



Dear Readers,

Our team have enjoyed catching up with clients new and existing in the past month and it's positive to hear that many have received good rainfall. We share everyone's careful optimism for a great season ahead, across all industries, in amongst a pretty strange time in the world.

With that said, please know that if you are impacted by restrictions, our team are happy to meet with you over Zoom or Teams meetings if face-to-face isn't possible.

In this month's newsletter we look at an exciting development in the lab, turf results using Seamungus, new infrastructure at Kanmantoo, results in South Africa and more.

We look forward to keeping in touch.

Kind Regards,
The Neutrog Team



Seamungus at Buchanan Turf



Brent Redman and the team at Buchanan Turf know all there is to know about growing and maintaining turf. Looking after the biggest turf farm in the Hunter region of New South Wales requires a reliable fertilising program that digs deep into the soil.

Buchanan Turf have been using Seamungus pellets over their 40 hectares of turf, applying it to bare ground and working it into the soil after each harvest.

“Since using Seamungus at our turf facility we have seen a marked improvement in the soil health, which in turn has allowed us to use less fertiliser and achieve a much faster crop turnaround... This has given us the best result we have had with any product that we have trialled over the last 20 years.” — Brent Redman

By applying Seamungus to the soil, Buchanan Turf are preparing the ground for another round of successful turf crops. The combination of three individual types of seaweed in Seamungus, combined with fish, humic acid and manure makes it a potent biological fertiliser, perfect for conditioning the soil and increasing its ability to retain water and nutrients.

Seamungus undergoes a unique composting process, specifically developed to stabilise the nutrients, maximise nutrient availability and to ensure the product is free of any parasites, pathogens and weed seeds.

Most importantly, the resultant product retains the microbiology necessary for a 'living' product. Whilst Seamungus contains a wide range and good levels of plant nutrients, it is perhaps the additional unique properties contained within seaweed that provide the catalyst for providing higher yields of sustained quality.

Seamungus will help your plants resist heat, drought and frost, along with pests and disease. It will retain up to 70% of its own weight in moisture – significantly increasing the soil's ability to hold onto water and nutrients.



A New Tank for GOGO Juice

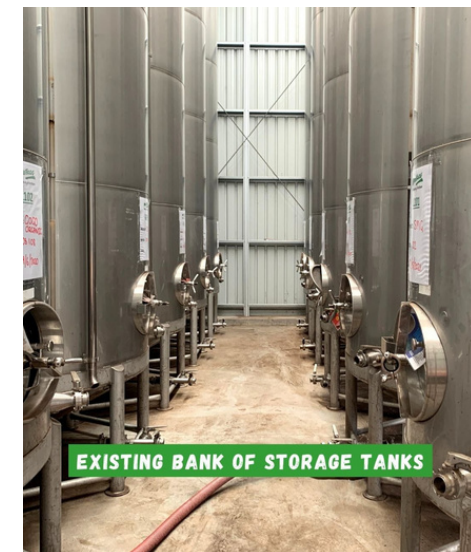
We are excited by the recent arrival & subsequent commissioning of the first of a series of new purpose built 10,000 litre stainless steel brewing tanks.

It is a far cry from the 20-litre home brewing beer kit that held the first ever batch of GOGO Juice some fifteen years ago and it is a considerable step up again from the extended series of 5,000 and 6,000 litre tanks we currently brew in.

The extra capacity these new tanks will provide will allow us to better utilise the bank of stainless steel storage tanks that we installed 12 month ago and help us to keep up the increasing demand.

Demand for our brewed liquid biological products such as GOGO Juice and Seamungus has continued strengthen in the commercial market across a range of industries.

GOGO Juice is literally teeming with beneficial micro-biology and essentially a pro-biotic for your soil and plants, GOGO Juice 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.



Screening for Auxin Producing Bacteria

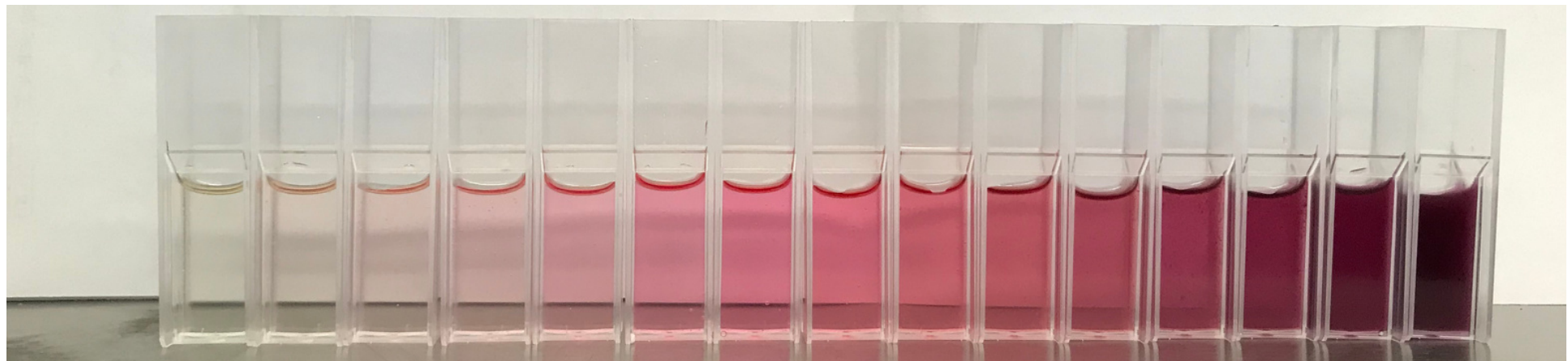
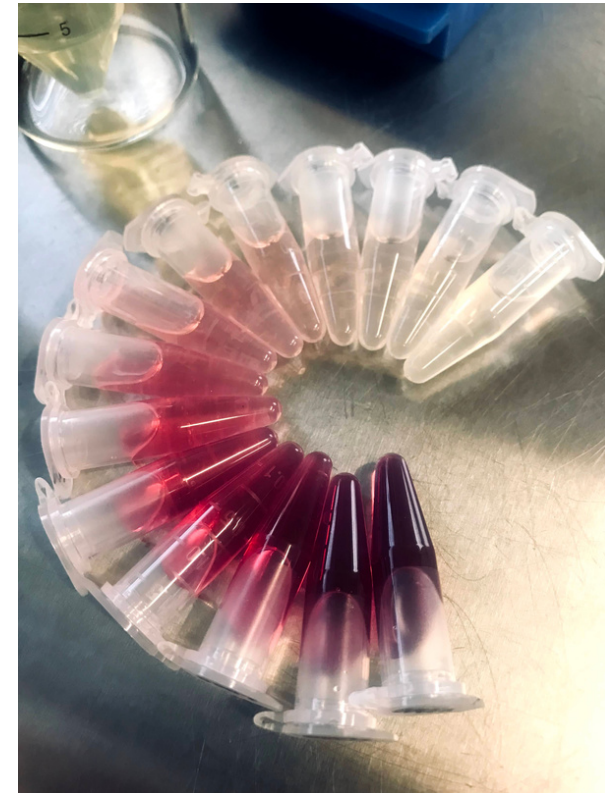
Research and development is a fundamental part of what we do at Neutrog as we continue to push the boundaries to offer growers high quality biological fertilisers that make a real difference in plant and soil health.

Over the last few years, R&D Manager, Dr. Uwe Stroehler, has been collecting soil samples from some of the best gardens, farms and horticultural operations around Australia and comparing the genetics of the soil to identify the microbes that make these gardens special. As part of this research, the soil microbes are screened for the production of auxin. Also known as indole 3-acetic acid, auxins are a powerful growth hormone which are produced naturally by plants. Auxins are considered to be one of the major plant growth hormones involved in functions such as root development, cell elongation and wound healing.

“What we found after screening some of our bacteria isolated from various soils was that several of them produced varying levels of auxins, as seen by the pink or red colouration in the tubes. The more pink that you see, the more auxin is being produced” — Dr. Uwe Stroehler

By finding and isolating these auxin producing bacteria we can incorporate them into our products, giving home gardeners and commercial growers the benefit of enhanced plant growth and health.

Having identified these growth hormone producing bacteria, the next step will be doing some testing for plant growth and root development on a range of vegetable crops both in the lab at Kanmantoo and in pot trials with the Adelaide Botanic Garden.



Walter Sisulu Gardens in South Africa

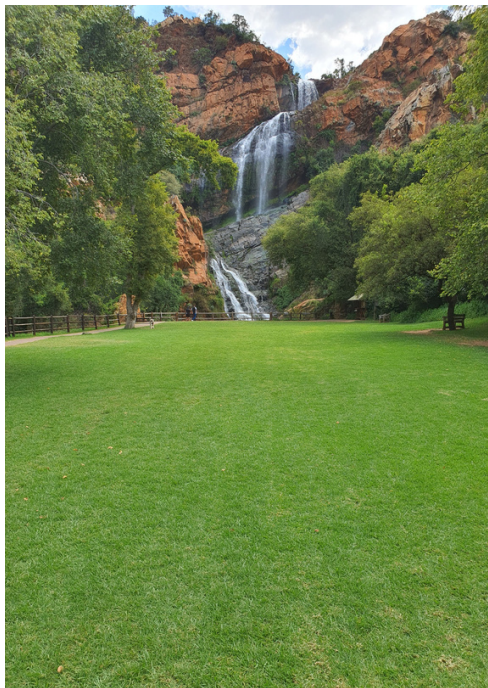


Neutrog is a proud sponsor of the Walter Sisulu Gardens in Gauteng, South Africa which was founded in 1982 and has been a popular location for outings since the 1800s. The gardens have been voted as the 'best place to get back to nature' in Gauteng for 9 years in a row, with perfectly maintained and regularly fed gardens making the perfect natural escape for visitors.

The natural vegetation of the area is known as the 'Rocky Highveld Grassland' and consists of a mosaic of grassland and savanna, with dense bush in kloofs and along streams.

The variety of habitats accommodates over 600 naturally occurring plant species. A breeding pair of majestic Verreaux's (Black) Eagle's nest on the cliffs alongside the waterfall. The Garden is home to an abundance of wildlife with over 220 bird species recorded on site. There are also several species of reptiles and small mammals, including small antelope and jackals, which occur naturally in the reserve.

Solomon Nenungwi – an experienced horticulturalist at the gardens - is effusive in his praise that the difference that Bounce Back has made to the garden.

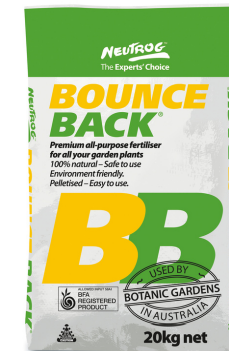


"When we applied Bounce Back the gardens took a few days to respond, but when it did the plants became healthy and green. Bounce Back is really doing well – we were late to apply the fertiliser due to lockdown. The results are amazing, and the gardens are green, the plants are healthy and so are the lawns as well. After lockdown, the gardens were in very poor condition as we were not allowed into the gardens to water them. The recovery is incredible".

— Solomon Nenungwi

Congratulations to Xoli Mokoena, Somolon Nenungwi and the rest of the team at Walter Sisulu Gardens for keeping this natural reserve in fantastic shape after the recent challenge of lockdowns!

About Bounce Back – an all-purpose, highly concentrated general fertiliser for all garden plants. Certified organic by the ACO, Bounce Back is a natural product that promotes faster, healthier, sustained growth for all plants. It encourages the development of earthworm and microbial activity leading to healthy, well-structured soils and is composted and steam treated to ensure the product is pathogen and weed free.



Welcoming Julie Walker to Neutrog's Commercial Team



Neutrog is pleased to welcome Julie Walker to the team at Neutrog as our new Commercial Customer Relationship Manager for Victoria and New South Wales.

Julie is based in the Albury-Wodonga region of Victoria, where she will be working closely with our commercial team. She brings with her an extensive background in commercial logistics and experience with wholesale distribution networks from previous roles.

With COVID-19 restrictions reducing her abilities to travel, Julie has spent much of the first month in her new role speaking with Neutrog's Victoria and New South Wales based commercial distribution networks via phone. "It is always pleasing to hear the good news stories from producers" said Julie.

It is a pleasure to welcome Julie to Neutrog, whose positive attitude and extensive experience is already proving to be invaluable to the team. To find out more information about Neutrog and our products, you can contact Julie using the button below.

For more information about Neutrog products, please contact our team.

Neutrog products are also suitable for the home garden, and you can find out more by signing up to receive our monthly retail newsletter for stories from gardening experts, product profiles and seasonal fertilising guides for home gardens.

If you would like to receive this newsletter, please email marketing@neutrog.com.au



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