil up for a great winter. There is so much happening all year round in your soil – you just can't see it, but we at Neutrog advocate that you keep using our Year Round Feeding Programme (at the end of this newsletter). Many trees and shrubs may be bare, however, there is so much you can do to set them up for a fantastic spring. One of the most important jobs during winter is mulching. Consider that the ground is generally quite moist and many plants are bare, which makes it easier to apply. There are numerous benefits to mulching in winter - here's what Neutrog's microbiologist Dr. Uwe has to say... *"The most obvious reasons are weed suppression and regulating soil temperature, but a good organic mulch such as Whoflungdung will also encourage earthworms to come to the surface, thereby aerating your soil and moving nutrients deeper in the soil profile. Your plants will get that benefit as soon as it warms up. If you have sandy soils, applying Whoflungdung in winter will give your soil microbes time to break it down and get some organic material into the soil, which will improve your water and nutrient-holding capacity"*.

Additionally, by applying Seamungus to your entire garden now, the soil will be taking in all of that seaweed and chicken poo goodness, but what does that mean in real terms for your garden? It means that as soon as winter slows down and we move into spring, everything in the garden is ready to flourish as there's an instant level of nutrition that the plants will be able to use. The results are that impressive! Remember your GOGO Juice too - we can never have too many beneficial bacteria in our soils, so spread the bugs!

After that's done, you can stand back and have some fun in the garden. Can you find room for a few new roses? How about planting a special feature tree like a weeping cherry, or a brilliantly coloured autumn tree such as an ornamental pear or Chinese pistachio? There's lots of gorgeous colour you can pop around your garden - primulas, stock, English daisies and don't forget the not so humble pansy, which comes in a zillion colours these days. For those delicious soups and slow cookers, plant some veggies. Choose from quick growing silverbeet, plant some spuds and onions, and consider where your tomatoes and other spring seedlings will be planted.

Happy gardening from the Neutrog team.

We always look forward to connecting with you about what's happening in our garden world, and we love receiving your feedback, so please don't hesitate to send us an email or comment on our social media pages.

Additionally, if you have any garden photos to share, send them to [marketing@neutrog.com.au](mailto:marketing@neutrog.com.au) and we can share them with everyone.

We never have enough room in our newsletters to share all of our inspirational stories and tips from our gardening community, but they do appear on our Facebook and Instagram pages regularly...why not join us there?



## Coming up

- Growing great veggies
- Time to prune your roses
- This month in the Rare Fruit Arboretum
- The Biological Approach - Controlling nematodes in your garden
- Neutrog Radio - Limited for space in your veggie garden?
- Winter care of roses
- International Update - South Africa
- Old garden restoration in the Adelaide Hills
- Around the Grounds - The Uni Rose Garden in Hobart
- Research and Development - GOGO Juice is being certified
- Elisabeth sings the praises of Bush Tucker
- Caring for orchids after flowering
- Year Round Fertilising Programme for winter



Our friends at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens have just launched their Annual Appeal 2020.

While we have all been in lock down, the wild botanical world of Kangaroo Island has been unstoppable. New growth on fire-ravaged land has begun with the full force of nature behind it. With a donation to the Annual Appeal, no matter what size, you can help fund a series of urgent field trips to locate some of KI's most unique and endangered plants, collect their seeds, and bank them at the Botanic Gardens in Adelaide.



This is the best way to prevent extinction and ensure ongoing survival of these threatened plant species. You can make a positive contribution during a brief window of opportunity. Read more at [www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/support-us/annual-appeal-2020](http://www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/support-us/annual-appeal-2020).

# Growing Great Veggies

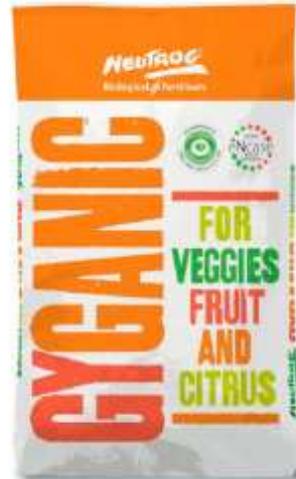
It's harvest time at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens.

This is Mitchell taking some measurements of the giant pumpkin, which had a whopping circumference of 196 centimetres! This variety is called Cucurbita maxima, but at this size, it's not very tasty to humans, so some animals at the Adelaide Zoo enjoyed tucking into it.

The team at the Botanic Gardens kitchen garden used Neutrog's Whoflungdung as a mulch over summer, along with quarterly applications of Seamungus and Gyganic for Veggies, Fruit & Citrus. GOGO Juice was also applied monthly.

**About Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus** - Specifically developed to enhance fruit size, quality and taste, Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus is a premium organic based, chemically boosted complete fertiliser with the full range of nutrients in an organic form, coupled with boosted levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, iron and magnesium.

Gyganic's unique organic base of manure, humates and rock phosphate have been composted and blended with the biologically active GOGO Juice containing kelp and seaweed – producing a very nutritious organic base product high in organic carbon. Following extensive trials by members, Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus is now recommended by the Rare Fruit Society of South Australia.



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**Poooh Bah Club**

If you're reading a forwarded copy  
you can subscribe here too!



# Time to prune your roses

Perhaps you've taken the step of planting some roses, you've enjoyed their fragrance and colour during the year, and now you're feeling a little panicky at the need to prune shortly? Sandra Turner, President of the Rose Society of Victoria (pictured) explains how to do it.

Pruning is best done in June and July, or if you're in a frosty area it's best to leave until August – you don't want to prune your roses and then have a spell of sunny days causing the roses to shoot, as a following frost could damage the new growth.

When pruning all roses, you need to be prepared. Be dressed appropriately, have good gardening gloves – preferably elbow length. Correct tools such as sharp secateurs, loppers and a pruning saw are essential. You will also need a cloth and jar with diluted bleach to disinfect your tools as you prune your roses.

**Bush Roses** – Cut your bush back by half or by two thirds of its height. Remove all dead wood or old canes which did not produce good growth in the previous season. Also remove any thin and twiggy growth and remove crowded branches. Always prune to an outward facing bud and cut on a slight angle about ½ cm above the bud.

**Standard Roses** – Use the same procedure as above whilst retaining a rounded ball shape.

**Climbers** – Your climbing rose is unlikely to require pruning for the first few years. If it's a juvenile, just tidy and remove any dead branches. During its youth is the best time to get your climber into the position to be a real show stopper. If you monitor your climber for a few years you'll be able to observe its flowering habits. After spring flowering is generally the best time to prune your climber by removing any laterals back to a strong frame. If you're planting a new climber, keep in mind that it's often much easier in a pruning sense to simply tie the rose to its support. If you weave stems in an out, it makes the plant more difficult to prune. Plants which are tied back can easily be untied, pruned and tidied and then re-tied.

Do not remove the new long climbing canes, as these will produce next season's flowers. Tie canes into position over the arch, or fan out against the structure they're growing against. The more horizontally trained, the better. This will mean more laterals and therefore more flowers. Every couple of years, remove an old cane to ground level, which will encourage a strong new water shoot.

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to apply Seamungus throughout your garden. The soil will be bursting with health and life, and when you apply your first application of Sudden Impact for Roses in spring, the results will be brilliant. I always like to mulch after pruning as well, as access is easier and there are less thorns to deal with. You'll find that Whoflungdung keeps your soil temperature constant over winter, which means an optimum result when flowering starts. Let's face it – we rosarians do love the flower.

Keep in mind that most rose societies and many gardens have rose pruning days – this is a great way to learn. Due to COVID 19 that will not be the case this year, but I recommend that you keep an eye on your state's rose society website for updates next winter.



# This month in the Rare Fruit Arboretum

Under guidance from the Rare Fruit Society of South Australia, Seamungus is being applied to the fruit trees in the Kanmantoo Rare Fruit Arboretum, followed with an application of GOGO Juice.

Last weekend saw a number of Rare Fruit Society members do some weeding in the Arboretum "*The Neutrog products have made the trees grow well and look fantastic*" said Brenton Kortmann, President of the Rare Fruit Society. "*The working bee was about taming the weeds, which meant removing them from under the tree canopies and then slashing the rows and outer borders plus removing any woody weeds like marshmallow in the rows. It looks good now*" concluded Brenton.



## About the Rare Fruit Arboretum

The establishment of the Rare Fruit Arboretum at Neutrog's Kanmantoo site is a joint venture between Neutrog and the Rare Fruit Society of SA. More than 300 rare and endangered fruit trees have been planted, including apples, pears, peaches, nectarines, figs and quinces.

Along with helping to ensure their preservation, Neutrog uses the trees to carry out fertiliser and biological application performance trials, as well as researching the microbiology in and around the root zone of each species, and determining their optimum nutritional and biological needs. One such product used in the Arboretum is Gyganic for Veggies, Fruit & Citrus, which was developed in conjunction with the Rare Fruit Society.

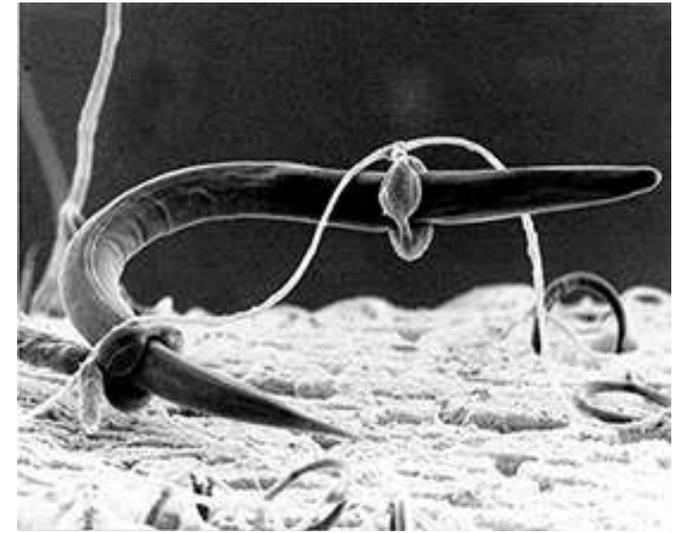


We've also been doing some cleaning up in the front garden located at the entrance to Neutrog HQ. You can see the difference it's made in these before and after photos.



## Controlling nematodes in your garden

Nematodes or roundworms are almost microscopic worms – the majority of them can be beneficial as they help break down organic matter and control pests such as insects. However there is one group of nematodes which are real troublemakers – they attack and feed on the roots of plants, and if their numbers explode, the damage to a plant's roots can kill young plants and stress older plants so they become prone to diseases.



*Fungi eating a nematode*

So how can we control these damaging nematodes?

There are chemical solutions to fumigate your soil – unfortunately many of these are very toxic and will kill other soil inhabitants. The other method which can be effective is solarisation – in essence you dig over the soil and cover it in black plastic and then let the heat of the sun cook the soil. Again you kill nearly everything else in the soil, and it only works in hot conditions in the middle of summer. There is a biological solution however, and that is with nematode-eating fungi. There are about 300 different fungi that essentially feast on nematodes. Some destroy the nematode eggs, and others grow into the mouth of nematodes and digest them from the inside out, but the most interesting fungi are those that trap nematodes using sticky pads or lassos. Once the nematodes are stuck, they are digested by the fungi. So why do the fungi do this, and how do you encourage them in your soil?

For the fungi, the nematode represent a meal of protein in the form of nitrogen. So when you use very high nitrogen-based fertilisers (especially some of the chemical fertilisers), the fungi actually switch off the nematode-killing system, because they are getting all the nitrogen they need for free. So using these types of fertilisers can actually make your nematode problem worse.

It has been discovered that low levels of slower-released nitrogen provided by products such as Seamungus, Whoflungdung and even Gyganic actually stimulates the fungi to produce these nematode traps, and therefore helps to control them. Obviously adding organic matter to your soil and encouraging a diversity of microbes ensures that these nematode-eating fungi are present in the first place. So not only can these products help control nematodes in an environmentally friendly way, they also feed your soil and plants at the same time.



# Winter care of roses

Rose societies in each state of Australia release seasonal cultural notes, which are recommendations from the experts on how to care for your roses. Here are the winter cultural notes by Gavin Woods from the Rose Society of South Australia (RSSA). Gavin is Past President of the RSSA and the National Rose Society of Australia. He is also Chief Judge with the RSSA and an International Rose Judge accredited with the World Federation of Rose Societies.

Visit [www.rose.org.au/states](http://www.rose.org.au/states) for more information about joining your local rose society.



*The 'Pepita' rose*

With cold nights upon us, we will soon see the decline in growth on our roses as we watch them enter a brief winter dormancy. I am anticipating a cold and wet end to autumn, and if my predictions are correct, we will probably see an explosion of fungal disease on our plants. The dry spring and summer saw very little disease on the roses in my garden, however the spores will be around just waiting for the right conditions. This, along with low minimum temperatures may see many roses well defoliated at pruning time.

Winter pruning is the most arduous physical task undertaken in the rose garden every year, but is less daunting if you are well prepared and allow adequate time to complete the chore un-rushed. Pruning roses requires some equipment – namely, secateurs, loppers to cut thick canes, a pruning saw to tackle really old canes, and of course, gloves. Tools should be prepared well ahead of time; secateurs and loppers oiled and sharpened and saws cleaned. A good set of tools will make the chore of pruning so much more enjoyable.

The timing of pruning roses is a much debated one. I recommend that under normal circumstances, roses in South Australia should not be pruned before July 1st and should ideally be completed prior to the second week in August. There will always be exceptions, and some pockets of the state may experience heavy frost which would necessitate slightly later pruning. May pruning often results in the plants putting on early new growth which may suffer with the cold of late July and August.

If Neutrog's Seamungus was not applied to the entire rose garden prior to pruning, do it soon afterwards. This outstanding soil treatment is a vital component of the nutrient cycle to produce the best from our roses. It will be carried into the soil by winter rains. By September, roses will be putting on considerable new growth. Early signs of Black Spot will show itself on susceptible varieties, best managed by simply removing the affected leaves and placing them in a plastic bag for disposal. Irrigation will need to begin by early September in most gardens.

Sudden Impact for Roses should be applied by mid-September. The warmer soil temperatures and applications of water will see this fantastic product soon taken into the soil for the benefit of our roses. Applications of GOGO Juice can begin this month also. Whilst of benefit to the entire micro-bacterial structure of the soil, I particularly recommend this product for three specific areas. Firstly when establishing new beds for roses or smaller areas within established beds, GOGO Juice is of enormous benefit in re-establishing the life of the soil. Secondly, I apply it monthly via watering and directly to new roses, and thirdly I believe it markedly aids the rehabilitation of old and ailing roses.

*Continued over page...*

The winter fungicide spray is the most critical of the whole year. I usually apply a Lime Sulphur spray soon after pruning. There is potential for sulphur to burn new growth should this spray be delayed too long after pruning. This spray emits a pungent odour, however it is relatively short lived. I like to use a second spray of white oil (Winter Oil, Pest Oil etc) two weeks after the sulphur spray. Oil based sprays have a double efficacy; they will deal with residual fungal spores and they will kill any pests that have survived the winter, provided the spray hits them. Some years ago I developed a problem with Woolly Scale and oil sprays have kept that pest under control. If good hygiene practices are adopted in winter including a spraying programme, the need for ongoing anti-fungal sprays during the growing season can be reduced.

Winter is also the time to plant bare-root roses. The retail nurseries begin delivery of plants in June and will often forward until the end of August. Planting past August is not ideal, but could be extended until very early September if there is no option. If you cannot plant your new arrivals upon delivery, I would recommend potting them and delaying planting until November. Potting a plant only to remove it and plant into the ground before the first flush of bloom risks breaking too many new roots and thus setting the plant back.

After the new arrivals have been unpacked, I like to soak the entire plant in a deep tub of liquid Seamungus for 24-48 hours. This allows the plant to re-hydrate and perhaps to stimulate the roots into growth. Planting with a good soak also using liquid Seamungus should see the best possible start to the 20 years or so of blooms that the rose will provide. Settle the plants into the soil with the bud-union (or crown) at soil level. Mulching later will see the crown covered and protected from the damaging summer sun. With your roses now bare sticks, there is no easier time to mulch. Whoflungdung has completed the cycle of requirements for getting the very best from our plants. Spread it some 4cm or so thick around the plants. Several prominent growers are crediting this mulch with vastly increased performance from their roses.

The Rose Society of South Australia are happy to welcome new members, so if you have a keen interest in roses and want to learn from the experts, this is the best place. For more information, visit <https://sarose.org.au/about/membership/>



## Neutrog Radio

In this radio segment, microbiologist Dr. Uwe Stroeher chats to Graham Ross about growing urban sustainable gardens, and how using just a small amount of space can provide you with a level of self-sustainability.

[Click here to listen](https://neutrog.com.au/video-gallery/) or visit <https://neutrog.com.au/video-gallery/>.



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# Collaborations

Over the years Neutrog has collaborated with many plant societies that have trialled and subsequently endorsed some of our products. These product endorsements provide retail staff and home gardeners with the confidence to use and recommend Neutrog products.

With a combined membership base of over 10,000, some of these endorsing societies include the Rose Society of South Australia, the Orchid Club of South Australia, the Orchid Society of Western Australia, the Rare Fruit Society of South Australia, Camellias South Australia, Camellias Illawarra, the Cymbidium Orchid Club of SA, the Cymbidium Club of Australia, the Cymbidium Orchid Society of Victoria, the Cymbidium Orchid Club of WA, the Australian Rhododendron Society (SA branch), the South West Rose Society, the National Rose Society of Australia, Heritage Roses in Australia, the Rose Society of WA, the Rose Society of NSW, the Rose Society of Victoria, the Queensland Rose Society and the Australian Plants Society of Victoria.



## International Update South Africa

Things have slowed down at Neutrog South Africa over the last couple of months, but we are so proud to be associated with Abalimi Bezekhaya and the amazing work they are doing during lockdown.

The 'Harvest of Hope' project by Abalimi Bezekhaya was established in 2008 with the aim to provide market access to farmers who wanted to sell surplus vegetables. Abalimi have been supporting food security in the townships for over 38 years, but now more than ever it is important to collaborate, so they are working with the farmers to ensure that they have suitable protection such as hand sanitiser, soap and masks.



## Old Garden Restoration in the Adelaide Hills

Brenton Roberts and his wife Libby have restored an old garden in the Adelaide Hills. Watching over the property is a beautiful old stone home, which is also under restoration. Brenton grew up in the area, and as many people do, moved away with work to further his career. This took him to Ballarat and Melbourne for 8 years, but the goal was always to return home.

*"We knew what we were looking for - a few acres and a home which matched our style" said Brenton. "We found our dream property, which although affordable, was run down and quite overgrown. We knew this would mean a tonne of work – especially to make more bushfire safe".*

Whilst living in Melbourne, Brenton studied at Burnley Horticultural College undertaking a Graduate Certificate in Garden & Landscape Design. *"Our new property was the perfect opportunity to allow me full reign with my ideas, whilst incorporating our family's needs and wants" said Brenton.*



Eight years later, the garden is a testament to passion, love of design and horticulture. A wonderful welcome as you enter the drive are the glorious Manchurian pears which look particularly stunning with their autumn colours. The garden has beautiful winding gravel paths; with colour, texture and form being provided by salvias, grasses, euphorbias, sedums and gorgeous succulents. At every point one looks, there is a feature to capture your imagination, be it a lovely gate, a corkscrew cypress, an ornament – or even a rascally goat doing what goats do, but shouldn't be doing in a garden!

We asked Brenton about his particular loves in the garden. *"My veggie patch is my pride and joy, along with my espaliered Manchurian pears which are on the house, and my corkscrew cypresses. I bought the cypresses as small plants for \$15 and have lavished care, time and work on them until they are what you see today. I use Whoflungdung as the mulch in the vegetable patch. I love that it's supplying nutrition to the veggies – even on those really harsh days during summer and winter. The veggie patch is so vigorous and healthy. Everything in the garden is fed with Rapid Raiser, and GOGO Juice is also another favourite. GOGO Juice and its beneficial bacteria really complement Rapid Raiser, and I also find GOGO Juice great for my bonsai. We're enjoying seeing how the garden continues to grow and mature, and we really enjoy the feedback we receive too, from our followers"* concluded Brenton.

You can view Brenton's Instagram page here: <https://www.instagram.com/brentonrobertsgardendesign/>

# Around the Grounds

## The Uni Rose Garden - Hobart

Heather Huxley has spent many years in the horticultural field, and in March 2019 was successful in obtaining the role of Program Officer Parks & Reserves with the City of Hobart, which encompasses the care of 148 parks and gardens in the metropolitan area.

The Uni Rose Garden is one of the main gardens under Heather's care, and is located on a main entrance into the Hobart CBD. The garden features almost 700 roses with around 40 varieties. "Most of the roses were quite old and well past their prime" said Heather. "Given the condition of the roses, I made the decision to get tough – either they had to improve or we'd make the decision to remove them."

Heather had heard about Whoflungdung through Grant Keating from Waratah – Neutrog's distributors throughout Tasmania. "Grant had been encouraging me to use Whoflungdung, and related to me a number of stories of gardens around Australia who had great success with it, so I decided to give it a go. Firstly, my team weeded and tidied. Then we pruned...and when I say pruned, the roses were virtually cut back to barely above their graft. It was extremely dramatic. The roses were then mulched with 7 pallets of Whoflungdung. My goal was to fertilise with Sudden Impact for Roses once the budget would allow, but I felt that this would be the best start for repairing this gorgeous old garden" said Heather.

By late October the roses had strong water shoots, thick glossy leaves and were massed with hundreds of huge fat buds, and Heather could not believe the positive change. The photos here show the first flush of flowers from a very late spring in 2019. "Given such positive results with Whoflungdung, I just knew we had to start feeding with Sudden Impact for Roses as well" enthused Heather.



*"The summer flush of flowers was even more incredible than the spring flush! We had some very hot 40 degree days and the roses performed really, really well. Our disease rate has been very low, and I put that down to the benefits of Sudden Impact for Roses, as well as the host of ladybirds and parasitic wasps which were released. My goal is to limit or even eliminate the need for spraying altogether" said Heather.*

*"Healthy plants, combined with a healthy soil will always provide the best results, and to that end, we are looking forward to using GOGO Juice as well. To be able to have a diverse range of beneficial bacteria and fungi in the soil will complete the trifecta for us" concluded Heather.*

At the moment, the Uni Rose Garden is under part renovation, with new paths installed and irrigation being updated. Once completed, another 500 roses will be planted, taking this beautiful garden well into the next decade and beyond.

# Research and development

## GOGO Juice is being certified!

Neutrog is pleased to advise that following some 3 years of research & development, we are now able to manufacture and supply GOGO Juice as an ACO 'Certified Allowed Input'.

GOGO Juice is literally teeming with beneficial microbiology and essentially a pro-biotic for your soil and plants. It combines the "catalytic" power of providing a wide diversity of beneficial bacteria and fungi with the well documented benefits of applying kelp and humates.

Applications of GOGO Juice provide a huge boost of the living micro-biology necessary for your soil and plants to perform at their optimum level, increasing their ability to resist pest and disease and to withstand &/or recover from, heat stress and frost.



## Elisabeth sings the praises of Bush Tucker

Elisabeth from the Southern Highlands in NSW believes that when something good happens she loves everyone to know. Elisabeth called Graham Ross from The Garden Clinic with her brilliant feedback on Neutrog's Bush Tucker after she applied it to her native plants - in particular a Banksia with yellowing leaves.

A great chat ensued...[click here to listen.](#)

**About Bush Tucker** - Developed in conjunction with native plant expert Angus Stewart and soil scientist Simon Leake, Bush Tucker is a complete, organic-based, boosted fertiliser specifically developed to meet the specialised needs of all Australian native plants. Utilising a unique process, trace elements have been added to lock up phosphorus, making Bush Tucker ideal for even the most phosphorus-sensitive plants such as grevilleas, banksias and proteas. It is recommended and endorsed by the Australian Plants Society of Victoria.

Bush Tucker not only directly supplies a wide range of essential nutrients, but more importantly provides a catalyst (through the introduction of beneficial bacteria/microbes) for stimulating the natural processes that occur in the soil – unlocking further nutrients and enhancing root growth. Greater root growth provides a greater soil surface area from which your plants can draw nutrients and moisture.

***"Whilst native plants are great survivors in the garden, regular feeding helps them to thrive and reach their full potential. The benefits of doing so are not only enjoyed by yourself, by insects, bees and birds but perhaps more importantly, the environment benefits - the greater the plant growth, the more carbon is captured"*** – Angus Stewart, native plant expert.



## Caring for orchids after flowering

Orchids are such popular plants and for good reason – they flower for long periods, make great gifts and come in a huge range of varieties and colours. But if you've ever wondered how to care for your orchids after they flower, Trevor Garard – Past President of the Orchid Club of South Australia – has some great advice.

**Cymbidium – Boat Orchids** – Once they've flowered, remove spent flowers stems at the base of the plant. While Cymbidiums like to be pot bound, they don't like to have their bulbs on the edge of the pot, so you might need to replant them in a bigger pot – choose one with enough room for two years' growth, or split the clump in half and replant in the original pot.



Remove any damaged roots in the process and replant in a mixture of one third of your chosen media (composted pine or coconut husk chunks are preferable), a two centimetre layer of Seamungus, and top the pot up with another layer of media. Position the bulbs towards the top of the pot with the roots firmly in the media, and water in well. Monitor water during the colder weather and increase watering as the weather warms up.

**Did you know?** Many orchid enthusiasts move their Cymbidiums to a warmer and sunnier spot on Anzac Day, returning it to a shelter on Melbourne Cup Day.

**Phalaenopsis – Moth orchids** are such a popular orchid as they flower for ages. Cut the old flower stem just above the second node from the bottom as soon as the last flower falls. If it doesn't re-flower and the stem starts to dry up, remove at the base and new stems will re-shoot. Moth orchids go into a phase or dormancy after flowering and can look quite unattractive. Reduce the amount of water you give them and repot them every second year – the smallest pot you have is the best. Combine a premium orchid bark with Seamungus pellets, spread the roots through the media and fill in. Water a day or so later and don't forget to fertilise with Strike Back for Orchids once reshooting begins.

**Australian Native Dendrobiums** – These wonderful Australian native orchids are not overly fussy about being re-potted, so wait until the pot is almost ready to split! Repot in a slightly bigger pot in October and use orchid bark or coconut husk chunks with a layer of Seamungus pellets incorporated. If you want to divide your native Dendrobiums up, make sure you keep plenty of canes on each division. You can go easy on hand watering through winter – rain is generally plenty.



- ✿ Seamungus -Ideally suited for establishing new plants and for use on natives, Seamungus can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year.
- ✿ Strike Back for Orchids combines the best of both worlds – its organic base provides a full range of plant nutrients in a slow release form, whilst the carefully selected water-soluble nutrients have been added to maximise the performance of each application.

# Year-Round Fertilising Programme

The plants in our garden are just like animals and humans - they grow best when they are well-nourished and fed regularly. Happy healthy plants don't get sick and are less likely to be affected by heat, frost, pests or diseases, which is going to make you a much happier gardener too!

**Hint** – if you are wanting to achieve even better results, take the quantity recommended for feeding your plants for the season, divide it into equal parts, and apply 1 part in each month of the season. It is not about applying more, but rather, applying more regularly. This way, your plants receive a continual feed of nutrients.

## What to apply in winter and why...

In areas of Australia that are wet and where there's not much happening above ground, we recommend applying Seamungus at this time of the year to your entire garden (there's still plenty happening below ground). In the absence of Seamungus, our other ACO certified organic products are recommended instead, such as Rapid Raiser, Rooster Booster, Bounce Back or Cock-a-Doodle-Do.

Seamungus also retains up to 70% of its own weight in moisture – significantly increasing the soil's ability to hold onto water and nutrients. It also provides nutrition to plants for when they start to become more active in spring.

By applying an organic fertiliser or soil conditioner such as Seamungus to your garden at this time of the year is far better than applying a chemical fertiliser, as the wet weather will increase the chance of chemicals being leached into waterways, which is harmful to local wildlife.

Seamungus is also ideal for any new plantings. Make sure the hole is at least twice the size of the root ball. Throw some pellets into the hole and mix them through the soil, and when you've finished planting, spread a handful on top of the soil before watering in with GOGO Juice.

Once you've pruned your roses, give them their winter feed of Seamungus and a beneficial layer of Whoflungdung. Don't forget if you're planting new or re-positioned roses to put some Seamungus in the hole as well.



# Year round fertilising for year round health



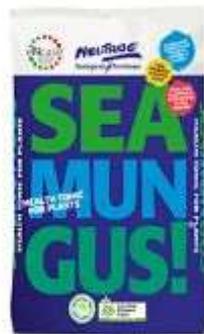
## General Garden & Lawn

For those who wish to use certified organic products and/or prefer to simply use one general purpose fertiliser across your entire garden, you can use Bounce Back, Rapid Raiser, Seamungus or Rooster Booster on your garden, and Blade Runner on your lawn areas.



## Hedges

Hedges love a fertiliser which has a higher nitrogen to potassium ratio, so during the growing season we recommend applying Sudden Impact for Lawns. In winter however, it's best to apply Seamungus, watered in with GOGO Juice. This will ensure great growth when spring arrives.

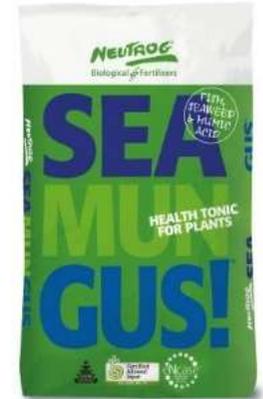


## Non-flowering plants

Including lawns, bamboo, herbs, leafy green veggies and ferns

Lawns are slower to grow during winter, but they still require nutrition. Apply Seamungus Crumble or Blade Runner to your lawn once or twice during winter, and water in with GOGO Juice. By doing this, your soil will be so healthy that your lawn will be off to a great start in spring.

If your local supplier doesn't stock Seamungus Crumble or Blade Runner, Rooster Booster, Bounce Back, Rapid Raiser or Seamungus pellets will do just as well, although they will take a little longer to break down - simply leave the catcher off the mower for a while.



## Acid Loving Plants

Including camellias, gardenias, rhododendrons, azaleas and blueberries

Now is the time to feed camellias and daphne with Kahoona, as they are either in bud or coming into bud. The higher potassium to nitrogen ratio within Kahoona plays a crucial role in enhancing flower development, whilst the boosted levels of iron and magnesium help maintain healthy green foliage, aiding in preventing the yellowing leaves which are often seen in late winter and early spring.



All other acid loving plants such as magnolias, rhododendrons, azaleas and blueberries will benefit from an application of Seamungus now, and Kahoona in spring at the first sign of new season's growth.

## Potted flowering plants

Including orchids and any flowering plants in pots

Sprinkle some Strike Back for Orchids over any plants in pots that flower in winter, such as begonias and hellebores. For your plants in pots that don't flower in winter such as fuchsias, they will appreciate a feed of Seamungus.



## Natives

Including phosphorous-sensitive natives such as grevilleas, banksias & proteas

Winter is a good time to feed established native plants. There are some gorgeous grevilleas, acacias and hakeas to choose from now - your local nursery has an ever-increasing range of these beauties.



## Mulching

There are numerous benefits of applying Whoflungdung during winter -

- it introduces a wide diversity of beneficial bacteria
- beneficial bacteria act as a deterrent to pathogenic bacteria
- weed suppression
- regulates soil temperature
- encourages earthworms that aerate the soil and move nutrients deeper in the soil profile
- reduces, if not eliminates, nitrogen drawdown
- puts organic material into the soil
- improves water and nutrient-holding capacity
- prevents erosion from heavy rain
- improves water absorbency



## Veggies, Fruit & Citrus

Some winter vegetables that will grow well in drier parts of Australia include broad beans, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, lettuce, peas, potatoes, garlic and spinach.

An application of ACO organic-certified Rapid Raiser will give your veggies and herbs the nutrients they need during winter, in preparation for spring when Gyganic for Veggies Fruit & Citrus is recommended instead.



Winter is a perfect time to be selecting fruit trees for your garden. There are so many available including dwarf varieties which are ideal in large pots. At planting time, dig the soil to a depth 1½ times the depth and twice the width of the pot or root ball of the tree you have chosen.

## Soil Conditioning

GOGO Juice provides a huge boost of the living microbiology necessary for your soil and plants to perform at their optimum level, increasing their ability to resist pests and disease, and to withstand heat and frost stress.

The microbiology in GOGO Juice promotes plant growth as well as stimulating and improving root growth and development.



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